



RUTLAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CITY OF RUTLAND

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Regular Meeting / September 23, 2014

Minutes

Attendance: William Notte, Dave Cooper, Stephanie Peters, Brennan Duffy, Israel Mac, Wendy Wilton, Barbara Spaulding, Mike Gauthier and Claus Bartenstein.

Absent: Ed Clark.

Also attending: Chris Etori, Downtown Rutland Partnership.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:01 am.
- II. Agenda Additions/Deletions – None.
- III. William moved to approve the minutes of September 9, 2014. Stephanie seconded. Motion was approved.
- IV. No one from the public was in attendance to address the Board.
- V. Wendy moved to authorize Dave to sign the warrant for payment of Fund 800 expenses totaling \$2,233.84. William seconded. Motion was approved.
- VI. Barbara provided the following grant status updates:

2014 Bicycle & Pedestrian Program awarded the City of Rutland a \$1,287,305 grant to fund Segment 5 of the Rutland Creek Path. Segment 5 costs include engineering, permitting, construction bid documents and construction. Segment 5 runs along Dorr Drive from the bridge to the College of St. Joseph and includes a boardwalk, shared use path, sidewalk and new crosswalk. The RRA will be responsible for grant administration.

Downtown Gateway & Infrastructure Study: Requisition #2 has been filed with the progress report. Both were accepted and approved. Brennan discussed some deliverables received from the consultant.

City Master Plan – The RRPC confirmed the City's master plan on Tuesday, Sept. 16. Building and Zoning has funds to have the plan printed.

Designated Downtown Renewal – The City's downtown designation needs to be renewed by May, 2015. Recently a statutory requirement was implemented to demonstrate linkage between the designation and the City Master Plan. The master plan needs to include linkage to the designation as well as a map that depicts the boundary of the designated district. In the case of Rutland, the Special Benefit's District serves as the boundary for the designated downtown and therefore the newly

adopted and confirmed master plan is believed to be in compliance. Any future revisions to the Master Plan should include more specific reference to how the designation helps implement relevant goals in the plan.

Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy: The VCDP Planning Grant that was awarded to the City to hire Eric Hangen to produce the Northwest Neighborhood Revitalization Study also included funds for a demonstration project. The demonstration project would serve two purposes: to continue momentum in the neighborhood following the announcement of the \$1.25 million grant; and help encourage “neighborliness.” Working with VISION the RRA could purchase Holiday wreaths to distribute to people living in the Northwest Neighborhood. In addition to the wreaths, information about NeighborWorks programs would also be distributed. Brennan and Barbara will continue to work on this project.

VII. Brennan provided the following project status updates.

The most recent VTrans application for federal funds to continue work on the western rail corridor was not funded. This will delay completion of work to rebuild railroad lines to Burlington. VTrans will resubmit during the next grant program.

Brennan recently attended the IEDC strategic planning course in Baltimore, MD and suggested considering a comprehensive regional strategic plan. Brennan will discuss with Jaime Stewart at REDC. A consultant could be funded through an EDA grant.

RRPC Symposium on New Approaches to Economic Development – 5:30-8:30 pm Wednesday, Oct. 1, Franklin Conference Center; and 8 am to noon, Thursday Oct. 2, Hangar Café, Rutland-Southern VT Regional Airport. Please RSVP by Sept. 25.

Brennan discussed several ongoing redevelopment opportunities.

Sears Auto Center – Wendy suggested that the City and RRA avail themselves to helping the auto center find a way to relocate.

VIII. Adjourn.

Stephanie moved to adjourn. It was seconded. Motion was approved.
The meeting ended at 8:38 am.

These minutes approved this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Israel Mac, Secretary