

DRAFT

**ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
February 26, 2003**

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board meeting was held at the regional planning commission's office in Middlebury with Thea Gaudette presiding.

ROLL CALL

Orwell

Cornwall Don Shall

Middlebury Karl Neuse

Monkton Thea Gaudette, acting Chair

New Haven

Waltham Tom Yeager

Whiting

STAFF

Kevin Behm

BUSINESS MEETING:

The Executive Board Convened its regular meeting at 7:25 p.m. Thea presided as Chair due to Harvey Smith's absence.

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

Don moved to accept the January minutes and Tom seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The board reviewed the treasurer's report. Don asked about the status of the unspent Project Impact funds. Kevin stated that the Commission receives the funds on a reimbursable basis – ACRPC submits invoices to FEMA for funds. Tom moved to accept the report and Karl seconded. All approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Local Government Committee: Thea noted that the Committee would hold a public hearing in March on Waltham's town plan.

ACT250: No items.

Economic Development: No meeting was held last month.

Natural Resources: Kevin mentioned that Nell had updated the committee members on her outreach and basin planning efforts. She distributed a revised draft-planning outline, which the members reviewed and edited. The next meeting (March 17, 7-9pm) will be devoted to a question and answer session with Ethan Swift, DEC's basin planning coordinator for the Otter Creek Basin.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Don stated that he thought it was a mistake to cancel the Champlain Flyer rail project when it seems that Route 7 construction was just beginning. Kevin mentioned that Garrett had testified to the legislature on recent transportation projects and issues. He focused on services to member municipalities and our recent rail and bike/pad projects. TAC bylaws will be discussed later in the meeting.

Utilities and Facilities: To be discussed later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

VAPDA minutes: The minutes were not available yet.

Chapter 117 and Permit Reform: The recent commission program on permit reform was briefly discussed. Kevin noted that copies of the pending bills were available if needed. All agreed that additional time was needed to fully understand the bills.

TAC Bylaws: Copies of the proposed TAC Bylaws were distributed for review. Thea asked why this issue had resurfaced. Tom mentioned that the Exec Board met with members of the TAC last year to discuss the need for bylaws. Kevin said that it was his understanding that discussions had taken place, but that the text had never been finalized. Kevin added that the TAC had recently modified the draft bylaws and they are looking for a response from the Exec Board. Tom made a motion that the TAC chair and ACRPC transportation planner be invited to the next Exec Board meeting to discuss the TAC Bylaws. Don seconded the motion and all were in favor.

VELCO/VT Citizens for Safe Energy Resolution: The Utilities and Facilities Committee met with representatives of VELCO and the VT Citizens for Safe Energy. Ellen (U & F, chair) was unable to make this evening's meeting, however she provided a packet to Kevin to distribute to the members. Kevin summarized that the U & F Committee had an informative and productive meeting and as a result decided to draft their own resolution concerning the possible health effects of electromagnetic fields associated with power lines. Ellen had provided the minutes of the committee meeting, the text of the new resolution and she requested a recommendation from the Exec Board on the process for the full commission to address the new resolution. The Exec Board felt that Ellen should present the U & F Committee's findings at the next meeting and let the full commission decide on the next steps.

Other Old Business: None.

NEW BUSINESS

March Full Commission Meeting Program, ACSWD Plan: Kevin noted that Teri Kuczynski, Exec Dir, would be presenting the revised Addison County Solid Waste District Plan at the next meeting. He also noted that several members had requested a presentation on flooding and stream geomorphology for the April meeting. Karl suggested re-visiting stormwater permits. The board agreed that stormwater was recently discussed and river dynamics would be an interesting topic.

Programs/Attendance: Karl made a motion to request that Adam continue his practice of informing newly elected municipal Selectboards of RPC delegate attendance and to include an accompanying letter with justifiable praise or criticism. Don seconded and all were in favor.

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting is held in May each year and topic ideas are needed for the public meeting. Kevin suggested a presentation and discussion on Champ, our local enigma. Karl suggested a dinner meeting on the 'cruise ship' *Carillon* with the Champ discussion as also a possibility. **Adam was directed to check on the capacity available for a dinner cruise.**

Thea noted that next month was time to select the nominating committee for officers.

Statement Regarding Location of State Police Barracks: Kevin stated that the State Police were currently considering two sites for the barracks relocation – one adjacent to Green Haven on Route 7 in New Haven, and the other at the Route 17 - Route 7 intersection, also in New Haven. The Commission has been asked if there is a regional issue to address. Karl asked if the Commission could take a position. Kevin stated that Route 7 is a regional resource in the Regional Plan and traffic concerns could be a regional issue. Karl thought that septic could be a concern at either site. Tom thought that public buildings should form the core of downtowns where there is infrastructure. Karl wondered if Vergennes had been given consideration and Thea noted that the police were looking to locate north of Middlebury due to the frequency of calls. Kevin said that Senator Jeffords had sponsored legislation to keep Post Offices in downtown areas and that some of the language may address similar issues. Don made a motion to **ask Adam to investigate the siting criteria that were being used and to inform the Commission so a position could be discussed. Karl seconded the motion and all approved.**

Other New Business: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Submitted by: Kevin Behm