

TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT
ARPA Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 2, 2022

Members Present: Charlie Goodman, Jon Jamieson, Leo Laferriere, Joel Rhodes, Christine Sullivan, Brian Voigt

Staff Present: Annie Decker-Dell'Isola, Town Administrator

Others Present: Alice Peal (Planning Commission), Anthony Italiano (MRVTV), Betsy Jondro, Bill Zekas

I. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Charlie Goodman. The meeting was held in person at the Waitsfield Town Offices and remotely via Zoom.

II. Regular Business.

1. Agenda additions, removals, or adjustments per 1 V.S.A. § 312 (d) (3) (A)

No revisions were requested.

2. Review and finalize project prioritization framework

Annie provided an updated review rubric based upon feedback from a prior meeting; the latest iteration contains one sheet for project details and one sheet containing the evaluation rubric. It was noted that this is a document to be completed internally, but the template will be available to help guide those submitting applications.

Annie explained that compliance/audit issues are still being fully clarified through conversations with VLCT; the evaluation of projects will include review for clarity of administrative capability.

It was confirmed that the five categories for project awards have been determined to be housing, infrastructure, childcare, transportation, and town/government services.

MOTION: *Christine made a motion to approve the Prioritization tool as amended. The motion was seconded by Charlie. All voted in favor.*

Brian arrived at this point in the meeting.

3. Brief review of project ideas submitted to date

Annie reported that a request from MRVTV had been received, but was not included in the meeting materials packet, she also noted that Downstreet intends to submit an application.

Members discussed the applications which were included in the meeting packet, and asked questions of those present who were representing the applicants.

Betsy Jondro clarified that NOW has submitted all the necessary state permit materials, and that they expect to receive permits soon. She indicated that the hope is to get the wastewater system improvements installed by the end of the year, the system will be built to handle to full future anticipated population of 125.

Bill Zekas of the Senior Citizens group confirmed that Michael Bransfield intends to apply to Warren for funding as well, although the Freewheeling application only lists Fayston and Moretown.

There was some discussion of the request received for installing lighting on US flags throughout Waitsfield. Annie explained that the Town does not own the flags along Route 100, nor the poles they are hung from. She also noted that all Town flags are illuminated where appropriate. Annie was asked to follow up with Jim Boylan. Leo suggested that the Selectboard be made aware of this request, as it involves Town property.

There were some questions regarding the application submitted by the Valley Players, and it was indicated that there may be permitting required before the work can be completed. They will be asked to attend the next meeting in order to clarify their application information.

Bill Zekas confirmed that the Seniors request for Meals on Wheels is separate from the Free Wheeling application.

Annie will continue posting requests for applications, in the Valley Reporter and on FPF, with the deadline to remain as November 18.

It was requested that information be provided regarding what funds have been approved so far, and mentioned that there might be a discussion regarding whether a certain amount should be applied to each category of funding. It was agreed that it would be suitable to have a second call for applications in the next year or so, as full commitment of funds does not need to be completed until 2024.

4. Review and approve minutes

The minutes of October 5, 2022 were approved.

5. Other Business

The upcoming schedule was reviewed, it was agreed to aim for December 21 as the date for a final recommendation regarding the first round of applications to be prepared for the Selectboard.

Annie will follow up with the organizations which have submitted applications regarding any questions that were raised during the meeting.

III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary