Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – 5/15/26

Location: Zoom Meeting Online
Directors Attending in Person: None
Directors Attending Remotely: Jill Jaret-Rossi, Andrea Cohen, Erik Remmers, Ron Carter, Emma Schumann
Directors Excused: Joe Woodin, Conrad Harris, Dody Day, Tina Norton, David Kupferman
Also Attending: LEDC Executive Director Pat Ripley, LCPC Director Tasha Wallis

LEDC ED Pat Ripley called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Friday, May 15th. There were no announcements from the Board of Directors. The group first turned its attention to the LEDC board meeting minutes from the April 17th meeting. No changes or additions to the minutes were requested. Emma Schumann motioned to approve the minutes and Andrea Cohen seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The group then turned its attention to the monthly financial reports and investment reports. LEDC ED Pat Ripley explained that there were no significant changes to the financial reports, but did alert the board that one of the two outstanding loans on file had been paid, leaving just one outstanding loan on the books. He also informed the board that the annual draft budget would be presented at the June meeting. Erik Remmers motioned to approve the financial reports and Andrea Cohen seconded that motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The group then turned its attention to the Green Mountain Byway. The Byway Committee has requested that LEDC handle oversight of the Byway program and website. Ron Carter, who also serves on the Byway Committee, made the request to the board, outlining the Byway route and promotional efforts associated with it. LEDC ED Pat Ripley explained that LEDC already handles the Byway funding, which comes from a series of towns along the Byway as a pass through account and that it would not significantly change operations at LEDC if the board agreed to the request. He also said the annual funds easily cover the expenses of the program. A motion to assume oversight and fiscal responsibility of the Green Mountain Byway program by LEDC was made by Jill Jaret-Rossi and seconded by Andrea Cohen. The motion passed with one abstention from Ron Carter.

The group then heard from Lamoille County Planning Commission Executive Director Tasha Wallis. She updated the group on several LCPC initiatives including the upcoming Marvin Awards, Rail Trail Ambassadors Program and recently released FEMA funds that will help repair the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. The group also discussed several items currently under consideration in the legislature, as well as some state programs that may come into play in Lamoille County in the coming months/years.

LEDC ED Pat Ripley then provided an update on the 2027 membership drive, which is currently underway. He said a print ad was in this week's local papers promoting the membership drive per the board's request and that things were running smoothly. He also reminded the board of last year's decision not to rehire a membership director, which would mean less focus being paid to membership recruitment. Th board acknowledged that decision. The membership drive continues through the end of June, he said. LEDC ED Pat Ripley also mentioned that the board is looking for a

speaker for the annual fall luncheon and all suggestions are welcomed. Several topics were discussed and there appeared to be an interest in having someone speak about the housing situation in Vermont. LEDC ED Pat Ripley said he would look into speakers for that topic.

There were no questions on ED Pat Ripley's monthly report and no community announcements. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.