

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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Addison County Regional Planning Commission Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Full Commission Meeting was held on September 11, 2002, at Middlebury College's Lawson Lounge with Harvey Smith presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Orwell:</i>	
<i>Bridport:</i>	Ed Payne	<i>Panton:</i>	
	Andrew Manning		
<i>Bristol:</i>	Jim Peabody	<i>Ripton:</i>	
	Peter Grant		
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Don Shall	<i>Salisbury:</i>	Peter LaFlamme
	Bill McQuillan		
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	David Shlansky	<i>Shoreham:</i>	
<i>Goshen:</i>	Chad Chamberlain	<i>Starksboro:</i>	
<i>Leicester:</i>	James Maroney Jr.	<i>Vergennes:</i>	Randy Friday
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Tommy Thomspen	<i>Waltham:</i>	Tom Yager
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington	<i>Weybridge:</i>	
	Karl Neuse		
	William Perkins		
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette	<i>Whiting:</i>	
<i>New Haven:</i>	Harvey Smith		

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

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

STAFF:

Adam Lougee

Business Meeting

The meeting began at 7:40 pm.

Approval of Minutes: July 10, 2002

Thea moved to approve the minutes from July 10, 2002. Fred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Addison	Bridport	Bristol	Cornwall	Ferrisburgh	Goshen	Leicester
Lincoln	Middlebury	Monkton	New Haven	Orwell	Panton	Ripton
Salisbury	Shoreham	Starksboro	Vergennes	Waltham	Weybridge	Whiting



Discussion of Executive Board Minutes

No discussion.

Treasurer's Report

Adam passed out an updated report. Ed Payne mentioned that Bridport was planning to pay its bill very shortly.

Peter moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as amended. Ed Payne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

TAC: Tom Yager said that the committee had not met. Fred said that there's a project study mentioned in the July 31st executive board minutes. The committee recommended the following projects: a local transit study, a culvert study, a road system management software project, and a study of the Leicester-Whiting road. Adam said that a vote was needed to approve the projects.

Peter asked whether the book "The Bridges of Addison County" was ever completed. Adam answered that it was complete and copies were available in the commission office.

Randy asked whether the transportation agency had a strategic plan. Adam answered that there hasn't been one for 10 years, but a new director has come on board and will be making a variety of changes. Fred said a new schedule was being constructed to improve the routes and increase ridership. There has also been a lot of discussion regarding the future of the transit agency. Randy said he was concerned that such a large amount of money is going to the transit agency instead of to the towns. Adam said that the agency was one of the few groups that petitioned for the funds.

James Maroney asked about the improvements being suggested for the Leicester-Whiting road. Adam responded that he knew of one bridge that would be repaired.

Peter moved to approve the project list as amended. Ed Payne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Local Government: Thea said they met in Lincoln last week to look at the town plan and to prepare for the public hearing. In reviewing the plan, they noticed that the plan did not meet all of the requirements. The town has agreed to amend the plan in order to be in compliance. Thea recommended that the commission approve the plan. Ed Payne said he didn't like some of the language. Thea reminded him that it's not the commission's job to like the plan, but to ensure that all of the required elements are covered.

Thea moved to approve the Lincoln town plan. Don Shall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Act 250: Fred said the committee has not met. A couple months ago, Adam passed around information regarding a project in Starksboro/Monkton. There were no meetings requested from the parties. There are some Act 250 Amendments coming along from the College and from Cabot. Adam heard there would be a cellular tower

application from Salisbury in the near future. Fred said that Middlebury does have a mobile cell tower that Nextel uses.

Natural Resources: Harvey said there had been no meeting. Adam is in the process of hiring a watershed planner and has selected four finalists and hopes to have someone in place within a couple weeks.

Housing: no report

Economic Development and Utilities and Facilities: Jim said the Economic Development Association would hold its meeting next Tuesday, at the planning commission at 3:00 pm. Andrew said there would be a meeting Monday, September 16th.

Joint Partners Report

Fred said the CEDS project was moving forward and the Middlebury selectboard recently voted to add funding to that process. They have broken into several committees, and he expects a draft document to be complete by this winter. Thea said that the next meeting would be next Monday as well. Harvey added that the committee has relied heavily on the regional planning commission's housing and economic development plan.

Ed Payne mentioned that the Solid Waste District was reworking its plan. The plan should be completed late winter/early spring.

The Chamber of Commerce annual meeting is being held 4:00 Sunday in Middlebury.

Staff/Delegate Recognition

Peter LaFlamme from Salisbury was introduced as a new commission member.

Old Business

Committee Assignments: A list of assignments was passed around to the commission. Harvey said a lot of time was spent trying to accommodate everyone's choices and to create a balanced group. There is still room on some committees for additional members.

Joint Partners Year-End Report: Adam passed around the report.

Municipal Service Survey: Adam sent out the survey, which asked towns how they feel the regional planning commission is doing. Adam said they've received only six responses, but they have been very positive.

Report Regarding Onsite Rules: Harvey announced that on October 2 at 7:30, Chris Recchia and Ann Whitely would come down to discuss the technicalities of the new regulations with the planning commission and other interested parties. The location is to be announced.

The commission had recently invited Chris Recchia out to a property in Bridport along with some local consultants. Several members of the Addison county legislative delegation were also in attendance. After this meeting, Adam chose to send a letter to Chris regarding the concerns that the consultants had. He has not yet received a response to

his letter. Ed Payne also sent his own letter to Chris Recchia outlining his own concerns.

Other: Adam said he was redeveloping a package of pertinent information for the commission members.

New Business

Discussion of Legislation Proposed by Sen. Jeffords Regarding Heritage Partnership: Adam passed around a copy of the legislation and a letter he drafted today. Ed Payne said he was concerned about the possibility of the managing entity gaining planning powers. Adam said the language of the legislation prohibits that.

Other: Harvey said on October 15, there would be a farm tour for interested parties to discuss what the agricultural community has been doing regarding addressing environmental concerns.

Also, a Russian delegation has been invited to the county to discuss the agricultural infrastructure. They're here from the 20th through the 28th. Nancy Foster at ReMax is coordinating the effort.

Adjournment

Karl moved to adjourn. Thea seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by Ursula Jones