

DRAFT

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 30th, 2002

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission Executive Board's January 30th, 2002 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>Cornwall</i> | Don Shall |
| <i>Monkton</i> | Thea Gaudette |
| <i>New Haven</i> | Harvey Smith, Chair |
| <i>Waltham</i> | Tom Yager |
| <i>Whiting</i> | Ellen Kurrelmeyer |

STAFF:
Adam Lougee

BUSINESS MEETING:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report was reviewed extensively. Additionally, Adam presented a proposed mid-year budget adjustment for the Board's consideration. Adam detailed the work being pursued under each of the revenue columns and explained change to expenses. After considerable discussion, **Don moved to accept the treasurer's report and to present the Budget revisions to the Full Commission at its next meeting. Thea seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACT 250: No new applications.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Tom Yager presented a report on the TAC meeting. He noted Neb Kehoe of ACTR had made a presentation regarding the programs it runs. Tom also noted that the TAC is expecting the Vergennes Design Charrette Study, but had not received all the material for that report. Don Shall noted that the Bike/Ped Plan final meeting had been held the previous week. Don stated that the body of the plan was generally well received, but that one of the participants had questioned whether some of the material contained in the appendixes was out of date. Garrett is investigating the accuracy of the material in the appendixes. Upon the correction of that material, the project will be complete.

Housing Committee: No items other than to note we need a super majority at our next meeting to pass the Housing Section and amend the entire Regional Plan.

Local Government Committee: No items.

Natural Resources Committee: Adam presented the Executive Board with the letter to Bill Howland and the Lake Champlain Basin Program on which the Natural Resource Committee has been working. The Executive Board instructed Adam to send the letter and to present it to the Full Commission at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

VAPDA Minutes: Bill reviewed the VAPDA minutes and questioned the scope of Gina Campoli's technical guidance document. **Adam responded that he did not remember, but would provide an answer prior to the next meeting.**

Programs/Attendance: Adam started the discussion by asking the Executive Board what we needed to do to get better attendance. Thea responded that we must promote ourselves better to make our programs worthwhile. Tom suggested using the programs to drive attendance. He suggested Press Release Flyers for every monthly discussion that touched upon why the discussion was important to all of us monthly. Tom suggested that we speak to town clerks about posting a flyer for each meeting and printing the agenda in color. All suggested holding a meeting on individual Septic systems and that legislation again in March and inviting all members of the House Natural Resource Committee. Thea suggested a Joint Partners report CEDS piece. Bill suggested the Chittenden County Plan, MPO Plan Impact on Addison County. The Executive Board agreed that since VELCO does not appear to be proposing anything until at least this fall, we should postpone the debate between VELCO and the Citizens for the Responsible transmission of energy. They also suggested that if we do have them both present, we invite some one in the middle to moderate the debate.

Other: Bill Sayre asked how the Bristol Project Impact sprinkler project was moving. Adam stated he would speak with Tim and get a response. **The Executive Board also requested a list summarizing each of the Project Impact Projects.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Lake Champlain Byways/Lake Champlain Basin Program Heritage Program: Adam presented a letter he sent to Bill Howland, Executive Director of the Lake Champlain Basin Program. He noted that two large-scale heritage based initiatives currently existed, Celebration Champlain! and the Lake Champlain Basin Program's initiative. He noted that he was prepared to execute a contract for ACRPC designed to pave the way to try to implement Celebration Champlain! He explained that Celebration Champlain! constitutes a heritage based economic development initiative developed from the Lake Champlain Byways planning, to provide funding to create infrastructure promoting tourism and amenities improving local usage of the Lake, tied to a timeline of events celebrating the 400th anniversary of Champlain's visit to the region. He also noted that the Quebec Labrador Foundation ("QLF") had completed its study of the area and concluded, amongst other things, that the Lake Champlain Basin Program is the best organization to lead any new heritage initiative. QLF also supported a more broad based federal legislative objective than merely a Park Service Heritage Corridor as previously proposed. Although the QLF report has not been released to the public yet, the Cultural Heritage Recreational Advisory Committee ("CHRAC") to the Lake Champlain Basin Program Steering Committee is in the process of recommending the Basin Program adopt the report and immediately proceed to draft federal legislation to fund an undefined heritage based initiative. Adam stated he felt the federal legislation was a foregone conclusion and that the best opportunity to influence the legislation to be as locally controlled as possible was to participate in the CHRAC discussion. Adam explained his letter stems from that conviction and generally notes the strengths that Celebration Champlain! can bring to any proposed legislation. The Executive Board wanted further information on the heritage based initiatives in the area and requested that Adam invite Janet Kennedy to the next Executive Board meeting.

Proposed Vermont Housing Financing Agency Pilot Project in Addison County: Adam stated that he and Jamie Stewart had engaged in an initial meeting with the Vermont Housing Finance Agency to explore creating a pilot project in Addison County to ease the housing crisis and build affordable housing in the region. The Executive Board encouraged Adam to proceed with the discussions and to keep it informed of the terms and conditions required. Bill Sayre felt strongly that any non-market based incentives should terminate after a reasonable term of years.

Mid-Year Budget Adjustments: Please see Treasurer's report.

Other items: Bill asked that a presentation of the proposed Chittenden County Regional Plan be scheduled for a commission meeting. He has concerns that the Plan limits growth in Chittenden County and the potential impact on the Addison region.

Ellen reminded every one that the first Legislative Breakfast would be held Monday, February 4th at 7:30 - 8:45a.m. at the Eagles Club in Vergennes. Harvey reminded the executive Board that the Addison County legislative delegation meets every other Friday in the Ethan Allen Room at the statehouse at 8:00a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam Lougee