Called to order 4:40 pm

1. **Introductions/Minutes Approval**
   Greg Brown chaired the meeting due to the absence of Norm Wright. The minutes of the 17th of July 2014 were approved.

2. **Windham Region CEDS Implementation**
   Frank Knott, Vital Economy and consultant to SEVEDS, discussed the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) implementation plan and budget. He also gave examples of various projects nationwide that he worked on implementing economic development. Frank explained that non-profits have a role to play in economic development. He discussed that WRC could take the lead on the following CEDS implementation projects:
   - Livable Community – definition of and implementation
   - Infrastructure – water and waste water
   - Broadband

   He clarified that SEVEDS, working with their partners, would need to find funding for WRC to work on these topic areas.

3. **Windham County Economic Development Fund**
   S. McMahon updated the Committee on the status of the Windham County Economic Development Fund. She discussed that the application for loan or grant is due September 23rd and required application workshops will be held on August 16th in Townshend and Vernon. WRC will be providing technical assistance to municipalities that are interested in applying for a loan or a grant.

4. **Future Projects for the Community Development Committee**
   McMahon reported back to the Committee about her discussion with C. Campany and other WRC staff about Community Development Committee projects. She discussed the following;
• Agriculture – The Natural Resource Committee is interested in working on agriculture issues also. S. McMahon met with Kim Smith, staff for the Natural Resources Committee, about partnering on this issue. S. McMahon suggested that Kim Smith take the lead, but coordinate with the Community Development Committee. She suggested that the Community Development Committee meet with the Natural Resources Committee soon to discuss next steps.

• Forestry – Staff will continue to meet with the Working Forest of Windham County group and report back to the CD committee about the group’s progress

• Housing – Possible housing needs assessment and/or work with local housing commissions

• Village and Downtown Revitalization – Continue the work started with the EDA project

• VY and Economic Development – Assistance to municipalities

The Committee discussed that they would like to address some of the CEDS issues brought up by Frank Knott. Some of the members were especially interested in working on broadband. Greg Brown suggested that staff write up a description of potential topic areas for the next meeting so that the Committee can work with staff to narrow projects down.

5. Tools to Address Local Housing Needs
   Due to time constraints the Committee agreed to postpone this presentation until the September meeting.

6. Update and Announcements in Topic Areas
   • Brownfields: The WRC Executive Board will be reviewing the WRC RLF Committee’s recommendation to give a loan/grant to the New England Youth Theatre for cleanup of their property.
   • Cultural and Historic
   • Infrastructure
   • Recreation
   • Economic/Community Development
   • Education:
   • Human Services:

7. Other Business/Next Meeting
   Next meeting scheduled for September 11, 2014 with the following topic areas:
   • Housing presentation
   • Future projects for Community Development Committee

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.