

## DRAFT

### ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

*Wednesday, September 26, 2001*

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission Executive Board's September 26th, 2001 meeting was held at the regional planning commission's office in Middlebury with Harvey Smith presiding.

#### ROLL CALL:

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<i>Bristol</i>	Bill Sayre
<i>Middlebury</i>	Karl Neuse
<i>New Haven</i>	Harvey Smith
<i>Waltham</i>	Tom Yager
<i>Whiting</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer

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#### STAFF:

Adam Lougee

#### BUSINESS MEETING:

The Executive Board convened its regular meeting at 7:10 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Don moved to accept the minutes of the August meeting. Ellen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Adam explained the Treasurer's Report. Cash flow is positive and the commission is in good financial shape. Adam also noted that we are receiving an extra \$14,000 distribution from DCA from a surplus from last year. It basically replaces the \$10,000 taken away last December. Tom **moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ellen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACT 250: No new applications.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Tom noted that the Vergennes Traffic Study Charrette went pretty well. We had good representation from all involved towns. Tom noted that the Bike/Ped plan was completed and acceptable for distribution to the public. **They had asked Garrett to write a letter to the consultants praising the final draft they produced.** Tom also noted that the TAC had received complaints about the fix on Cider Mill Road. The TAC is going to recommend a three way stop to control the intersection. The TAC also discussed Addison Four Corners and the visibility problems and is bringing the problem back to the Addison Selectboard and to AOT.

Housing Committee: Bill reported that the Housing committee had received a draft of the proposed Housing and Population Section of the Regional Plan generally progress is good and the committee has reached an agreement on most sections of the plan through page 38. Some further discussion is needed concerning the definitions surrounding affordable housing.

Bill raised several questions regarding committee procedures? What are the rules and policies regarding who is a voting member of the Commission? Does that apply to the committees? How do you arrive at decisions? Who makes the decision of the policy? Harvey looked up the bylaws. He noted that delegates and citizen interest groups generally had voting rights. Although Citizen interest groups voting rights are limited by Section V of the bylaws concerning membership of citizen interest groups, adoption of regional and municipal plans and the amount of town assessments, citizen interest groups vote on committee work. Additionally, citizens who are not members of the Commission are invited to participate in Committee discussions. However, voting on the work of the Committee shall be limited to members of the Regional Planning Commission. Alternates vote only when the delegates they replace are not present.

Local Government Committee: Ellen noted that the local Government Committee had two meetings scheduled for September, Whiting and Orwell. The Committee may have others depending upon the activity in several other towns in the region.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: Harvey noted that the Steering Committee met for the first time on September 11, 2001 at 7:30 a.m. The Economic consultant who was hired has started work. At the meeting a packet of information was distributed. It now includes the agreement the Joint Partners reached governing Guiding Principles.

Bill asked whether the CEDS process would discuss regulatory, taxation, environmental and demographic changes. Harvey explained that it would.

VAPDA Minutes: Adam distributed the minutes from the last VAPDA meeting. Harvey requested that Adam speak with Tom Kennedy about how the Scenic Byways program. Harvey and Ellen both expressed concern that the growth centers should be looked at in conjunction with the basin planning, stormwater planning and septic regulations.

Follow-up on Committee Reports: Adam distributed the committee assignments. The Board indicated that if others wanted to serve we would be happy to have their participation, but felt the committees as assigned worked well.

Kayhart Large Farm Hearing: Last month the Executive Board reviewed a letter copied to the RPC expressing concerns regarding the Kayhart Farm Operation. After a lengthy discussion regarding difficulties facing the agriculture community, the Executive Board recommended that Adam respond to this letter expressing the support for the Large Farm Permit Process. The Board reviewed the letter Adam drafted and sent on their behalf and felt it was satisfactory.

Other: None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

RFP Part-time Watershed Planner and Secretary for Full Commission Meetings: Adam explained what he was looking for in the position. Bill recommended that as Adam interviewed he should try to discover how each applicant was predisposed towards this issue. Ellen added that we want a public servant who will not imprint their own opinions on the Commission's business.

Revisions of Ancillary Sections of Regional Plan: Adam noted that he wanted to give the housing committee some additional work to make sure all sections of the plan are mechanically reconciled with the changes made to the housing section. Adam explained that he does not want to change substantive policy in other sections of the plan, he merely wants to make the plan mechanically consistent. The Executive Board agreed to have the housing committee oversee these non-substantive changes.

Other: Heritage Corridor: Adam noted that on October 24, 2001 the Champlain Basin Program was holding a public forum taking information as to whether and what shape a Heritage Corridor might take in the Lake Champlain Valley.

## **MEMBERS' CONCERNS/INFORMATION:**

Ellen Brought up the TMDL for Lake Champlain. Ellen expressed her concerns that the non-point and especially the farm community will have to shoulder an especially high burden. Ellen noted that the legislature should also play a part and try to limit phosphorus in products like fertilizer, dishwashing detergent and other products. Bill noted that we should promote education rather than legislation to reduce bringing phosphorus into the area. Harvey expressed concern that ANR has the numbers in reduction that the agricultural community has already achieved and they should be prepared to share those numbers. A lot of those numbers are available at the Soil Conservation Service. Ellen expressed hope we better represent the agricultural community at a full commission meeting. The executive Board also asked Adam to make sure the natural resource committee works to send comments to ANR on phosphorus TMDL. Harvey requested that Adam send him a copy of the capital

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program different wastewater plants in the area would need to spend if different alternatives were implemented.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, **Tom moved to adjourn the meeting. Ellen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam G. Lougee