



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Economic Development Council Via Teleconference Minutes of July 2, 2020

Members Present: Mary Richter (no quorum)

Guests: Peter Reed, John Lutz, Andrea Easton, Maury Smith, Gary Dir

Town of Randolph: Joshua Jerome

Selectboard Liaison: Perry Armstrong

Public Attendees: None

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment – None present
3. Randolph in Motion (*new project* – CoVID-19 Recovery Public Outreach)

Creating Public Spaces

This is a work in progress to expand sitting areas within downtown. Continue to work with Black Krim and One Main. Tents for outdoor sitting has been set up at Huggable Mug and Chef's Market.

Guide/Magazine

Valerie Schoolcraft created a 16-page color "Randolph in Motion" Summer Guide highlighting local restaurants, retails, events, and recreation. A final review by the core team will happen in the coming days to release to social media outlets.

Discussions continue on a printed version (5,000 copies) to be inserted into the Herald and distributed to approximately 4,500 subscribers and the copies available throughout the town's local businesses. The core team is reviewing the costs and potential printers. Total cost would be \$5,000 - \$6,000.

Funding

When we took on this project, it was expected we would receive funding from the State's Relief Fund however the expected funds were deleted in the final bill H966 sent to the Governor.

Several businesses and residents have stepped up to help fund this initiative. Gary Dir will continue to work with these individuals and report to the core team the outcome.

4. CARES ACT (VT Bill H.966 dated June 25, 2020)

Governor Scott signed this bill today, July 2nd.

The approximately \$1M to downtowns Better Places/Spaces was deleted from this bill for unknown reasons.

\$2.5 M for Marketing and Tourism was included in the bill. Allocation of funds will be handled through Vermont's Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD).

5. RAMAN / RACDC

No Updates.

6. Vermont Revolving Loan Fund Updates

Scrapped – will remove agenda item going forward.

7. CoVID-19 Regional Testing Strategy and Economic Recovery

Maury Smith reported 1,100 – 1,200 tests have been conducted with zero positive in the last eight weeks.

Businesses have been contacted for testing at no cost and hassle free. There has been no interest and businesses are well informed.

8. Vermont Technical College

Internal report is due July 1st. There is a committee being formed for higher education process and not only focused on State colleges.

9. July 4th – Updates

There will be fireworks on Farr's Hill on July 3rd.

Starting at 7:30 pm music from the Starline Rhythm Boys will also be broadcasted on WCVR and YouTube.

9:30 pm Fireworks

10. Old Business

None

11. New Business

Perry weighted in on a Peter Welch call regarding the Federal Government with PPP.

Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is holding an invitation only meeting Orange County COVID-19 Forum Steering Committee Tuesday July 7th at 1 pm via zoom.

A broader meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21st, 6:30-8:30 via Zoom. The Steering Committee will be sending out invitations.

Adjourned: 5:52 PM
Respectfully submitted,
Mary V. Richter, Chair