Community Development Committee
Minutes from meeting: 9 March 2017
Location: WRC Conference Room

Community Development Committee present: Alan LaCombe (Chair), Robert McBride, Greg Brown, Wendy Harrison, Stephen Dotson and Roger Turner
Staff present: Susan McMahon

Called to order 4:35 pm

1. **Introductions/Minutes Approval**
The minutes of 12 January 2017 was approved.

2. **Economic Development Training for Planning Commissions**
S. McMahon discussed that as part of WRC’s contract with DHCA a presentation was developed by Northern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) and each RPC is asked present the training on this issue before June 30, 2017. The committee discussed scheduling and sponsoring the training. There were suggestions to simplify the slides and to add slides on public transit and grant opportunities.

3. **EcovationHub - Living Community Challenge**
S. McMahon updated the Committee that WRC working with GreenBuilding asked for Letters of Interest (LOI) from communities interested in receiving technical assistance to pursue the Living Community Challenge. She explained that they received a LOI from the Village of Algiers (sent with the March meeting packet) and will begin working with the community in April.

4. **Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) – Home Repair Program**
S. McMahon discussed that WWHT is requesting a letter for their CDBG application to recapitalize the home repair loan program. A motion to approve this request was made by R. Turner and seconded by G. Brown. Staff was directed to write the letter.

5. **Update Announcements in Topic Areas**
   - **Brownfields** – S. McMahon updated the Committee on the status of assessment and RLF projects.
   - **Cultural and Historic** – R. McBride discussed that he is chairing the Southern Vermont Creative Network. The Network’s role is to empower arts organizations.
   - **Infrastructure** - The Committee discussed the I-91 bridge was nearing completion.
   - **Recreation** – W. Harrison updated the Committee on the West River Trail project.
   - **Economic/Community Development** –
     - S. McMahon discussed that the Southern Vermont Economy project is holding a economic development workshop the end of May.
W. Harrison updated the Committee on the Retreat Farm project and offered to hold a Community Development meeting there and provided a tour of the project.

6. **Other Business/Next Meeting**
   Next meeting – April 13, 2017
   Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.