

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
April 30, 2014

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 Vice Chair, Thea Gaudette, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Bridport

Bristol

Bristol Chico Martin

Lincoln Steve Revell

Middlebury David Hamilton

Monkton Thea Gaudette

New Haven

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Guests: Mary Martin, Cornwall
Holly Noordsy, Delegate Cornwall
Colin Kriwox, Alternate Cornwall

Thea opened the meeting at 6:40.

MINUTES

Steve Revell moved to approve the minutes. Chico Martin seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Adam noted that fund balances are down slightly, but still remain good. Also as expected, with the quarterly billings, revenues pulled back ahead of expenses due to quarterly revenue. However, Adam noted we are still running very close. Expenses are largely in line with projections. Adam will need to focus on making sure revenue comes in on time. **Thea Gaudette moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Steve Revell seconded the motion, which all approved.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Local Government Committee: Thea reported that the Committee had not met.

ACT250/248: Adam noted that the Commission had received several new applications since the full Commission meeting and recited them.

Natural Resources: The Committee has not met since the last full commission meeting.

Energy: The Committee has not met since the last full commission meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Thea noted that the TAC meeting was largely devoted to understanding VTrans system regarding project prioritization and a review of the Monkton Ridge project.

Plan Re-write. Adam needs to convene this committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Vermont Gas Update: Adam distributed a memorandum attached as Exhibit 1 hereto that outlined a process by which he proposed to move forward in implementing the Commission's vote at its April 9th meeting. In large part, Adam expects to follow the same protocol as he used in Phase I, ultimately aiming for a Memorandum with Vermont Gas. After Adam explained what he would propose, Thea opened the floor for discussion and additionally invited the Board's guests to speak. Mary Martin took the opportunity to note that she was very disappointed in the Commission's vote and outlined her thoughts as follows:

1. Although she was not present, she watched the proceedings several times on TV.
2. Robert's Rules of Order were not consistently followed;
3. Ed Payne's statements during the discussion contradicted his vote;
4. Paul Wagner should not have participated in the discussion even though he did not vote;
5. John Meakin did not vote as instructed by the Audubon Society;
6. Ellen Kurrelmeyer considered interests of those outside Addison County;
7. Adam Lougee should not have expressed his opinion;
8. She felt the commission did not follow its own plan and was disappointed.

The Executive Board thanked Mary for her concerns. After a brief further discussion, Chico moved that the Executive Board instruct Adam to move forward with the process for implementing the decision of the commission regarding Phase II of the Vermont Gas Project as outlined in Exhibit 1. Steve Revell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Holly Noordsy asked that Adam and the Executive Board make sure that all committee meetings are publicized to full Commission members so that they can attend if they desire.

David Hamilton suggested that in the process of creating an MOU, Adam give all those commissioners that voted against the project the opportunity to make suggestions.

Colin Kriwox asked whether ACRPC would consider rewriting its plan in light of the vote, as he felt that at least one provision clearly contradicted the vote.

Chico stated that he expected that people that voted in favor of compliance felt they had reached the correct decision.

David Hamilton noted that even though he had voted against compliance, he still believed the vote relied on the best judgment of each Commissioner within the totality of the entire plan.

Thea noted that Commissioner's exercise judgment within the context of the Region and Plan and answer and vote accordingly.

Collin noted he was disappointed the plan did not have more teeth.

Thea noted that the plan was designed to be more visionary document than zoning bylaw.

Holly questioned the necessity of the project. She noted VELCO had evaluated the project's "necessity". This project did not focus as much on necessity and Holly questioned whether it should.

Emergency Management: PDM-C and HMGP. Adam noted that all RPCs have found themselves in a dispute with FEMA regarding its obligation to pay each RPC their indirect rate. VAPDA is working on it and solicited help from their national organization. We think that we have a solution, but it will take some time and could impact this year's revenues.

Other: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Draft Budget and Workplan for FY15/16. Adam distributed a draft budget. He noted that revenues would remain very similar to the past year. He will ask for approval at the June meeting and continue to revise the budget and workplan.

Annual Meeting Program and Location. Adam noted the meeting would take place at Basin Harbor club at the Red Mill and that our speaker would be Sarah Tichonuk from the maritime museum and would address the war of 1812 and Vergennes on its bicentennial.

Other: Steve asked whether the nominating committee report had gone well at the last meeting. Adam noted Jim Pulver had presented the slate and done a good job.

Adam noted that he needed to put our audit out to bid this year and would be doing so in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

Chico moved to adjourn. Steve seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Adam Lougee