

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**  
2 **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, Wednesday, April 3, 2013, 3 PM**

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4 Attending: RGB members – Gloria Alexander, Jim Boutin, Leon Johnson. Others: Jim  
5 Culkeen, Superintendent/Director; Marie-Pierre Huguet at 3:50 PM.  
6 Recorder: Sandra Redding, Office Manager

7  
8 Gloria welcomed everyone and asked for nominations for chair. She was quickly nominated  
9 and vote was unanimous.

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11 January minutes were reviewed. Leon had a question concerning a comment by Wendy  
12 Klein and a short discussion ensued before the minutes were voted on and approved by Jim  
13 Boutin and Gloria with Leon abstaining.

14  
15 Gloria shared the vision of the CDC, the goals to work on, the idea for a community forum  
16 night and the Dorset community night format so that Leon could be aware of what the  
17 committee has been working on to this point.

18  
19 Jim Boutin shared with the committee a conversation he had over the week end concerning  
20 the Work and Economic Development Partnership group that has been meeting regularly in  
21 our community. It has been noticed that the CDC has not been as actively involved in this  
22 group as it probably should be. The select board in Bennington feels it would be very  
23 informative to meet with local school boards so that a strong coalition to determine the  
24 possible needs of the business, technology and workforce development segments of our  
25 community could be researched as to their needs for assistance in growth. We need top  
26 notch schools to help in strengthening our community. It was noted that Jeannie Jenkins  
27 from CCV, John Shanahan from BBC and other community leaders have been stepping up  
28 to prepare this community for better workforce development. We need to have a strong  
29 CDC presence on this team. Supt. Culkeen stated that Wendy Klein, Marie-Pierre Huguet  
30 and Jim Culkeen have all had some involvement in this area. Supt. Culkeen will research  
31 and report back to this committee on the best way for the CDC to be involved and whom he  
32 thinks should represent the CDC. It would be advantageous for us to access the information  
33 already developed by the consultant working on this economic forum. No need for us to  
34 duplicate. The committee feels it can hold off planning a community night forum thru the  
35 CDC at this time. We can better serve the community by getting involved in the existing  
36 economic project at this time. As we already have established advisory committees for each  
37 program, we can seek involvement from them and participation.

38  
39 The next meeting of the town forum group is expected to be in mid May. We will plan to  
40 send representatives from the CDC to this meeting. It was also suggested that we need to  
41 reach out to the Manchester area as they have some active groups working on the same  
42 situations as well. Supt. Culkeen will research that as well for this committee.

43  
44 The committee had some questions for Marie-Pierre Huguet, Assistant Director for Adult  
45 Education. She joined the group at 3:50 PM. Gloria inquired as to the availability of  
46 scholarships for adults seeking continuing education. She informed the group that there are  
47 no “scholarships”, per se. but funds are available from several sources to assist individuals  
48 with financial need. She must sort out the specific need for each individual and determine if  
49 the specific criteria is met. Often, an employer assists in providing some financial coverage.

50  
51 Gloria inquired as to the possibility of obtaining a report concerning the breakdown of CDC

1 enrollment by class and gender. She is involved in gender equity projects. Supt. Culkeen  
2 assured her the CDC could supply her with the information she needed. He will be reporting  
3 enrollment numbers to the full board on Monday, April 8, so he will instruct Cheryl Blair,  
4 Database and Guidance Support and Bill Swisher, Tech Ed Guidance Coordinator, to  
5 provide the additional requested statistics.

6

7 The committee decided to meet next on Wednesday, May 8, 3 PM in the Conference Room  
8 at the CDC.

9

10 Meeting adjourned at 4 PM.

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