1   Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)
2   Education/Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes
3   Thursday, April 4, 2019, 11:45AM
4
5   RGB Members Present: Rickey Harrington, Leon Johnson, Jackie Kelley, Ken Swierard, Michael
6   Munson online
7
8   CDC represented by Michael Lawler, Superintendent/Director, Meg Honsinger, Assistant Director,
9   David Dence, Forestry Instructor and Rob Bahny, Workforce and Education Training Coordinator
10
11   Recorder: Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent/Director
12
13   Rickey Harrington, RGB chair, welcomed all to the lunch meeting and invited nominations for
14   committee chair. Jackie Kelley was nominated and unanimously elected to this position.
15
16   Discussion immediately began concerning the Orchard Road property. The property is across
17   from the Molly Stark School, is available for sale or lease. Rob Bahny, David Dence and Brian
18   Coon reached out to Dan Monks at the Bennington Town office and other town workers. The
19   CDC might be interested in using the property for storage of vehicles and equipment. The
20   property/building needs work and this could be part of a proposal to the town. It was noted that
21   whoever purchases the property becomes responsible for all issues related to said property. That
22   could involve soil and well testing which could be somewhat expensive. Jackie Kelley mentioned
23   a possibility of leasing from Molly Stark School especially not knowing the costs involved in
24   ownership. Molly uses the property for additional parking and the fire department uses the
25   property as well. Other issues:
26   • Act 46
27   • Fencing
28   • Non-profit vs. profit
29   • Liability
30   • Salt storage
31   • Upkeep
32
33   Discussion moved to the CDL program. David Dence shared program is going very well. He
34   noted that it is much more difficult and complicated than originally thought, but we are in a good
35   place in the learning curve. The fact that we must deal with New York as well as Vermont rules
36   and regulations causes many additional hours and problems to be solved. He did state that most
37   students are right on target to finish the program. He plans on a second course to run fall 2019.
38   Also shared is that we must travel to Springfield, VT with our students for testing with the CDL
39   appropriate truck which certainly can be a challenge. We can only take one student at a time due
40   to regulations and cab size. That is something to be considered when purchasing a new vehicle.
41   Some vehicles are designed to allow additional students to travel in same vehicle.
42   Leon Johnson suggested we add driver's education to the driving program but research shows
43   that is a totally different animal. He mentioned that we should check with the state for surplus
44   military vehicles for use in our programs. Dence shared that Rob Bahny is on the hunt!! As
45   information is obtained, it will be shared with the finance committee and the full board.
46
47   Discussion turned to vehicles, condition, use, repair and/or replace. Johnson had a great idea to
48   check with Southern Vermont College to see if they are getting rid of any of their transport
49   vehicles. Our vehicles get a great deal of use every day thru program use, transportation, field
50   trips, cargo, etc. The SVC situation will be researched.
51
52   Mike Lawler informed the committee that we are doing an equipment swap with MAUMS. He has
53   been in touch with Tim Payne, Principal, who shared that they have many small engines they will
54   not be using and would like to donate them to the CDC. In return, the CDC has some agriculture
55   equipment and tools which would help the MAUMS Ag program. Question asked if there would
56   be any help from the state for equipment. Not so much in this general way, but assistance comes

in other areas.

Adult Education:
- Rob Bahny noted that Bennington Rescue Squad will be using our building to run EMT courses in the fall with maximum of 12 people in each class. We are fortunate to be a part of this program and hope to see more.
- David Dence shared that he will run a Class B CDL program in the fall. There is a high demand for the jobs, so he is seeing good interest.

Discussion ensued as to how the board is informed of classes/courses/programs being offered. It was suggested that the board be kept in the loop with at least an email just to make sure board members have accurate and up-to-date information. Not about permission, just for information's sake. Usually, adult education offerings not sent to board for approval as the courses offered are often on short notice and requested by area employers.

Questions concerning the Veterinary Program were answered. Program is still active. The cost is $2900. and there is financial aid available in specific circumstances. Our adult education leaders always try to steer potential students in the most helpful direction for assistance.

LNA will run again in the fall. Always a popular and well needed program in our community.

Pharmacy Tech still available. We are reaching out to Jim Cross at MAUHS to determine any possible interest there. Criteria for this program is rather strict:
- National License Testing
- Criminal Background/fingerprint check must be done successfully
- Drug testing required

Manufacturing:
- CDC course running and in demand with many area opportunities
- Significant training required for this certification
- "G,D&T"- specialized training course taking place here for the near future thru 2019
- Blueprint may run again
- Solid Works also may run with apprenticeship opportunities

Discussion re: establishing a driver's education course at the CDC
- Very complicated and long process to setup w/state
- Discussion should involve area schools, MAU, BBA, AMHS; some interest already noted
- Area could use more class time for driver's education as there are many new potential drivers each year
- More discussion as to how course could be offered, paid for and made available to all CTE students plus others
- More research needed as to district wide participation/costs/locations/certifications

With no other business brought forth, meeting adjourned at 12:30PM.