



## June Board Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2023 | 8AM

In attendance: Tiffany Saltis, Brian Budrow, Katye Munger, Tammy Landon, Jessi Travers, Jadziah DeRosia, Casey McNeil, John Zawitowski, Kiana McClure, Eileen Coughlin

Absent: Eddie Ryan, Tiffany Walker, Sunita Dholakia, Jennifer Usher

1. Meeting called to order at 8:06
2. Approval of the May board meeting minutes

Motion: Jadziah

Second: John

3. Review of the May treasurer's reports
4. New business
  - i. FY24 Work Plan was presented at the May board meeting. It was approved on 6/20/23.

Motion: John

Second: Tammy

5. Old business
  - i. DRP board meetings, we'd like to start meeting in person quarterly at the DRP office in the morning. We want folks to feel more connected and have the opportunity to share feedback on their own business experience. We'll encourage board members to share either a success they've recently experienced or a challenge they've faced. We feel a quarterly in-person meeting will spur a more collaborative environment.
6.
  - ii. Board of directors vote - Tomorrow at the annual DRP meeting, the board of directors will be renewed for 3 years. We encourage board members to weigh this commitment to see if it works for their schedule. We know each board member brings their own skill and experience to the organization and we'd like members to feel supported in order to contribute more input moving forward. With that collective contribution, the organization will be able to grow as an organization and support more small businesses.

7. Liaison updates
  - a. Board of Aldermen

Parking rates increased - at most \$1.50 an hour. City of Rutland designated downtown capitol improvement program budget approved. Public comments will be submitted with suggestions. USDA urban forestry grant - more trees downtown. Appointed City attorney. Referred the library's ADA project to committee. The first ever Rutland County Pride Festival saw over 4,000 people. Gov Pilot - can get liquor and entertainment permits online now.

- b. Rutland Redevelopment Authority



- i. ED search, BIAP Grant - Loose Luna approved
- 8. Committee reports
  - a. Business development
    - i. DRP grants: Rutland Co-op submitted an application and the Business Development committee approved the application. We are looking to vote on the approval of \$350 for a facade improvement (new signage).
    - ii. New businesses/relocations - Speakeasy has moved to 31 Center Street. The Mad Rose Cocktail Lounge opened at 42 Center Street. Brian will be building a parklet for them. Down Valley Bikes opened at 10 Merchants Row.
  
    - iii. Brian has been working with the SBA to offer a business development workshop to our small businesses
    - iv. Backing small business grant
  - b. Events
    - i. The DRP annual meeting is tomorrow! 5-7pm at Taso on Center.
    - ii. Friday Night Live is the next big event coming up and we're continuing to work on it. We need to finalize volunteer efforts. Marketing will continue to ramp up closer to event.
    - iii. Pride Festival was a great success! It rained, but it didn't dampen the event. Attendance was great. Vendors all had a wonderful time. We helped them set up and Tiffany captured lots of photos at the event.
  - c. Streetscape
    - i. Parks & Rec will be taking over streetscape.
    - ii. Planters have gone out around town.
    - iii. Alley taskforce has met to look at the Center Street Alley. They will be looking at viable ways to spruce up the space.
  - d. Marketing
    - i. Friday Night Live marketing is underway. WCAX donated \$1,000 towards advertising.
    - ii. Ads in Mountain Times' menu book and summer guide
    - iii. Next month we'll have a downtown display at the Guilford Welcome Center.
    - iv. Moving Pictures Division - We met with them to discuss a potential campaign. It was pricey so we will have to table to discuss if moving forward is possible with more planning, outreach, and/or partnering.
- 9. Executive Director update
  - i. DRP office update - Not much of an update.
  - ii. Downtown Renewal - Submitted the draft. Application fully due July 3rd
  - iii. Vermont Community Foundation Grant - Some activities it helps to fund that we'd



benefit from:

- Financial sustainability planning, including diversification of revenue streams, and enhanced fundraising and development skills, plans, or activities
- Board and staff training intended to provide a focused learning opportunity that builds organizational capacity