

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's meeting was held on January 14, 2004, at Middlebury College's Kirke Alumni Center with Don Shall presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>	Alden Harwood	<i>Orwell:</i>	
<i>Bridport:</i>	Edward Payne Andrew Manning	<i>Panton:</i>	
<i>Bristol:</i>	Jim Peabody	<i>Ripton:</i>	
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Don Shall Laurel Kritkauskay	<i>Salisbury:</i>	
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Bob McNary	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Meg Barnes Elizabeth Golden
<i>Goshen:</i>		<i>Starksboro:</i>	
<i>Leicester:</i>		<i>Vergennes:</i>	Neil Kamman
<i>Lincoln:</i>		<i>Waltham:</i>	Thomas Yager
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington Karl Neuse	<i>Weybridge:</i>	Jan Albers
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Jerry Smiley		

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

AC Chamber of Commerce:
AC Community Action Group:
AC Economic Development Corp:
Otter Creek Audubon Society: Judy Kowalczyk
AC Farm Bureau
OC NaturalResource Conservation District

STAFF:

Adam Lougee

Public Program

The public program was devoted to an open discussion regarding the visions and topics that the commission would like to discuss for the coming year. Don opened the program by thanking every one for coming out on a cold evening. He started the open discussion with a slide show of different scenic located around Addison County. Don then started the discussion with a discussion of financing: How do we finance good projects without getting caught

up in red tape? Don used Three Mile Bridge as an example to start the discussion.

Alden Harwood spoke next and stated that he wanted us to discuss two questions: The first being agriculture and the second being Zoning, specifically zoning as it may apply to new septic rules.

Karl Neuse defended the new septic regulations and their application to be a big improvement over the old regulations. Karl stated that he believed that the regulations may have opened up a lot of the area such that towns may need to re-think their old zoning regulations.

Brian Bauer asked about new development in New Haven. Where is it?

Jerry Smiley responded that he wasn't sure. School enrollment is down.

Brian also noted that mound systems are the rule in the lake towns and they are expensive \$15,000+.

Peter Grant noted that Bristol defers septic to the state. He also noted that he would really like to see more shoulders on paved roads for bikes. Jan noted that we needed more bikepaths.

Neil Kammen proposed that we put septic on our program agenda for the future.

Meg Barnes noted that Senator Bahre helped Addison use the LTF program to build a parking lot on Snake Mountain.

Judy Kowalczyk thanked every one for working on VELCO and suggested that the RPC set up a committee to study new, clean technology to produce energy locally.

Bob McNary noted that a lot of people outside the state with no connection to Vermont were using the Vermont brand to sell products. This hurts Vermont farmers and producers, especially in the specialty food market.

Peter Grant noted that the farm stand down the street imported a lot of vegetables.

Fred Dunnington noted that Middlebury will be updating its town plan and would be interested in hearing what Middlebury's neighbors think should be included in Middlebury's plan. He noted that taxes in Middlebury are very high causing people to look for housing elsewhere. He noted that decisions Middlebury is making to lower its tax rat, like cutting the recreation program, that affect citizens of other towns. He would like input to make Middlebury a better regional center.

Elizabeth Golden noted that Middlebury's loss of the Ames store has really affected the elderly's ability to shop for necessities.

Brian Bauer would like to see the results of our septic meeting put out in a pamphlet.

Karl Neuse would like to see a program on development.

Laurel suggested that a program on road cost/management/incentives might be.

Jan suggested to Fred that the college should be a big part of Middlebury's new plan.

Kent noted that zoning regulations take property rights away.

Peter Grant wanted driveway standards in zoning to help emergency services. He would also like good numbers posted on houses.

Bob McNary noted all Addison county tax rates were high and often they are not driven by town funding. Rather it's driven by unfounded mandates. Towns cannot drive every program.

BUSINESS AGENDA:

I. Approval of the Minutes: December 10, 2004

Deferred to next meeting.

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- II. Executive Board Minutes:
 - III. Treasurer's Report: Adam distributed the
 - IV. Committee Reports:
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Act 250: Karl noted that the Police Station up on the hill in New Haven would require a radio tower.

Economic Development Committee: Bob noted that the committee continued to work on the economic development section of the regional plan. Brian noted that the committee may extend its life and put some specific time parameters on the goals and objectives. Bob noted that his goal was to create objectives that would create change and hopefully change for the better. Brian noted that one of the goals dealt with using currently abandoned farm buildings. A study would not be good enough. Bob noted Dave Livingston's project in Starksboro turning barns into low income housing.

Natural Resources Committee: Judy noted that the committee discussed the tire burning at the Fort Ti plant. At the meeting Tom noted that Fort Ti and the wood industry had a strong economic need to try to create savings through alternative fuels. The committee decided to support the Governor's position on Fort Ti. Nell will look into toxins stemming from the tire burning. Ed noted that the science behind the tire burning is not uniform. Fort Ti cannot make a decision on what will happen without a test specific to its own needs. Neil noted that zinc emissions will increase. IP does not have the technology to clean this. VT DEC has set up monitoring stations to monitor if IP does a test burn. Bob McNary asked Neil to have DEC also test for metals in leafy fodder. Neil noted that IP's current controls on metals are pretty good.

Transportation: No meeting.

Local Government: See New Business.

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- V. Joint Partner's Report:
 - VI. Delegate/Staff Recognition:
 - VII. Old Business:

MPC update : Adam noted that awards are listed in the December newsletter. Jerry suggested that the RPC create databases and maps new permits issued. Ed noted that last MPG session Bridport and ACRPC developed permit tracking software that could be linked to mapping in the future as a tool for towns to have facts for planning and discussion.

Visit of Deputy Secretary Terrill

Summary of Audit

Other: Bob asked about meeting time. E-board will consider.

VIII. New Business:

Approval of Starksboro town plan. Thea noted that the plan met all the requirements of the Thea moved, Karl seconded. Laurel asked if they had any new provisions of interest. Thea noted that the plan stayed largely the

same to implement its vision.

IX. Members Concerns/Information: None.

Adjournment

Don moved to adjourn. Neil seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Submitted by Adam Lougee