Meeting convened at 5:35 PM. Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes: Minutes of June 13th, 2019 were approved on a motion by Joel, seconded by Roger, by a unanimous vote. Gretchen and Laura abstained since they were absent.

Broadband Infrastructure Legislation: Representative Laura Sibilia gave a presentation which provided an overview of Vermont’s new Broadband Infrastructure legislation, Act 79. She began by explaining what Vermont has in place and what’s happened so far. The new legislation provides grant and loan funding at various levels to plan for and build broadband infrastructure. Committee members asked questions throughout the presentation. Laura noted that the first grant round is due October 25, 2019. An informational workshop with more details, will be held either 9/12 or 9/13. Susan said that WRC can help spread the word. Tim suggested that the Community Development Committee attend this workshop instead of attending the next CDC meeting which will be cancelled.

Rockingham, Request for Support Letter – TLR Planning & Stabilization grants (VCDP/CDBG): Gary Fox, Rockingham Development Director presented an overview of the TLR buildings and the work that’s been done to date. There has been a significant amount of brownfields assessment work, as well as planning studies including a plan by Michael Singer and a CT Heritage Center Plan.

Gary said they just got approval from the Selectboard to pursue two grants from the state. One is a planning grant to pull together and update the end use plans and to develop construction/bid documents to stabilize the buildings. The other is a Slum and Blight grant to make critical repairs to the stabilize the buildings. They hope to begin this work next spring. At this point they are planning a historic museum/educational use for the building adjacent to the grist mill and an entrepreneurial center for the second building.
The CD Committee agreed by consensus to support Rockingham’s request. Susan will prepare letters of support for both grants.

Updates by Topic Areas:

- **Brownfields** – Susan provided an update on the Brownfields program. She noted that three new projects were recently accepted into the program:
  1) RCC II RLF Part A – grant/loan (80/20%);
  2) Longfalls Paperboard – assistance needed to complete Phase II Assessment work;
  3) 22 Gates Pond Rd. Jacksonville – assessment to determine its petro contamination.

Susan also said the RLF Subcommittee is reviewing a Part B application for the Groundworks grant tomorrow morning.

- **Housing** – Gretchen shared an update on the Wilmington/Dover Bi-town Housing Study/plan and the recent stakeholder meeting. Susan gave an update on the VT/CNU – Housing Bylaw project, which had a kickoff meeting in July. They are now looking for input on barriers. Susan will email this request to the committee.

- **Infrastructure** – Susan said that Rockingham and Walpole are working on joint proposal for Vyles Bridge.

- **Economic/Community Development** – Susan said that Grafton & Londonderry both working on Village Center Designations. Gretchen said there will be an Open House on August 20th from 3:00 – 6:00 PM to share renovations at the Old School.

**Sibling Region Subcommittee:** Susan said that the committee continues to explore options and funding sources for a potential partnership with Sweden.

**Next Meeting:** The September meeting was cancelled and the next meeting will be held in October.

There was a motion to adjourn by Joel, seconded by Bonnie and approved by all at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Westa, Senior Planner