



**MINUTES**  
**BCRC Annual Meeting**  
**May 22, 2019**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Taconic Hotel – Manchester Village**

Present: See attached list

- I. Dinner was served following a social hour where commissioners, staff, local officials, and residents talked about a variety of subjects. Chair Janet Hurley of Manchester welcomed everyone to the meeting, opened the business meeting, and announced the results of the annual election of officers. Elected by vote of commissioners were:

*Officers*

- Chair - Janet Hurley
- Vice-Chair – Dan Monks
- Secretary – John LaVecchia
- Treasurer – Suzanne dePeyster

Approval of the Minutes of the March meeting was deferred to July.

- II. Director's Report: Executive Director Jim Sullivan recognized BCRC commissioners and staff, as well as the local officials and others that the BCRC works with regularly for their dedication and contributions to the region. He then provided a brief overview of the BCRC's work program and noted the recent expanded collaboration with the regional development corporation while recognizing the appointed members of the executive committee (members in addition to the elected officers): Cinda Morse, James Salerno, and Dimitri Garder.

- III. Bongartz Award Presentation

Jim Sullivan then presented the Bongartz Award to Seth Bongartz. Information about Seth's service is included in Sullivan's remarks:

The BCRC's Bongartz Award for excellence in community service has been awarded annually since 1998. I've always enjoyed the award presentation because it honors the memory of Ferdinand "Nundy" Bongartz, a community leader from Manchester who was instrumental in the founding of the BCRC and in developing and implementing progressive planning concepts in our area. It's also been enjoyable because Nundy's son, Seth, has for many years done an exemplary job of making the presentations. It seemed somehow inappropriate to ask Seth to do the presentation this year, however, so I will do my best to fill in as we present this year's Bongartz Award to Seth Bongartz.

To say that Seth is deserving of this recognition would be a significant understatement. Seth has tirelessly devoted himself to community service; given his sincere concern for others and his generous spirit, that commitment is hardly surprising. His patient but determined leadership in numerous areas has made a real difference in Manchester and across Bennington County and Vermont.

Just a few highlights of this remarkable record of service:

A graduate of Skidmore College and the Case Western Reserve School of Law, Seth was admitted to the Vermont Bar in 1988. He served as a member of the Vermont House of Representatives and the Vermont State Senate. He directed the Southern Vermont office of the Vermont Natural Resources Council prior to joining, and then becoming a partner in a law firm where, among his many undertakings, Seth was responsible for Vermont's first Outstanding Resource Water designation (the Batten Kill) and Vermont's first Class 1 Wetland designation (the Dorset Marsh). (Last year's Bongartz Award recipient, Rob Woolmington beat Seth to the first Class A River designation, but Seth was second, with Kidder Brook!).

Illustrating the diversity of his interests and contributions, consider that Seth also has served as a Trustee and Chair of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vermont, Founding Trustee and Chair of the Manchester Community Land Trust, and Trustee and Chair of Burr and Burton Academy. Seth's commitment to community and economic development has gone national, too, as he is a Trustee, and Chair of the Finance Committee, of the National Development Council.

And, of course, Seth has served as President of Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, since 2002. He has overseen Hildene's succinctly stated mission of "Values into Action" while transforming that natural and historical treasure into an invaluable economic and educational resource for our region. Seth's vision of what Hildene could become, and his ability to bring about those changes, demonstrates the thoughtfulness, creativity, and determination that he has brought to everything he has done through the years.

There's more – I honestly don't know how one person can do so much – but we have to save some time for the rest of our program. So with that, congratulations, Seth, and thank you for your service and dedication. Your father would be proud.

Seth graciously accepted the award, remembering his father's service to the community and state, as well as his dedication to the work of the BCRC. He noted that, given his experience presenting the award, he is aware of the accomplishments of previous recipients and feels humbled by the honor. Seth also commented on the importance of thinking regionally, especially as our work advances into new areas such as community and economic development.

III. Featured Speaker: Joe Minicozzi

Joe Minicozzi, AICP, principal of Urban3 offered a riveting presentation on land use planning, patterns, tax policies, and implications for economically efficient development. He provided examples from around the country and world that illustrated the relative effectiveness of higher density mixed use development in downtowns and village centers. After answering several questions following his presentation, Sullivan thanked everyone and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

<b>BCRC Annual Dinner Meeting</b>	
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<b>LAST</b>	<b>FIRST</b>
Addison	Leslie
Akiyama	Yoshi
Anders	Mark
Boehlert	Judy
Bongartz	Seth
Bongartz	Chris
Botzow	Bill
Botzow	Ruth
Bove	Ed
Brodie	Donald
Brogan	Carolyn
Bryars	Catherine
Cairns	Cathy
Cairns	Bill
Campbell	Donald
Campbell	Ed
Carroccio	Paul
Cating	Margaret
Chapman	Phil
Chapman	Linda
Chowdhury	Zirwat
Clarke	Kelly
Colvin	William
Cooper	Jonathan
Davies	Jane
dePeyster	Suzy
dePeyster	Valerie
Downey	Lauren
Downey	Bill
Eggsware	Stacey
Fish	Peter
Foster	Jennifer
Fox	Gary
Garder	Dimitri
Grinold	Adam
Hand	Jim
Harrington	Matt
Henderson	Jim
Hurd	Stuart
Hurley	Janet
Jaffee	Sonja
Jenkins	Jeannie
Klinger	Walt
Kremer	Madison

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La Vecchia	John
La Vecchia	John Jr.
LaCross	Eleanor
Lane	Stephanie
Lang	Sarah
Maclaurin	Anthony
Maclaurin	Anne
Maggiotto	Brian
Maloney	Ellen
McBride	Robert
McKeever	Andrew
Minicozzi	Joe
Monks	Dan
Monks	Amanda
Moore	Pauline
Morse	Cinda
Myers	Paul
Oller	Sean-Marie
Piazza	Emma
Potvin	Dan
Reidy	Sandy
Salerno	James
Salsgiver	Jim
Scanlon	Justine
Scoggins	Tim
Scully	William
Scully	Maria
Slattery	Mike
Smith	Anne
Smith	Tom
Squire	Gay
Sullivan	James
Thurber	Carson
Williams	Chris
Wilson	Jeffrey
Wilson	Jacquelyne
Wollmington	Robert
Yandow	Tyler
Zens	Dixie