

DRAFT

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
April 30, 2003

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

ROLL CALL

Orwell

<i>Cornwall</i>	Don Shall
<i>Middlebury</i>	Karl Neuse
<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. Harvey Smith presided as Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Thea moved to accept the March minutes and Karl 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. Adam also noted that things are getting closer as the year end approaches and that he is going to have to be careful to instruct staff to work on projects that allow for direct billing in order to keep a balanced budget for the end of the year. Adam noted that we had not been spending as much staff time on project Impact as he had anticipated in his budget and that this was affecting his bottom line revenues, but not expenses. Ellen moved to accept the report and Thea seconded. All approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

ACT 250: Adam noted that he would meet with Fred Dunnington, the Chair of the Committee to discuss creating a preliminary proposal concerning how the Commission should approach the VELCO application.

Economic Development: The Committee held a meeting three weeks ago.

Natural Resources: The Committee has preliminarily set a meeting for May 5th.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC met with Janine Hetherington of Vermont Bikeways. They are proposing to create 6 biking loops within the county. Garrett noted that the loops would be spread over the county. Harvey asked what criteria Bikeways was using to create the loops, noting some concern for safety of the bikers on certain roads. **Garrett will follow-up and get a list of Bikeway criteria.** John Emerson also noted the TAC had met with Leicester and Whiting and were working with them to come to a resolution regarding the flooding of Otter Creek and its impact on Route 73 and the Leicester-Whiting proposal.

Utilities and Facilities: Ellen noted that the committee had met and completed the Health and Human Services portion of this section of the Plan. She also noted that the Committee was reviewing its work to make sure that its goals in the section of the Plan dealing with water supply accurately reflected that which the Commission wanted to achieve. They revised the plan in light of how it might be viewed in an Act 250 proceeding and had a very positive and productive discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

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

TAC Bylaws: Garrett handed out proposed changes to the TAC Bylaws. John Emerson presented the TAC's concerns regarding the Bylaws and what changes the TAC would like to see in Bylaws. John noted that one of the reasons for it was to create quorums and allow for good governance. The Executive Board expressed concern that the TAC needed to work in conjunction with the regional planning commission. **Harvey volunteered to speak with legislative counsel and ask them to send any information on the legal creation and authorization of the TAC and send them back to Garrett or Adam to share with the TAC. After that fact-finding mission, representatives of the TAC and the Executive Board will meet again to discuss the Bylaws further.**

Annual Meeting: Adam noted that he had spoken to the Maritime Museum and the Red Mill at the Basin Harbor Club. We would have open time at the museum, a speaker from

the museum and then walk over to the Red Mill for dinner. **Adam will finalize plans and get invitations out.**

Strategic Plan for Celebration Champlain: Adam noted that he had resigned as Chair of the Lake Champlain Byways Partnership. Adam felt that he could no longer lead the group effectively. He noted that the group had a different agenda than he felt would benefit Addison County. He also noted that he was very frustrated with the group as a whole, that they chose to complain rather than work and then tried to blame the lack of progress on others, primarily the main consultant, Janet Kennedy. Adam noted that he supported Janet's work to date and vision for the project, but that personal disputes with other individuals and politics regarding perceived competition with a heritage corridor were strangling the committee. Adam noted that he would keep on attending meetings and trying to move things forward in a positive direction. He also noted that Addison County served as the administrative body in charge of the contracts, that because of the partnership committee's lack of work, the Vermont work product was poor and that he was trying to work with Warren Vail at VTrans to resolve contractual issues, but might need the board's support in the future. Tom Yager commended Adam for the work he had done thus far and **urged him to send the Executive Board a copy of the meeting minutes that had caused Adam to resign and a copy of a letter Ron Ofner, Chair of the New York effort had sent to Warren Vail documenting some of the failures of the group as a whole.** Harvey noted that he was not surprised that the Partnership was having trouble working effectively and that he had recognized the personality disputes even prior to this effort.

Other Old Business: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed 2004 Workplan and Budget: Adam started with the budget and gave a detailed outline of each line item, what it involved and how it affected the Commission. Adam noted that our budget would be much tighter this coming fiscal year than last. He noted that in the past several years our budget and Workplan had expanded considerably. This year we are finishing work on several projects and are not expanding the scope of work. Rather, we are trying to maintain the levels of staffing and scope of work we currently have in place. **Karl moved to recommend adoption of the proposed Workplan budget to the Full Commission. Ellen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Other New Business: Adam noted that the Natural Resources Committee needed a new chair and that the Utilities and Facilities committee also had some vacancies. The Bylaws provided that the Chair of the Executive Board appoints the Chair of each committee. Harvey noted that since he was not going to be chair of the Full Commission as of July, he would be available to Chair the Natural Resources Committee if no one else had any suggestions. The rest of the Executive Board urged Harvey to serve as chair of the Natural Resources Committee, which he accepted. Adam also noted that the Utilities and Facilities Committee had several vacancies and that Laurel Kritkausky, the new

alternate member from Ripton had expressed interest in joining the committee. Ellen Kurrelmeyer, the Chair of the Committee, noted that Laurel had attended the last couple of meetings, had participated in a positive and meaningful manner and recommended that Laurel be chosen to serve. After reviewing the Bylaws, the Executive Board noted that Laurel was welcome to participate in the Committee discussion, but that since she constituted the Alternate member from Ripton and since the Delegate from Ripton was also on the committee, Laurel could only vote in the Delegate's absence.

ADJOURNMENT: Thea moved and Karl seconded a motion to adjourn, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam G. Lougee