LEDC
Lamoille Economic Development Corporation

Your Partner in Growing the Future.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – 12/20/24

Location: Zoom Meeting Online
Directors Attending in Person: None
Directors Attending Remotely: Geoff Lindemer, Conrad Harris, Erik Remmers, Jeremy Elliott, Joe Woodin, Jill Jaret-Rossi
Directors Excused: Tina Norton, Dody Day
Also Attending: LEDC Executive Director Pat Ripley, LCPC Director Tasha Wallis

LEDC ED Pat Ripley called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Friday, Dec. 20th. Board members did not have any additions or changes to the agenda. There were also no community announcements. The group then turned its attention to the Nov. 15th board meeting minutes. Geoff Lindemer motioned to approve the minutes and Joe Woodin seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously. Next the group heard from LCPC Director Tasha Wallis who updates the board on LCPC's work in the Town of Johnson. She explained that FEMA funds have been secured to support the building of a new wastewater facility in Johnson but that it could not be relocated if FEMA funds were used for the project. With the facility located in the floodplain there is concern about locating it in the same place it has been flooded in recent years. If the plant is moved the funding would decrease, she explained. The project funds are currently in the $10-12 million range. LCPC is working with the Town of Johnson to help find a solution. She also explained that LCPC is working on some group meetings with Lamoille County selectboards and town managers. LEDC board members had some follow up questions for Tasha regarding the FEMA work and local flood insurance requirements and Tasha provided answers to those questions.

The group then turned its attention to a by-law review that is beginning to get under way at LEDC. ED Pat Ripley explained that the current by-laws are not yet in digital form but that efforts are being made to get them into a digital format the board can more easily access and revise. Joe Woodin said Copley has some resources to help with that effort and ED Pat Ripley agreed to follow up on that offer. Jill Jaret-Rossi also volunteered to help with the by-law review. Once the by-laws have been digitized ED Pat Ripley will make some notes on some potential areas that could be changed and then begin the review with the board volunteers. This effort is expected to take some time and will include full board review throughout the process, he said. The board then turned its attention to the monthly financial reports and ED Pat Ripley fielded some questions regarding those reports. Jill Jaret-Rossi motioned to approve the reports and Geoff seconded that motion. The reports were passed unanimously.

Board Member Jeremy Elliott then provided an update on the retail market in Vermont, reporting that sales are down this year compared to recent years and that he is hearing this is a trend across the board in retail. ED Pat Ripley echoed those comments and pointed to some data LEDC expects to get soon from the Dept. of Travel and Tourism. Conrad Harris also mentioned he is staying abreast of the MSI industrial park project and can provide more details as needed. The group closed their discussion period with updates from Joe Woodin regarding recent operations at Copley Hospital.

There were no questions regarding ED Pat Ripley's monthly report. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.