

## DRAFT

### ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

*Wednesday January 31, 2001*

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission Executive Board's January 31st, 2001 meeting was held at the Regional Planning Commission office in Middlebury with Harvey Smith presiding.

#### ROLL CALL:

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<i>Bridport</i>	Ed Payne
<i>Bristol</i>	Bill Sayre
<i>Monkton</i>	Thea Gaudette
<i>New Haven</i>	Harvey Smith
<i>Weybridge</i>	Tom Yager
<i>Whiting</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer

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#### STAFF:

Adam Lougee  
Tim Bouton

#### BUSINESS MEETING:

Harvey Smith, Chair of the Executive Board, called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

The Executive Board changed the schedule to allow Tim Bouton to make a presentation on Project Impact and the program to implement it ACRPC is developing for the region. Tim made a power point presentation explaining how project impact functioned and criteria for implementing projects in the county. Harvey suggested that we add an additional criterion about elevating innovative projects.

Tim then made a proposal that we use the LEPC as the committee to evaluate the proposed projects pursuant to the criteria developed by staff. After reviewing the LEPC list that Adam circulated, Harvey expressed concern that the group would be too large to function as a committee. He suggested that Tim narrow that group to create a more workable committee. He also suggested that some one from the executive board and transportation committee be invited to sit on the Project Impact Review Committee

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and that Tim contact John Emerson to invite him to be on the committee. Tom Yager and Ed Payne will also serve on the committee.

Thea moved that Tim be empowered to formulate a committee composed of the members of the regional Planning Commission named above, two of which are also members of the transportation committee, and selected members of the LEPC, to evaluate project impact proposals, prioritize them and make a recommendation back to the Executive Board of the Regional Planning Commission. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Bill Sayre joined the meeting at 7:50.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Ed moved to accept the minutes of the December meetings. Bill seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Adam explained the Treasurer's Report. He also noted that at roughly half way through the year, expenses were at 53% of the budget and that revenues were at 80% of that budgeted. Cash flow is positive and the commission is in good financial shape.

**Ed moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ellen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

ACT 250: Adam noted that no new Act 250 permits were filed this month, but that two other matters not under Act 250 have heated up. First, the hearing officer for the public service board recommended against the windmill in East Middlebury. There will be a hearing next week. Additionally, the CLF's suit regarding the Shoreham Wastewater Plant's phosphorus plan is moving forward.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Adam noted that at the TAC meeting in January the TAC had reviewed the state Long Range Transportation Plan and the bike/ped proposal. Tom expressed concern regarding the Bike/Ped study and hoped the TAC would have a final for next meeting. Additionally, the Vergennes Partnership has put together a proposal to hold a design Charrette for traffic studies in the Vergennes area. The TAC will review that and other budget related items next month.

Local Government Committee: Thea reported the Local Government Committee had received requests from the Towns of Goshen for a regional review of their plan. She indicated that the Local Government Committee would hold a hearing in Goshen at its monthly Planning Commission Meeting February 19th.

## OLD BUSINESS:

### Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

Harvey explained that he and Adam had met with the Chamber and the Economic Development Agency to discuss the CEDS. He explained that the group had gone through questions formulated by the Regional Planning Commission and the Chamber concerning the function of the CEDS. Harvey stated that He felt we made good progress at this meeting in discussing all the concerns of the Planning Commission and Chamber and formulating actions to find answers addressing those concerns. He noted for example that Jamie had stated that he would have a letter from Tyrone Beech, the EDA administrator for this region, explaining that the CEDS was a non-regulatory process.

Bill noted that the last paragraph of the CEDS Guidelines contains regulatory language concerning growth centers and ecologically sensitive sites where no development will occur. He stated this language has no place in guidelines if the CEDS is non-regulatory.

The Executive Board then discussed and agreed that Joint Partner control and the ability to stop this process was critical to its decision to move forward. The Executive Board agreed that it does not want to create a Committee outside the control of the Joint Partners empowered to designate sites that might be subject to regulatory control. The joint partners must control the process and the process cannot be regulatory. These must be the ground rules underlying any decision to move forward. One suggestion for moving forward and address the desired make up of the Steering Committee outlined in the CEDS involved each of the Joint Partners appoint one third of the members of the steering committee to ensure the diversity required in the CEDS is addressed. However, after reviewing the guidelines and the comments Green Mountain Economic Development received on its draft submittal, the Executive Board concluded that this compromise would not work.

The Executive Board expressed the sentiment that this seems like a lot of work to go through for limited, very competitive funds. However, they directed Adam to continue to research the process. Tom suggested that we look at Plattsburgh as a model community. They also instructed Adam to call Ken Perine and discuss the concerns created at this meeting concerning Joint partners control. Adam and Harvey will not take any action on the 12<sup>th</sup> until and unless they can reach some resolution concerning the issue regarding the control of the Joint Partners.

Other: None

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## NEW BUSINESS:

Housing Forum. Adam announced that ACRPC would hold a regional housing meeting on February 22, 2001. He outlined the agenda, identified the panelists, explained that information describing the forum will be included in the full mailing to the RPC. Adam stated that he hoped the event would be well attended and that it will help us begin to address some of the underlying problems with the housing supply in Addison County. Adam also noted that at the next Full Commission Meeting, the Program portion of the meeting will be devoted to staff presenting and explaining some of the housing statistical work the RPC has developed concerning the county. Adam explained that he plans to use the statistical data from the staff and the anecdotal data gathered at the Housing forum as the current intellectual underpinning for the Housing Committee to begin work on that portion of the regional plan.

Structure of Oversight of Committee for Project Impact. Please see above.

ACRPC Credit Card. Bill moved to allow a credit card with a \$1,000 limit; Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mid-year Budget Adjustment. Passed until next meeting.

VAPDA Minutes. Adam passed out the VAPDA minutes from the VAPDA meeting January 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Harvey requested that in the future the minutes be included with each package to the Executive Board.**

Other: None.

## MEMBERS' CONCERNS/INFORMATION:

**Harvey requested that Adam download the CAFO regulations concerning large farms EPA is proposing. Ed Payne asked about housing at the Marbleworks. Adam stated he would gather information on the site and report back to the Executive Board.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, **Thea moved to adjourn the meeting. Ed seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam G. Lougee