

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
September 23, 2008

BUSINESS MEETING:

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board meeting was held at the regional planning commission's office in Middlebury with the Chair, Fred Dunnington presiding. Fred began the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

<i>Bristol</i>	Bill Sayre
<i>Ferrisburgh</i>	Bob McNary
<i>Goshen</i>	Bruce Webster
<i>Middlebury</i>	Fred Dunnington
<i>Monkton</i>	Thea Gaudette
<i>Ripton</i>	Jeremy Grip
<i>Whiting</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer

STAFF

Adam Lougee, Director

Minutes:

Bob moved the minutes, Bruce seconded them, all approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Bruce move the Treasurer's report, Bob seconded the motion. Adam noted that we are a little past the end of our fiscal year and expenses are still slightly ahead of revenues. However, Adam noted he still has a couple of programs to bill and hopes to correct that for the end of the fiscal year. Bob asked a number of questions regarding revenue and expenses. **He requested that Adam speak with Vance regarding our ability to bill a little more than last year's audited rate, to try to stay ahead of the curve.** The Executive Board informed Adam that they valued a balanced budget, but passed the Treasurer's report. Fred asked whether it would be prudent for the commission to spread its money out to reduce any potential risk of non-payment on those accounts. After a brief discussion, **Bill moved to have Adam investigate actions necessary to ensure the commission's money is protected and if it can be better protected to speak with Fred and Thea to protect the principle. Bob seconded the motion. All approved.**

Bruce asked Adam to explain the Safe Routes to School expenses. Adam noted they included graphics for all schools, bike rodeo's and other materials for schools. He will get a more complete answer shortly.

Committee Reports:

Act 250: Ellen noted that we had only received one jurisdictional opinion since last month's meeting.

Brownfields: Adam noted that the Committee had decided to use additional consultants on future projects to make sure that we get the best service. The committee narrowed the pool to two additional firms to use.

Energy: The committee continues to hold its workshops. It had good attendance in July and August at each of its programs. It will hold its September program tomorrow. It also hosted the "Button – up program" on Monday. The event went well largely because Bob and Elizabeth were prepared. The Committee also went on a site visit to Deneker Chevrolet at its meeting last month to look at its new energy efficient building.

Local Government: **Make sure the Bristol report went to the Local Government**

Natural Resources: The Committee met last night. It continues to work on the plan.

Transportation: Bob reported that the TAC ranked the enhancement grant applications that it received from the Towns of Middlebury and Bristol equally. It also heard about the problem Lincoln is having with the Gove Hill Bridge. Jeff Nelson intends to send a letter on behalf of the TAC in support of Lincoln.

OLD BUSINESS

VEM District Coordinator Position (Troop C): Adam updated the Executive Board regarding this position. He noted that it had changed to include all RPCs in the district splitting money for different tasks. Tim Bouton will serve as the lead for this troop district. Adam hopes the program will work well for ACRPC. It supplements our budget and gives Tim some extra work and authority. Also, Rutland has agreed to be the administrative lead for the process so our paperwork should be minimized.

Audit: Adam noted that Vance Debouter was to have started yesterday. He had mentioned that he was having some family medical problems, but should be starting shortly.

Legislative Breakfast: The TAC forum is not happening this fall. Adam will contact Jim Morse of Middlebury representing the Grange and Farm Bureau and offer help.

Other: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Supreme Court In re JAM Golf: Adam noted that he put this on the agenda at Bill Sayre's request. Adam noted that he had sent this case to the Town of Bristol as support for the

proposition that plans needed to support goals like “protect natural resources” with some specificity regarding what constitutes a significant resource worthy of protection. Bill was concerned that this decision seemed to be intended to protect property rights. However, he felt Adam’s response had the potential to dramatically increase regulations. He does not believe the case or the law requires more regulations. Fred noted that he felt that this was a shot across the bow of the environmental court regarding how they enforced regulations. Fred hopes that this will not change a town’s ability to apply common sense standards rather than create specific very binding regulations.

Bill asked the Executive Board if Adam could try to create a range of standards for how towns might respond to this case. **Adam will draft something and Fred will review it and bring it back to the Executive Board.**

Snelling Center for Government Vermont’s Roads and Bridges. Adam announced that the Snelling Center was conducting a forum regarding Transportation at the Basin Harbor Club this Friday. It is by invitation only from the Snelling Center. However, since it is happening in Addison County, Adam wanted all to be aware of it. Bill noted he would probably be attending.

Strategic Planning for ACRPC: Adam will bring an outline of a strategic plan to the next Executive Board at the top of the old business list. Any outreach done during this process will include Chairs of Selectboards, Planning Commissions, legislators and Regional Partners. The Executive Board would like to reach outside the organization and then bring findings back to the full commission for their action.

Other: Bob asked whether we should do more with Economic Development. The entire board was interested in having better relationships with Economic Development and encouraged Adam to work closely with the Executive Director they choose to appoint.

ADJOURNMENT: Bob moved to adjourn. Thea seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Adam Lougee