



NVDA
*Northeastern Vermont
Development Association*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Meeting
(NVDA Offices for in-person)

October 28, 2021
6:00 PM

MINUTES

Those attending:

Committee:

Joel Cope
Martha Feltus
Paul Monette
Fred Saar
Grant Spates
Gina Vigneault
Paul Brouha
Laura Dolgin

Staff:

Judy Butson
Tina Gonyaw
David Snedeker (in-person)

Guests:

The Meeting (via Zoom Meeting) was called to order by President Laura Dolgin at 6:00PM

Update Agenda

September Financials will be available shortly and sent to be discussed at upcoming meeting

Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of the May 26, 2021 meeting as presented was made by Joel Cope and seconded by Fred Saar. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Financials

The June, July and August 2021 Unaudited Financial Statements were discussed and a motion to approve them subject to audit was made Fred Saar and seconded by Gina Vigneault. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Judy answered a few questions.

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The regional planning and development commission serving The Northeast Kingdom: Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties
NVDA is an Equal Opportunity lender, provider and employer

Gallery Building Sale

Dave presented

NVDA is working with a local realtor readying the Gallery Building to be placed on the market; with the current real estate changes in the area now seems to be a good time.

A motion to list the Gallery Building for sale was made by Joel Cope and seconded by Paul Monette. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Staffing Updates

Dave discussed the staffing openings created with Frank Maloney moving on. NVDA has been able to hire two part time replacements and has the funding need to hire additional staff in the areas of transportation and energy planning.

A motion to approve the two (2) additional staff members was made by Joel Cope and seconded by Fred Saar. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Board and Executive Meeting Schedule

Attachment below

Director's Update

Attachment below

Other Business

None

With no other business before the committee, a motion was made by Paul Monette and seconded by Joel Cope to adjourn the meeting, carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18PM

FY2022 Tentative Meeting Dates

Executive Committee

October 28, 2021 – Location to be determined

January 27, 2022 – Location to be determined

April 28, 2022 – Location to be determined

May 26, 2022 – Location to be determined

Full Board

December 16, 2021 – Location to be determined

March 24, 2022 – Location to be determined

June 23, 2022 – Location to be determined

NOTE:

Meetings are generally held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM.

Full Board generally has a social period from 5:30 – 6:00 PM



October 28, 2021

To: NVDA Executive Committee

From: David Snedeker, Executive Director

Re: Director Updates – NVDA Executive Committee Meeting, via Zoom

NVDA staff have been returning to NVDA offices following the lifting of pandemic restrictions by Governor Scott. Tenants at our downtown office building and the Charles Carter Business Center in the industrial park have slowly returned to more normal operations.

Funding Applications submitted by/with NVDA:

\$99,000 USDA Rural Business Development Grant – Business Recovery – *awarded in August 2021*

\$600,000 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant – *EPA has authorized NVDA to begin work under this grant*
\$1,000,000 funding application (by NEKDC) to the VT Community Development Program for the purchase and rehabilitation of the former Bogner facility in Newport – *decision expected in November 2021*

\$500,000 funding application (by NEKDC) to the Newport Development Fund for the Bogner project – *expecting invitation to submit full application*

NVDA Brownfields Coalition Partnership – EPA Assessment Activities update

After completing our 2018 EPA Coalition Assessment Grant we are beginning to identify projects for our 2021 EPA Coalition award:

- Lyndon Town Garage (for park and recreational use) – *completed Phase 1. Additional Phase 2 funding is needed.*
- Former Kennametal facility in Lyndonville. Although the owners are considering demolition, there is a local business interested in purchasing the building for their expansion. *Phase 1 funding is available to facilitate the possible purchase.*
- Barton Motors properties. The properties were purchased at auction. *Ownership transferred after Phase 1 completed.*
- Other assessment activities include: Portland Pipeline facility (Sutton), former state office building (St. Johnsbury), and Ide building (St. Johnsbury).

NVDA Revolving Loan Program

NVDA Loan Committee recently approved a \$20,000 loan application to assist NEKDC with the Yellow Barn project in Hardwick.

Industrial Park Lot Sale/Work

- NVDA has signed a P&S to Maine Energy Systems for Lot 4 in the St. Johnsbury – Lyndon Industrial Park. They plan to construct a storage silo for wood pellet distribution. *Still waiting to close.*
- NVDA, on behalf of the St. Johnsbury – Lyndon Park Board, has contracted with Whiteout Solutions to conduct aerial mapping of the industrial park. This is expected to help with marketing the park and permitting.

Other major projects:

NVDA staff have completed fall field work with NEK towns around road erosion and water quality

The Hardwick Yellow Barn Business Accelerator development project is expecting to go out to bid very soon.

NVDA has completed much of our grant support to the “NEK Community Broadband” – the region’s Communication Union District. The CUD is expecting to begin buildout work this year.

NVDA staff are participating in the development of a northern Vermont recovery plan by the 6-county Northern Vermont Economic Development District

NVDA staff continue participating in the VT Climate Council’s Rural Resilience subcommittee. The VCC report is expected on December 1st.

NVDA and Regional Planning Commissions are working with the VT League of Cities and Towns to assist municipalities with accessing American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds. We have been fielding eligibility questions from municipalities and are planning in-person informational events with VLCD in November and December.