Community Development Committee
Minutes from meeting: 13 July 2017
Location: WRC Conference Room

Community Development Committee present: Alan LaCombe (Chair), Greg Brown, Edie Mas, Lynn Barrett and Laura Sibilia
Staff present: Susan McMahon
Guest present: Sarah Lang, BDCC

Called to order 4:30 pm

1. **Introductions/Minutes Approval**
   The minutes of 13 April 2017 was approved.

2. **FY17 USDA Rural Community Development Initiative grant - Southern Vermont Economy Project**
   S. Lang, BDCC, updated the Committee on the Southern Vermont Economy Project.
   The Southern Vermont Economy Project (SVEP) is intended to stabilize, improve and expand the rural economic and workforce development network in Southern Vermont. The Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) received a USDA RCDI grant to facilitate this two-year project to connect and expand economic and community development work in the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone. The project currently runs until 2018 and the purpose of the grant request is to continue funding of the project and the network. A motion to approve this request was made by G. Brown and seconded by E. Mas. The Committee vote was unanimous and staff was directed to write the letter.

   S. Lang also discussed the Knowledge Bites Webinar series, which is held every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at noon. “Knowledge Bites,” focuses on providing introductory information about economic and community development tools, programs, and funding opportunities. Additional information about the series can be found [http://brattleborodevelopment.com/knowledge-bites/](http://brattleborodevelopment.com/knowledge-bites/).

3. **CDBG – Robertson Paper Mill**
   Bellows Falls Area Development Corporation is applying to the Vermont Community Development Program for funding to assist in the brownfields cleanup of the Robertson Paper Mill. A motion to approve this request was made by E. Mas and seconded by G. Brown. A. LaCombe abstained from voting and the remainder of the Committee voted yes. Staff was directed to write the letter.

4. **Living Communities Challenge**
   S. McMahon updated the Committee that staff continues to work with Algiers Village’s organizations on master planning for the village. A meeting is scheduled for August to gather additional input from the community.
5. **Update Announcements in Topic Areas**
   - **Brownfields** – S. McMahon updated the Committee on the status of assessment and RLF projects.
   - **Economic/Community Development** – S. McMahon update the committee that there was a good turnout at the economic development training for municipalities.

6. **Other Business/Next Meeting**
   E. Mas asked that at the next meeting if we could discuss rural health care and what can the region do.
   Next meeting – September 14, 2017
   Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.