



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Economic Development Council

Zoom Meeting

Minutes of February 7, 2022

Members Present: Mary Richter, Ken Cadow, Damian DiNicola

Guests: Jerry Ward, Ed Rooney, Julie Iffland

Town of Randolph: Joshua Jerome

Selectboard Liaison: Perry Armstrong

Public Attendees: None

Establish Quorum: No Quorum Established.

Meeting held without voting.

Call to Meeting to Order

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Public Comment

None

1. Council Member Update

Mary provided an update a list of Council members has been sent to Trevor and the Selectboard to appoint at their March meeting. There is one vacancy and if anyone is interested please send a letter of interest to:

EDC@randolphvt.org.

Mary sent an email to Council members asking what they expect from the Council and initiatives to address in the 2022 term. Mary will compile the members' responses and will provide the feedback at the March meeting.

2. Updates:

Marketing and Tourism Grant

Josh advised the Marketing and Tourism grant has been executed with the State. Funds will go towards the development of the Randolph in Motion website, Chandler's New World Festival, and Ridgeline Trails. These initiatives will allow Council and community involvement.

CORI - Digital Economic Ecosystem Project

Josh reported the Digital Economic Ecosystem (DEE) is working with GMEDC and Economic Development Administration (EDA) Build to Scale funding. Randolph will be a co-applicant with the Black River Innovation Campus (BRIC) for the EDA i6 Grant application due in April 2022.

Downtown Business

Josh advised a potential business from within the region will be coming downtown. This is a Selectboard agenda item for discussion.

Childcare

Damian reported there is progress with financing, due diligence, closing, and permitting for the center. There are lobbying efforts with the State. A USDA loan application will be a major source of funding.

This summer there will be a reach out to businesses for their support of the center.

Rural School System Project

Damian needs to revisit and will reach out to Ken.

RACDC

Julie reported construction has started at the Randolph House. Seniors will be relocated to VTC for 2 to 3 weeks as unit renovations are being done.

Decorated Belmain's storefront for Valentine's Day and will be serving hot chocolate on Saturday.

Costs for housing are high and need funding for Salisbury Square and Hedding Drive area.

There is a \$150K balance in the Revolving Loan Fund.

Julie started there has been Comcast internet interruption that has been impacting downtown businesses. Perry stated he has been having issues since December.

WRVCC

No representation / no updates.

Other

Damian asked about the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Perry is the Chair and advised a committee has been formed consisting of 6 members. Trevor is reaching out to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) and gathering information to define eligible projects.

3. Old Business

None

4. New Business

None

Adjourned: 7:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mary V. Richter, Chair