



December 13th, 2016

Selectboard
Town of Waitsfield
4144 Main Street
Waitsfield, VT 05673

Re: Request for inclusion of Downstreet on the Waitsfield Town Warning

Downstreet Housing & Community Development (formerly Central Vermont Community Land Trust) requests to be included on the Town Warning for support of \$1,000 from the Town of Waitsfield. This amount is the same that we have requested from Waitsfield, and received, for the last several years.

We request this support as the primary affordable housing provider in Waitsfield, where we have 29-lots in Vermont Mobile Home Park, 24-units in Mad River Meadows, and 18-units in Evergreen Place.

In the last year, Downstreet has repaired sections of the road and drainage by entrance to Mad River Meadows. We also held a staff clean-up day this fall. At Evergreen Place we improved the community room that SASH utilizes for classes. Additionally we made improvements to a water line at our Vermont property as well as the addition of a pad for a new mobile home.

At Mad River Meadows and Evergreen Place, we continue to provide a presence in both buildings through SASH (Support and Services at Home) by promoting health & well being through blood pressure clinics, a monthly health newsletter and weekly exercise classes including a walking group, Tai Chi, Move to the Music and Qi Gong. Monthly socials and ongoing integration with the Mad River Senior Center activities help us to reduce social isolation among our residents.

On the homeownership side, Downstreet offers Waitsfield residents:

- Homebuyer education classes to prepare people for responsible homeownership
- Post-purchase counseling
- Foreclosure counseling
- Low-interest loans for safety, healthy and energy upgrades to homes

As a community-based nonprofit organization, we need to generate support from the towns we serve, as well as from individuals and area businesses. Further, our private and public sector funders want us to demonstrate that we are seeking - and receiving - community support for our efforts. In this way, funding approval from the towns we serve demonstrates that the citizenry recognizes and supports our commitment to sound community development.

We would be grateful for a commitment from Waitsfield this coming year.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eileen Peltier".

Eileen Peltier

Executive Director

Downstreet Housing & Community Development

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