

FINAL

**ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

June 26, 2013

BUSINESS MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL

Bridport Andrew Manning
Bristol Bill Sayre
Lincoln Steve Revell
Middlebury
New Haven Harvey Smith
Ripton Jeremy Grip
Whiting Ellen Kurrelmeyer

STAFF

Adam Lougee, Director

Harvey opened the meeting at 6:30.

Minutes:

Steve Revell moved to accept the May 22, 2013 minutes. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's report. Adam noted that ACRPC's balances remain strong. Receivables are normal for the middle of the quarter. At the end of May, Revenues lag expenses again. However, Adam hopes that the billing at the end of the year/quarter will end up allowing the commission to balance the budget for the end of the year. **Ellen Kurrelmeyer moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Steve Revell seconded the motion, which all approved.**

Committee Reports:

Local Government Committee: The Committee will meet with Salisbury on July 1st and with Cornwall on July 15th. Harvey noted that Fred had been chair of this Committee. He also noted that Thea Gaudette the former chair had volunteered to serve as the Chair of the Committee until new committees are appointed in September. Harvey suggested he felt this would be a good idea. **Ellen moved to nominate Thea as the interim Chair of the Local Government Committee. Bill seconded the motion. The Executive Board agreed and voted unanimously to appoint Thea as the interim Chair of the Local Government Committee.**

ACT250/248: Ellen gave the following report:

New Applications:

1. On April 26, 2013 Middle Road Ventures filed an application before the Public Service Board for a Certificate of Public Good to permit the construction of a 500 kW solar generation facility off of Middle Road in Middlebury, Vermont. The PSB has decided to treat this as a full application rather than a limited scope as requested by the Petitioner. The Pre-hearing conference was held on June 25th. The testimony and discovery will take place over the summer with a decision expected in the fall of 2013. **I would like the Act 250 committee to meet at some point and discuss solar units in general. We have a number of examples now in the Region. How do we want to continue to interact in their development?**
2. On May 23, 2013 Claudi Orlandi filed an after the fact application for a dog breeding kennel on Monkton Road in Monkton. The District 9 Commission shall treat the application as a minor application unless a party objects prior to June 3rd. A neighbor has objected to the project. A hearing will be held at the Monkton Town offices on July 10th at 9:45 immediately following a site visit at 4706 Monkton Road at 9:00 a.m.
3. On June 12th, 2013 Theadore Palmer filed an application for a construction storage yard on Turkey Lane in Monkton. This will be treated as a minor application unless a party objects on or before July 19th, 2013.

Approvals or Denials: None.

Other: None.

Natural Resources: No Meeting.

Energy: No Meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC met last Wednesday. It discussed its TAC grant program. It funded a study in Ripton to determine whether large porous rip rap in a road bed could be used as an alternative flood mitigation measure. It put the remaining \$15,000 of its planning funds back out to bid.

OLD BUSINESS

Vermont Gas Update: Adam summarized the current status of this application. He distributed a draft of conditions he is in the process of negotiating with Vermont Gas as the basis for a Memorandum of Understanding. He noted that most of the Criteria requested by the Act 250 and Energy Committees are covered under the memorandum. The memorandum also includes several criteria recommended by the Natural Resources and the Emergency Management Committees. However, there were several elements of requests by the Emergency Management Committee on which ACRPC and Vermont Gas could not agree. Adam distributed the testimony that he filed addressing those issues. ACRPC will also continue to discuss these issues with Vermont Gas. Lastly, Adam noted that there were several parts of the Natural Resources Committee recommendations that

he could not address given ACRPC's current staffing and resources. He noted ACRPC will need to rely on ANR and the Public Service Department to address those issues. Adam hopes to have a complete draft of an MOU addressing as much of the Committee reports as possible to present for the vote of the full Commission in July.

Regarding Phase II, Vermont Gas has identified a preliminary Route through Cornwall that honors Cornwall's request for setbacks and other concessions. However, Vermont Gas continues to encounter a lot of opposition to this portion of the proposal.

Review of ACRPC Plan and DHCD visit in June. Adam presented the review of the Regional Plan by Brandy Saxton of PlaceSense and outlined the agenda for the visit of DHCD and Brandy currently scheduled for the July Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board felt strongly that it wanted to prepare for the visit. It expressed its general intent to review the document thoughtfully and critically and then exercise its independent judgment responding to each finding. **The Board asked Adam to help it prepare by bulleting important parts of the report. The Board also invited Ellen and Jeremy to attend the July Executive Board meeting to meet with Brandy and a delegate of DHCD and discuss the review.**

Committee Assignments and appointments of delegates. Adam distributed the letter he will send to the full Commission with the mailing prior to the July meeting requesting that people choose a committee(s). Adam noted the only change to the committees was that he had added a new committee to address the status of the regional plan. Adam believes the Committee will be necessary to help improve the plan in general as the Board had discussed previously and also to guide the response to the review of the regional plan.

Other: Adam noted that the VAPDA Retreat was the same night as the next full Commission meeting and requested permission to attend the VAPDA meeting to represent ACRPC and to allow Kevin Behm to help Harvey run the full Commission meeting. The Board agreed to that course of action.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of the Executive Director: The Board took up the annual review of the Executive Director. It went into executive session at 8:38 and emerged at 9:03. Harvey informed Adam that the Board's review was favorable. The Board appreciated the work Adam has been doing, especially in a down economy. Harvey will write up the board's review of Adam shortly.

Other: All on the Board expressed their appreciation and thanks for the five years of Board service that both Ellen Kurrelmeyer and Jeremy Grip have given to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Ellen moved to adjourn. Jeremy seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Adam Lougee