Trustees of Public Funds Friday May 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am In attendance: Tanner Romano, Laura Miner, Courtney Satz, and Devon Fuller

 The trustees discussed the request submitted by Devon Fuller and the Downtown Brandon Alliance:

Funding Request from 04/18/19:

The Downtown Brandon Alliance (The DBA) is Brandon's designated downtown organization which provides grant and tax credit opportunities for towns that have "designated" statues in Vermont, that's it in a nutshell.

We follow the National Main Street approach with four different subgroups;

1. Economic vitality 2. Design 3. Promotion 4. Organization with these four sub groups we have been able to do quite a lot for Brandon. Our design committee has done great things including the redesign of the town office which help the town to obtain not only the funding for town office renovations but the funds for the overflow system too.

I'm contacting you about another of the design committees projects, a pre-Irene walking trail system through the entire town, from Esta-Brook Park to Neshobe and OV. We are in the middle of phase 1 & 2 of this project, the first portion of the project know as The Hub, located behind the Smith Block, phase 1 is design and phase 2 land purchase and construction. We applied for a grant for design and receive \$8,000 which is going toward the beginning of design. We're in the middle of a grant application for phase 2, this is a unique grant because it allows for land purchase which most grants do not. The total cost of phase 2 is estimated at 250,000 with a 20% match meaning we need to provide 50,000 in match. The DBA board feels very confident that we can raise the 20% in the next couple years but with the grant if we can show that we have the 20% on hand we will grade higher thus giving us a better chance of being awarded the grant. Because of your place on the Trustees of Public Funds I wanted to see if your board could help us with the 20% match. As I said the DBA is confident that we can repay this to the Trustees. What we really need it to be able to show that we have funding to cover the 20 %. Part of that can be in-kind which means we'll be working with construction companies, material providers, attorneys etc. to bring down the cash match. But if we can just show we have the 20% backing that will go a long way. Our grant application is due May 10th. If you could please let me know if you think The Trustees can help or not I'd be grateful.

Devon D. Fuller
Downtown Brandon Alliance

 The TOPF committed to pledge an amount of \$21,944 (or up to a 20% match of the estimated \$109,720 project total) for first phase funding provided the NBRC infrastructure grant is approved.

Meeting adjourned at 09:00am.