



***SerVermont Commission Meeting***  
*109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05641*  
*4<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room*  
***June 21, 2016***  
***Approved 10/20/2016***

**Members in Attendance:** Jim Coutts, Jason Gosselin, Christy Gallese, Peter Hayward, Guy Isabelle,

**Staff in Attendance:** Philip Kolling, Robyn Baylor, Sharon Hearne

**Attended by Phone:** Shelley Park Betsy Ward Ryan McLaren Thomas Hark Jacob Bogre Sabina Haskell Dan Noyes

**Unable to Attend:** Susan Cheesman, Michelle Park, Madeline Strasser, Doug Kievit-Kylar, and Justin Morande,

**Guests:** Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger, Chief of Staff, Brian Lowe

**10:00 am Welcome and Introductions**

Chairperson, Betsy Ward, brought the meeting to order at 10:03 AM asking those present and those on the phone to introduce themselves and to say who it is that they represent.

**10:21 am Public Comment**

None at this time. Phil stated that many of the members shared that they needed to leave the meeting by noon. Given that Phil asked that we only deal with the grant requests. He will schedule an update call in July.

**10:25 am Background on Formula dollars**

Phil gave an overview of how we have arrived at being able to award planning grants and or making other decisions around the available dollars in the amount of \$78,024 that were left over after awarding formula dollars and having carry over funds. He shared that he had received planning grant applications from the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services and the Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation / Resource. He also shared that CEDO had submitted an award only application and that is why the Mayor was in attendance at the meeting.

**10:45 am Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger**

Mayor Weinberger expressed his appreciation for being able to make his case about why SERVERMONT should reconsider its decision to not fund CEDO in the upcoming grant cycle. He reviewed his interest and support of the programs, the long history of involvement and the challenges associated with dealing with new Americans. While he was aware of some issues with the program he also shared his thoughts that there had been progress in making things better, but was caught off guard by the decision to not fund. He guaranteed that if they were given another opportunity that the program results would not be disappointing to the group. There were some clarifications from Phil and some questions and comments from Commissioners.

**12:05 pm Brief Break**

**12:12 pm Funding Decisions/Approve**

Phil again provided an oversight of where we are at and stated decisions and outcomes were critical because everything is due Thursday. He provided a list of potential scenarios (20) for the members to review. There was some discussion about the process. It

was acknowledged that this was new territory but it gave the Commission to expand its portfolio and most importantly not send money back. There was much discussion about why CEDO should even be in the mix after the recent decisions, but there was a concession that an appearance by the Mayor who has a history of fixing things influenced the decision making process. There was much discussion about the many scenarios and new proposals were rolled out.

After hearing the multiple possibilities Guy made a motion to support scenario 13. Tom seconded the motion. It was discovered that the scenario 13 that had been sent out was slightly different than the one presented at the meeting. Given that Guy agreed to rescind his motion and Tom his second.

After some clarification, Peter made the motion to support VCCVS at the \$15,000 amount, Resource at the \$25,000 amount and CEDO at an amount of \$78,204. Guy seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-2 with Jim and Jason voting no. Jason shared his concern about the cost it would take for CEDO to execute the grant. Jim was concerned that we were being influenced by political pressure.

The vote led to a discussion around the various possibilities if one or more of the parties does not accept the grant. Jim made the motion to authorize Phil to redistribute any unspent funds in the best interest of the Commission. Tom seconded the motion. The motion passed with no descents ions or abstentions.

Phil thanked folks for the spirited discussion. Many members expressed their thanks for the difficult but honest input.

Guy voted to adjourn at 1;06 Pm. Peter seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Guy Isabelle  
Acting Secretary