

**Draft Minutes
Vermont Downtown Board
5/20/2024
MS Teams Virtual Meeting**

Members Present (11):

- Alex Farrell (*Chair*), designated by the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development
- Charlie Baker, designated by the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies
- Amy Bell (*alternate*), designated by the Secretary of Transportation
- Bruce Cheeseman, appointed by the Governor, representing local government
- Billy Coster, designated by the Secretary of Natural Resources
- Cathy Davis, appointed by the Governor, representing the Vermont Association of Chamber Executives
- Robert Sponable, (*alternate*) designated by the Commissioner of Public Safety
- Sarah Hadd, designated by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- Sabina Haskell, Chair of the Natural Resources Board
- Jaime Lee, appointed by the Governor, representing the Vermont Natural Resources Council and the Preservation Trust of Vermont
- Michael McDonough, appointed by the governor, representing local government
- Chip Sawyer, designated by the Vermont Planners Association
- Laura Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer

Attending Community Planning and Revitalization (CP+R) Team Members (4): Richard Amore, Chris Cochran, Natalie Elvidge, and Jenni Lavoie.

Guests (0):

Alex Farrell brought the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

Additions or Deletions to the Board Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the board agenda.

1. Public Comment Period

Alex Farrell opened the meeting to public comment; there were no comments.

2. Consent Agenda Items:

- April 22, 2024, Draft Minutes
- Village Center Designation Renewals (3):
 - Town of Bradford – Bradford Village Center

- o Town of Pawlet – Pawlet Village Center and West Pawlet Village Center

Amy Bell motioned to approve the consent agenda items, and Laura Trieschmann seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

3. Downtown Transportation Fund

St. Johnsbury Application

Staff prepared and uploaded the wrong version of St. Johnsbury's Downtown Transportation Fund application to the website. Due to this mistake, the Board reviewed approved and awarded grant funding to the wrong application. Staff requested the Board review and score the correct application. The board reviewed and scored the Town of St. Johnsbury's application for an award of \$200,000.

Jaime Lee motioned to award the revised St. Johnsbury Downtown Transportation Fund application, and Robert Sponable seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

4. Old Business / New Business

None

5. Adjourn

Alex Farrell adjourned the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

The next Downtown Board meeting will be on June 20, 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Jenni Lavoie