

**DRAFT**

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
March 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**

<i>Orwell</i>	Dave King
<i>Cornwall</i>	Don Shall
<i>Middlebury</i>	Karl Neuse
<i>Monkton</i>	Thea Gaudette, acting Chair
<i>New Haven</i>	
<i>Waltham</i>	Tom Yeager
<i>Whiting</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer

**STAFF**

Adam Lougee

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

The Executive Board Convened its regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. Thea presided as Chair due to Harvey Smith's absence.

As its first order of business the Executive Board noted that Harvey Smith's mother had passed away. The Executive Board noted that the minutes should reflect the Commission's condolences and that the Commission should send an honorarium to Project Independence on her behalf.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The board reviewed the treasurer's report. Adam noted that revenues still exceeded expenses and that fund balances remained strong. Ellen moved to accept the report and Tom seconded. All approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Local Government Committee: Thea noted that the Committee held a public hearing in March on Waltham's town plan. She noted that the Committee had some process concerns regarding the hearing process. She also noted that the plan did not have a statement of compatibility, which is a required element. However, she also noted that the Land Use Districts do reflect compatibility with neighboring towns. Therefore the committee will recommend that the town plan be approved. Thea noted that Adam should work harder to encourage towns to send the regional planning commission draft plans early in the process so that we can remedy any missing items prior to our hearings. Adam noted that he agreed with Thea and that he and Brandy had discussed this issue already.

ACT250: Adam note that VELCO had filed its notice of intent to file an Act 248 Permit request for the proposed corridor improvements they have discussed with us. He noted that he had sent an e-mail to the Act 250 Committee asking how they would like to handle the application and also to the Utilities and Facilities Committee's Chair Ellen Kurrelmeyer asking what level of involvement they would like to play in the application to make sure we coordinate our review. Ellen noted that it was her opinion that the Utilities and Facilities Committee had spent enough time on the proposed VELCO Corridor in light of its work re-writing the entire Utilities and Facilities section of the Plan and that the Act 250 committee was the appropriate committee to handle the application. Adam stated he would discuss the matter further with Fred Dunnington, the Chair of the Act 250 Committee.

Economic Development: No meeting was held last month. A meeting is scheduled for next Monday.

Natural Resources: The Committee met Monday and was devoted to a question and answer session with Ethan Swift, DEC's basin planning coordinator for the Otter Creek Basin. Tom noted that is was a productive meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Tom noted Mel Adams the Director of Policy and Planning had visited the last TAC meeting. He received a lot of local feedback from officials, especially in the Towns of Leicester and Whiting. Tom noted that it was a productive meeting.

Utilities and Facilities: Ellen noted that the committee had met and discussed health care. She also noted that the Committee was reviewing its work to make sure that its goals were written in manner that worked effectively given that the plan also functions within a regulatory framework.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

VAPDA minutes: Adam circulated the minutes from the February VAPDA Meeting.

TAC Bylaws: Postponed until next meeting.

Annual Meeting: Adam noted that the Carillon was not running at the time of our Annual meeting. However, he had spoken with Art Cohn of the Maritime Museum and their new conference room should be ready by that time. Adam also noted that we could ask the Maritime Museum to create an interesting program and discuss having the meal catered or explore the Basin Harbor Club for Dinner. Thea noted that the nominating committee had contacted officers and would make formal nominations at the full commission meeting.

Other Old Business: None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Strategic Plan for Celebration Champlain Update: Adam informed the Executive Board that he had traveled with Janet Kennedy to Montpelier on Monday to ask the administration to support the Strategic Plan for Celebration Champlain. Adam noted that he strongly believes the project has merit and should be adopted by the administration as one of its economic planks in the Champlain Valley. Although he is hopeful that the overall worth of the project got through to the Administration, he expressed concern that problems with creating a marketing identity for the project in conjunction with the Lakes to Locks Passage and the apparent hostility of several influential people in Montpelier weigh against the project's success. Adam concluded that he will continue to work on its behalf and noted that this is exactly the type of planning, marketing, and economic development coordination this area needs to continue to develop the cultural, historic, and recreational aspects that make this area so special for both residents and visitors.

Other New Business: Thea noted that she had supplied Adam with a letter requesting support of the Vermont Neighborhood Project, a model building project of affordable houses in a neighborhood setting. She explained the project, explained that the business community was backing it and that we should also support it. Don moved that Adam draft a letter of support for neighborhood project. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Thea also noted that since the deadline for the application was April 11, 2003 and we had just received the request, it was necessary for the Executive Board to act on behalf of the full commission. She also noted that we should provide the Commission with a copy of the action.

**ADJOURNMENT**: The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam G. Lougee