

**VLITE Board of Directors Meeting:
Via Video Conference**

**Minutes of September 16, 2020
Approved on December 16, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 1:08

In attendance:

Board members: Dick Marron, Richard Rubin, Hal Cohen, Peter Walke (arrived at 1:15), Annie Noonan, Tony Klein, Pat Moulton

Others: Gabrielle Malina, Cara Robocek, Geoff Wilcox, Tom Longstreth and Andrew Jope.

Approve Minutes of June 2020

- Brief discussion concerning board minutes. Moving forward minutes will focus on official motions and resolutions but may also include “a little bit of color.”
- A motion was made to approve the minutes from June 16, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.
 - 1st - Pat Moulton, 2nd - Hal Cohen
 - 6 in favor, 1 absent

Update on Committed and Available Funds

Staff review and board discussion of an informal report showing committed grant funds, available funds and effects of the pandemic on slowing down of implementation of two recently approved grants: Capstone and BGS SEMP.

Treasurers Report

- Treasurers Report read by Annie Noonan: As of September 9, 2020 there was \$124,833 in checking; \$1,581,476 in savings; \$8,660 in money market.
- A motion was made to accept the treasurers report.
 - 1st – Richard Rubin, 2nd Pat Moulton
 - 6 in favor, 1 absent

Grant Presentations

Vermont Energy Education Program

Cara Robocek Executive Director presented the grant.

The request is \$50,000 for one year to support energy and climate education programming for students and professional development for teachers.

Cara reviewed VEEP’s actions in responding quickly to the pandemic and the transition to remote education options back in March when schools stopped in-person attendance. The ability

to pivot and respond quickly demonstrated future capacity to continue adapting and improving programming for the pandemic and to broadening their reach.

Office of Economic Opportunity

Geoff Wilcox Director of Weatherization presented the grant.

The request is for \$125,000 for one year starting on or around December 1, 2020. Funds are administered by OEO and distributed amongst the five weatherization agencies to remove old vermiculite insulation enabling LMI homeowners to access weatherization services for which they otherwise would have been ineligible.

VLITE funds are key to the vermiculite program. VLITE funds, the OEO Vermiculite matching fund, and the Zonolite trust fund together provide about \$11,000 per home. Over the past five years of VLITE grants a significant process improvement now is that each weatherization agency has an embedded position to oversee vermiculite abatement contractors.

The pandemic shut work down for two months but Wilcox said they are back on track to complete the 2019 grant by November 30th, and begin new contract on December 1, 2020.

RESOURCE

Tom Longstreth and Andrew Jope presented the grant.

The request is for \$80,000 to develop and implement a new 6-week intensive training in weatherization skills and create a replicable model they could bring to other parts of the state. The first cohort is planned for October 2020 in Burlington and then two cohorts in 2021 and new target areas in 2022. 4 weeks of the six-week intensive are a mix of hands on and virtual training and 2 weeks of employer-sponsored short-term trial placements. The trainings target dislocated and underemployed people and offer a stipend.

The \$80,000 helps cover Youthbuild plus four sessions of the weatherization training intensive: one year of programming.

Votes on proposals

Peter Walke left the meeting but expressed strong support for all three proposals.

- A motion was made to approve all three grants: Vermont Energy Education Program - \$50,000; OEO - \$125,000; RESOURCE - \$80,000
 - 1st – Richard Rubin, 2nd – Pat Moulton
 - All in favor, 1 absent
 - All in favor, 1 absent

The board adjourned at 3:30pm.