



DRP Board Meeting Minutes August 16, 2022 | 8AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85810554845?pwd=ajZINDIxSjBza3gvc2NkMVdoQ3BBZz09>

Present: Tiffany Saltis, Katie Munger, Brian Budrow, Kiana McClure, Eddie Ryan, Tiffany Walker, Jessi Travers, Michael Talbott, John Kawitoski, Jennifer Usher, Jaziah DeRosia

Absent: Rebecca Langer, Eileen Coughlin, Janelle Howard, Tammy Landon

1. Meeting called to order at 8:03 am

2. Approval of the July board meeting minutes

3. Review of the July Treasurer's reports

4. Committee Reports

a. Streetscape

i. Hiring of Streetscape Coordinator Ian Bard

ii. On Saturday, over 300 Castleton University students will visit downtown to volunteer on beautification projects, including painting the Center Street crosswalk.

b. Marketing

In general, marketing has been strong and we've been receiving good press. The Rutland Herald published a nice article about Cammy Errington playing Friday Night Live this week. Yankee Magazine is pushing a four-page story on visiting Rutland in their Our Vermont publication. We've assisted in sourcing some photos for them. We are meeting with Rutland Herald next week to discuss how we can further our community engagement efforts.

i. We have our final Friday Night Live this week. We will have a heavier marketing push this week due to that, especially on social media.

ii. Magazines where we've updated DRP spreads for autumn:

- Rutland Magazine
- NYVT Media
- Explore Magazine

c. Events

- i. Friday Night Live this week. We are finalizing the event map with vendors.
- ii. DRP is providing support for the Whoopie Pie Festival and Parade of Heroes Community Celebration on August 27th
- iii. Fall Sip & Shop is our next upcoming event, which typically takes place in October
- iv. We want to put together a committee for our Spring '23 Brewfest. Send recommendations my way for names

d. Business Development

- i. Taso & Trapdoor have submitted grants. Taso still needs to submit a contractor's quote for the business development committee to recommend approval of grant funding for \$2,000. The committee recommends the approval of \$500 for Trapdoor Clothing. The board votes to approve the \$500 grant award.
- ii. O'Brien's has reached out about facade improvements. I've recommended applying for a DRP grant. She plans to move forward with this option. We will check in with her periodically to see if she needs assistance.

5. Executive Director Update

- i. Tiffany S has met with Thomas Franco from CORI to discuss the potential for public wifi downtown which would be privately sponsored. Franco is working with Consolidated Communications on this and is looking for DRP to collaborate with. This would be in our best interest.
- ii. We are a community supporter for CORI as CORI has applied for a Rural Placemaking grant for an actionable placemaking plan for Rutland
- iii. Downtown Organizers Retreat in Grand Isle is Sept 20-21. TS will be attending to discuss various topics pertaining to Downtown community development in Vermont.

6. New Business

- a. Introduction of the Events and Business Development and Support Manager, Brian Budrow

7. Old Business

- i. DRP Committees need to be visited. Times and dates previously chosen may not work for folks anymore. Let TS know which committee you would like to engage with, and meeting times can be discussed if they don't work.
- ii. New board members Kiana McClure and Jadziah DeRosia joined today's meeting.
- iii. With CEDRR moving to the HUB, DRP needs to consider our own office space and our needs. We currently share certain amenities with CEDRR and may not have access to those if a private business occupied the other side. Katye and TS have met with Mark Foley Jr. to discuss what staying put would look like and what other office spaces are available. We would like an inviting space with street level

storage.

8. Liaison updates

a. Board of Alderman

- i. Devon Neary has stepped down as Alderman
- ii. BOA approved new fee schedule for building/zoning
- iii. Approved contract with govpiilot software
- iv. New city website, which will be live in September
- V. New enforceable noise ordinances
- Vi. Joining IDEAL Vermont, first meeting will take place in October

b. Rutland Redevelopment Authority

- i. Wayfinding signs
- ii. Still looking at possible sites for TIFT
- iii. There was a complaint filed against Brennan/RRA which made the Rutland Herald

9. Adjournment at 8:39 am

Next meeting: September 20, 2022, at 8am