

Waterbury Long Term Community Recovery (LTCR)
Steering Committee
July 5, 2012

Attendees: Skip Flanders, Natalie Howell, Margaret Luce, Rebecca Ellis, Bill Shepeluk, Steve Lotspeich, David Taube (Times Argus).

The meeting convened at 4:10 PM.

1. VISTA Update. Steve Lotspeich provided an update on recruitment of a VISTA member who would help with grant writing for LTCR projects. Steve Lotspeich and Natalie Howell interviewed Eva Loomis on Tuesday. She had traveled from Rhode Island to visit the community and was excited about working here. Waterbury asked SerVermont to offer Ms. Loomis a position, which would start Sept. 4. We have unofficially heard that Ms. Loomis will accept the offer. She will need housing starting in mid-September. VISTA members are paid by SerVermont, and their salary is \$250/week, so it is hoped that we can find Ms. Loomis an affordable housing arrangement.
2. CDBG Update. Natalie Howell and Rebecca Ellis provided an update on the CDBG Draft Action Plan, which has been circulated by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.
 - ACCD's Carl Bohlen has confirmed that CDBG can be used as local match for federal grant programs. Could CDBG be used as a match to the VTrans Enhancement program? Or as a match for the Vermont Emergency Management grant (50/50 local match)?
 - Commercial residential property owners. Rebecca Ellis provided some follow-up information to ACCD in response to questions from Carl Bohlen. Rebecca will also follow up with CVCLT's Alison Friedkin. The goal is to find more resources for owners of apartment buildings, many of whom incurred great personal expense to fix apartments. Owners of apartment buildings were apparently not eligible for either Irene Funds or VEDA.
3. EDA Grant for Economic Disaster Recovery Director and Business Case Manager. Steve Lotspeich reported on our EDA grant application. EDA has requested additional information regarding the application, which is a positive sign. Steve Lotspeich circulated to the group draft copies of the requests for proposal that the town/village would use to advertise the following two positions: (1) LTCR Economic Disaster Recovery Director and (2) CVCAC business case manager. Comments on these drafts need to be returned to Steve Lotspeich by July 9.
4. EDA Grant for emergency generators, sewer pump station, flood study. Skip Flanders provided an update on the RFPs for the two-phase flood study. The responses to the phase-one RFP are due July 6. The flood-study group (Skip

Flanders, John Grenier, Alec Tuscany, Dan Currier) hopes to have a draft of the phase-two RFP ready for the tri-board meeting on July 16th. The goal is to obtain responses to both RFPs by early August, so that we know how much money to request in our EDA grant application. Megan Rivera is working on the grant application and will try to complete the application by late July or early August.

5. USDA Grant. Steve Lotspeich provided a quick update on the USDA-RBEG grant application that would provide funding for (1) an economic development officer and (2) master planning with Tripp Muldrow. Waterbury's application to the Vermont USDA office was forwarded last week to the National Office. Only two Vermont applications were forwarded on, so this is excellent news. It is possible that the CDBG direct grants will provide additional funding for work by Tripp Muldrow. If that happens, the steering group would like to combine funding sources to maximize the amount of assistance that Tripp Muldrow could provide to the community.
6. Report on 7/3/12 BGS meeting. Skip Flanders reported that the meeting with BGS on Tuesday 7/3/12 was positive. Discussions about disposition of Ladd Hall, Stanley Hall, Wasson Hall, Father Logue's cottage, 121 & 123 South Main Street, 43 Randall Street continue. Also under discussion is a community-wide, distributed heat system. These are all LTCR projects.
7. Official appointments to the LTCR committee & statement of purpose. The Select Board appointed Rebecca Ellis to the LTCR Steering Committee at its meeting on 7/2/12. The other boards are encouraged to make their own appointments to the LTCR Steering Committee. Rebecca Ellis will draft a statement of purpose for the Steering Committee. LTCR project champions and other interested members of the community are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be willing and able to attend hour-long weekly meetings on Thursdays at 4:00.
8. Planning for All Champions meeting on Thursday 7/19 @ 5:30 PM. The group discussed the take-home items and format for the all champions meeting. Rebecca Ellis will contact each of the project champions for a short update on their last month's progress. In addition, it was suggested that a one-page outline or FAQs be prepared. After a short introduction, project champions will have an opportunity to provide an update regarding their projects. Margaret Luce's offer to bring refreshments to the all-champions' meeting was received enthusiastically.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Submitted by,
Rebecca Ellis