

Bennington County Regional Commission

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Joint meeting with the

Bennington County Industrial Corporation

October 10, 2018

12:00 Noon

The Bank of Bennington – 155 North Street
Bennington, VT

Present: Dan Monks, Janet Hurley, Cinda Morse, John LaVecchia, Suzanne dePeyster (BCRC)
Jim Brown, Dimitri Garder, David Reese, Dixie Zens, Doug Ball, Kevin Dailey (BCIC)
Jim Sullivan, Bill Colvin, Jonathan Cooper (Staff)

1. Introductions
2. Discussion of BCRC Bylaws and continued collaboration between the regional planning commission and the regional development corporation for Bennington County

Following an overview of the BCRC's history of involvement with economic development and the development of the collaboration between the BCIC and the BCRC, a discussion ensued among the board members present. Among the topics discussed:

- Possibility of adding an economic development component at all BCRC bi-monthly meetings. Possibly expand this idea to dedicate half of the meeting to a presentation/discussion of BCRC programs with commissioners identifying areas of concern, priorities, new initiatives, etc.
- Need for a larger motivating vision for regional economic development; role of ongoing CEDS project in that regard.
- Concern that integration of the RDC into a public organization (the BCRC) will limit agility/nimbleness and make it more difficult to try new approaches. Response that the BCRC wants

to provide resources to its committees and affiliate organizations/entities to make them more nimble and more effective.

- Possibility of trying a model for a while and charting next steps based on experience and lessons learned.
- Potential for collaboration supporting implementation of the economic development initiatives identified in municipal plans – follow-through on implementation of plans seen as an important direction for BCRC efforts going forward.

The BCIC will consider the proposed BCRC Bylaws at their annual meeting. The only changes to the draft proposal will be slight modifications to the language involving committees and oversight. The BCIC will report back to the BCRC and, if supported by the BCIC, the BCRC will take up the Bylaw amendments at a subsequent meeting following the required notification period.

3. Other Business and Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.