

## Mount Ascutney Regional Commission

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Minutes of Monday, January 25, 2021  
SWCRPC Offices, Ascutney, VT  
and via Zoom

**Commissioners Present:** Tom Bock, Chester; Kathy Rondeau, Reading; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Joe Fromberger, Andover; Etienne Ting, Cavendish; Peter Daniels, Weathersfield; Terry Carter, Ludlow; Walter Martone, Springfield, Tom Marsh, Windsor.

**Staff Present:** Tom Kennedy, Cynthia Porter, Rachel Scudder, Allison Hopkins.

Tom Bock opened the regular meeting of the SWCRPC at 12:03 PM.

1. Changes to the Agenda
  - a. None.
2. Secretary's Report
  - a. *Peter Daniels made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2020; Second by Terry Carter. Motion passed unanimously.*
3. Treasurer's Report
  - a. *Peter Daniels made a motion to accept the December 2020 financial report. Second by Walter Martone. Motion passed unanimously.*
4. Introduce new Planner Rachel Scudder
  - a. Tom Kennedy introduced Rachel Scudder.
5. Brownfields

Tom Kennedy and Peter Daniels reported for the Brownfields Steering Committee. The Committee met recently and recommended approval of two projects: Phase II ESA Assessment Supplemental Funding Request for 23-25 & 27-31 Main St., Springfield for a maximum amount of \$12,000 from MARC EPA Assessment Grant.

*Peter Daniels made a motion to approve the Phase 2 assessment at 23-25 & 27-31 Main St. in Springfield for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00. Walter Martone seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

The second project was a Supplemental Investigation Funding Request for J&L1 to do sampling of paint on the walls in the cafeteria section for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

*Terry Carter made a motion to approve the Supplemental Investigation Funding Request for J&L1 to perform sampling of paint on the walls in the cafeteria section for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00. Peter Daniels seconded the motion. Motion carried with Joe Fromberger voting no.*

6. Discussion of Broadband and Food Security Programs

Tom Kennedy announced to the BOC that MARC received an Economic Development Agency Grant to assist with broadband extensions and health and food security issues. Tom said that he and Rachel will be working with towns, local groups, and providers in our region to determine the interest and feasibility in expanding broadband in our region.

Allison Hopkins said she is working on health and food security issues. She is working a variety of groups to look at current resources, challenges and opportunities to decrease the number of persons who are food insecure.

7. Legislative Topics

Tom Kennedy said that the legislature will be spending the bulk off their time on COVID related issues and federal and state programs related to COVID. It is still early in the session and there has not been much activity on planning and economic development bills to date. Tom said he would keep the BOC informed.

8. Adjourn

*Joe Fromberger made a motion to adjourn at 12.55 PM. Second by Peter Daniels. Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy