

Springfield Regional Development Corporation
Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2015
8:00 am

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OFFICE OF THE MANAGER

Present: Doug Gurney, Patti Putnam, Bill Dakin, Bob Kendall, Paul Kowalski, and Bob Flint

Absent: Mark Tanny, Jason Thom, Sam Coleman, and Tom Kennedy.

The meeting was called to order by Doug Gurney at 8:04 am.

1. **Review of Minutes for June meeting:** Motion made by Bill Dakin to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Bob Kendall. So moved.
2. **June Financials:** Motion made by Bill Dakin to accept the June Financials as submitted, seconded by Bob Kendall. So moved.
3. **Director's Report/Regional Educational Facilities:** Bob Flint opened by updating the Board on the progress with the new SRDC website, which is currently in beta stage. He and Sandy both thanked Jason for all of patience and work with this project.

Bob then introduced Jeff Renard, the Director of the Vermont Virtual Learning Collaborative. Jeff explained the background and programs of VTVLC, which is housed at the RVTC. Classes are available to any high school student that attends a school that partner with VTVLC. Students are able to take classes on line, with a library of courses that they may otherwise not have access to. A key factor to the success of VTVLC is that each class is led by a highly qualified teacher that has an endorsement in teaching online. Jeff indicated that, while high school students are the primary target market, they are starting to work with middle school age students as well as elementary schools as well.

4. **Old Business:**

a. **J & L 1 Update:**

a. **EPA Grant Activities:** Bob indicated that fresh oils were discovered during soil excavation at the site, in the former grinding swarf area. These are being analyzed and, depending on those results, this could impact the remediation activity in that part of the site. Bob also said that we were visited by Frank Gardner from the EPA Boston Region 1 office, who came up for a tour of the various brownfield projects in the region.

b. **Jones Center Status:** Bob reported there are still a number of moving parts, including various prospects interested in different areas of the building.

c. **Bryants Building:** Bob updated the Board on the progress of the use of the north end of the building for warehouse storage for Imerys Talc. He said that equipment should start showing up by mid-August. Doug added that we were working quickly to get the space ready and were working with All Seasons Construction and HB Energy to help make this happen.

A motion was made by Bill Dakin to affirm the email Board vote authorizing Bob to execute a lease with Imerys Talc for storage space at the Bryants building. Motion was seconded by Bob Kendall. So moved.

d. **CDBG- DR2**: Paul reported that he is working hard to assist the remaining grant recipients in receiving funds. There are roughly 90 days left to use the grant monies and he said there are a few that are going to be a close call. The American Precision Museum has made the decision to forgo their remaining \$40,000.00 in funding, because of requirements associated with the grant.

5. **Other Business:**

a. **Economic Development District:**

a. **CEDS Update Progress**: Bob reported that a draft of the updated CEDS has been posted online and he encouraged the Board to review. The final plan will be submitted to EDA in early September.

b. **Appointment of SRDC Representative**: Bob shared Michael Normyle's resignation as one of SRDC's designees to the EDD Board. Bob Kendall made a motion to nominate Bill Dakin as Representative to the East Central Vermont Economic Development District Board for SRDC, seconded by Patti Putnam. So moved.

c. **CRDC Discussion**: Bob updated the Board on the progress of discussions with CRDC about the possible transfer of assets to SRDC. The hope is to move forward with this for a possible transaction by year end.

6. **Executive Session**- A motion was made to go into Executive Session at 8:42 am by Bill Dakin, seconded by Bob Kendall: So moved.

A motion was made by Bill Dakin to come out of Executive Session at 9:13 am, seconded by Patti Putnam. So moved. No action taken out of Executive Session.

Doug Gurney adjourned the meeting at 9:14 am.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 25, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Clifford
Office Manager