

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, September 12, 2001

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission Meeting on September 12, 2001 was held at the Kirk Alumni Building at Middlebury College with Thea Gaudette presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette
<i>Bridport:</i>	Tom Vanacore		
<i>Bristol:</i>	William Sayre Jim Peabody Peter Grant Paul Ralston	<i>New Haven:</i> <i>Orwell:</i>	Allen Karnatz David King
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Don Shall Bill McQuillan	<i>Panton:</i>	
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>		<i>Ripton:</i>	
<i>Goshen:</i>		<i>Salisbury:</i>	
<i>Leicester:</i>	Joan Witteman	<i>Shoreham:</i>	
<i>Lincoln:</i>		<i>Starksboro:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington Karl Nuese	<i>Vergennes:</i>	
		<i>Waltham:</i>	Tom Yager
		<i>Weybridge:</i>	
		<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES

AC Chamber of Commerce:
AC Community Action Group: Jeanne Montross
Otter Creek Audubon Society: Judy Kowalczyk
AC Economic Development Corp: George Foster

STAFF:

Adam Lougee

Public Program

VELCO had been scheduled to make a public presentation this evening, but requested that they be postponed until the November meeting of the RPC.

Business Meeting

Approval of Minutes: July 11, 2001

Peter Grant moved to approve the minutes from July 11, 2001. Fred Dunnington seconded the motion. The motion passed with Tom Vanacore, Allen Karnatz, and Paul Ralston abstaining.

Treasurer's Report

Adam distributed the treasurer's report and announced that the commission is in good shape. **Peter Grant moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Bill Sayre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Committee Reports

TAC: Tom Yager reported that the Vergennes Traffic Study is scheduled for this Friday and that it appears turnout should be quite high. He also noted that the Bike/Ped report is complete

Local Government: Thea Gaudette reported that the Local Government Committee will be meeting with Whiting tomorrow night and with Orwell on September 19th to perform the regional review of their plans.

Act 250: Fred noted that the Act 250 Committee had met since that last Commission meeting and reviewed a number of Act 250 applications for regional significance. The committee had concluded that either the application lacked regional significance or that they would not oppose the plans as proposed.

Housing: Peter reported that the housing committee had been meeting and working on that portion of the plan. The Population section is nearing completion and the Committee has started work on the housing section. Adam will provide copies of the draft for anyone who would like one.

Joint Partners Report

Please see Year End Report below.

Staff and Delegate Recognition

Thea recognized Paul Ralston, a new member from Bristol.

Old Business

Discussion relating to CEDS: Thea reported that the CEDS had been formed and held its organizational meeting and would begin its work in earnest shortly.

Joint Partners Year End Report: Adam noted that the Joint Partners Year end report was included in the package that went out. He informed the commission that it constitutes a good summary of the work that staff does on behalf of the commission and entertained any questions that any member of the commission might have. There being none, Thea moved the discussion to the next topic.

Other: None.

New Business

Committee Assignments: Adam distributed a list of committee assignments, based upon the responses he had received and calls he had made. He noted that if any one was not assigned to a committee, but wanted to participate on one they could speak with him or a member of the Executive Board after the meeting.

Phosphorus TMDL/Growth Centers: Adam informed the commission that ANR had made a presentation in Lawson Lounge on the Middlebury College campus Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 PM regarding the current phosphorus levels in Lake Champlain, action plans for the reduction of phosphorus in the future, and a discussion of the impact on municipalities and farmers. Adam distributed the minutes of the meeting and entertained questions. Karl noted that Middlebury sewer rates had already doubled this year. If operating costs will be born by the users, this could have a dramatic affect in Middlebury. Judy noted that one of the reasons for this meeting was to educate the public and to allow people to respond the alternatives proposed. Karl stated that depending upon the options chosen, it could constitute a significant unfunded mandate on the residents of Middlebury.

Fred Dunnington added that Middlebury possesses a state of the art facility. The town spent more to go out and create a completely new facility in reliance on state assurances that the new plant would serve their needs for a long time.

Jim Peabody stated want to keep RPC involved in this project. Jim Peabody also noted that we could probably not spend the money to upgrade Middlebury and get a better bang for the money spent elsewhere.

Peter Grant noted we should also be concerned about drought conditions and plan for those.

George Foster noted that a lot was going on in agriculture to reduce runoff.

Tom Yager moved that we send this issue to the natural resource committee to take up this issue and recommend a position for the Commission to take. Don shall seconded the motion and supported Peter's interest in taking up the discussion of water supply since losing a well is a very dire problem.

Bill Sayre noted that we must balance the need for clean water with a cost benefit analysis to the farmers. We will fail in saving water quality if we put farms out of business.

Judy noted that we must work together to make this happen and not segregate into interest groups.

Jim Peabody asked if we could have someone from ANR back to discuss this issue before the planning commission to help educate us better.

After further discussion the commission voted unanimously to have the Natural Resources Committee examine the TMDL issue and establish a position of the Commission.

Other: None.

Members Concerns/Information: None.

Adjournment

Allen Karnatz moved to adjourn. Peter Grant seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by Adam Lougee