

Northern Vermont Economic Development District

Minutes of December 5th, 2017

Location: Lamoille County Planning Commission

- Co-chair John Mandeville called the meeting to order at 1:09 PM
- On the phone for the meeting are Amy Robinson, Nina Curtiss and Matthew Suchodolski
- No minutes were available for approval as the minutes were taken by Jan Marinelli is no longer on the Board
- Financials will be forwarded by Catherine Dimitruk
- Cindy Locke the VAST Executive Director gave an overview of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail project. VAST continues to raise funds and make improvements to the trail. The next section to be addressed will be the Sheldon to Swanton portion and it is 11.6 miles long. The \$5 million dollar federal allocation, championed by Senator Sanders, have all been expended. After the Swanton Section there is still 12-15 miles needed to be completed; 8 miles for rough finish. The economic impact in Lamoille County is estimated at \$2 - \$3 million dollars per year. Matthew Suchodolski offered his assistance to look for funding opportunities.
- Dave, Tim and Catherine gave an overview of left over EDCNV funds totaling about \$7,300. The funds went to the State's unclaimed property fund and NVEDD has filed the proper paperwork to release them to NVEDD
- CEDS Indicators discussion will be held at the February, NVEDD meeting Karen Geraghty will be sending an email with proposed indicators
- Matthew Suchodolski gave an overview of prospective EDA projects within the NVEDD region. Cross Border Initiatives would be very well received at the Federal level.
- Sarah Waring/Matthew Suchodolski spoke to the Regional Economic Diversification Summits (REDS) and handed out a brochure. Does the NVEDD council have an appetite for this type of endeavor? The Council spoke about a number of initiatives which could use the REDS process. A sub-committee was appointed to move the conversation forward. On the

committee is Dave, Tasha, John Mandeville, Christine, Sarah and Catherine (Tim).

- NBRC applications to be released early February, info sessions to follow.
- NBRC and EDA funds can match each other
- Feb. 6th is the next meeting
- Still Board vacancies, one in the Islands and two in the Northeast Kingdom
- Motion to adjourn at 3:00 made by Dave seconded by Tasha.