

**Commission on the Future of Economic Development**  
**Minutes of Commission Meeting**  
**March 12, 2007**  
**10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Floor, National Life Building**  
**Montpelier, VT**

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Members Present: Bill Botzow, Hope Crifo, Staige Davis, Kevin Dorn, John Goodrich, Fred Kenney, Mary Lintermann, David Mount, Hinda Miller, Mary Niebling, Dawn Terrill

Members Absent: Carl Spangler; Dawn Terrill arrived later.

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Meeting called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Chair Goodrich introduced and welcomed David Bradbury, successful bidder on the RFP. He signed his contract with the Commission on Friday, March 9.

A Revised Agenda and board package was distributed. Given the last minute result of David coming onto staff, the agenda changed somewhat and added materials were distributed late.

**10:08 a.m.**

Hinda Miller made a motion to accept the February 12, 2007 meeting minutes as presented. Staige Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair Goodrich requested a discussion that the Commission consider a Vice Chair position to fill in for the Chair and help out when he was not able to attend meetings. The Commission members remarked that the concept of a Vice Chair is a good idea. Bill Botzow wanted to make certain that procedures are followed pertaining to the statute in going forward with establishing this position.

Chair Goodrich offered up Dawn Terrill as a qualified person to fill the position of Vice Chair. Fred Kenney suggested that the Vice Chair also serve as Treasurer.

**10:22 a.m.**

A discussion by the Commission followed with Hinda Miller nominating Dawn Terrill as Vice Chair and Treasurer. This was seconded by Staige Davis and/or David Mount.

**10:24 a.m.**

All nominations closed at 10:23 a.m. and a vote was called for. The vote in favor of electing Dawn Terrill as Vice Chair and Treasurer passed 9 to 1 with two absent members; Carl Spangler and Dawn Terrill -- who arrived after the vote.

David Bradbury enlightened the Commission on background, economic development qualifications and interest in working with the commission. Questions of his background and qualifications for the commission were opened up to member questions and concerns.

David outlined the process the Commission should engage in starting out by discussing the monthly meetings divided into three parts: reports; public input; and consensus building on ideas. It was agreed by the Commission that the public input piece is very important.

David outlined the major points of the proposed work plan used in the RFP process for discussion, questions and modification. A hard copy of this draft was included in the Board package materials. Member feedback on timing, format, etc was taken for adjustment.

Commission members expressed ideas on ways for public input such as; Bill Botzow recalled a health care committee meeting where people talked to people in small groups rather than presenting to the committee; Mary Niebling announced a conference of small business owners on April 11 at the Bethany Church.

With respect to the work plan and dates for events, the Commission asked David to identify dates soon for member planning ease. Mary Niebling asked David Bradbury about the public comments coming through the Web and avenues to reach the commission. The discussion on public participation went on to stress the public needs to be engaged, asked and informed. The hope is for participation to be more open with focus on what is pragmatic and how do we measure success or shortcoming?

The group consensus was that the Commission would work on delivering in final draft form proposed measures and/or benchmarks by fiscal year end in June. For September 2007, the Commission would develop an interim report of findings and questions on which to base the next phase of public engagement and outreach for reaction, comment and new input.

Discussion of letter received by Chair Goodrich from Speaker Symington and Senator Shumlin reiterating the legislative intent of the Commission and ways the Commission can fulfill these requests. Chair Goodrich will prepare a response and include the budget request as revised by the Budget Subcommittee.

A one-page draft budget will be prepared by Budget Committee. Hinda Miller raised concern over the budget being so large and that it must be broken down over two (three?) years for the various appropriation committees to consider it. The request for funding should be done yearly and be defensible and value adding when measured against other commissions and efforts. The Chair and David will request opportunities in the next few weeks to present to the four target committees.

11:06 a.m. Staige Davis left meeting.

Hope Crifo read a quote from former Governor Davis that is written in a 1968 edition of the Windham Foundation.

At 11:15, Hinda Miller left meeting.

A short brainstorming session and discussion commenced on measurements and benchmarks that would be important from the household or everyday Vermonter perspective. Members cited that there are known measures that are done and the Commission should look at them in addition to looking at fresh ways to measure economic opportunity, competitiveness and progress.

**12:40 p.m.**

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes drafted by Denise Diehl: 3/13/07

Minutes approved by Commission: 4/9/07