

DRAFT

Addison County Regional Planning Commission Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission held its Annual Full Commission Meeting on May 11, 2005, at the Dog Team Tavern in New Haven with Donald Shall presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Orwell:</i>	Andrea Ochs David King
<i>Bridport:</i>	Edward Payne Andrew Manning	<i>Panton:</i>	Michael Herman
<i>Bristol:</i>	Peter Grant Jim Peabody William Sayre	<i>Ripton:</i>	Jeremy Grip Judy Kowalczyk
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Donald Shall Laurel Kritkauskay	<i>Salisbury:</i>	
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Bob McNary Chet Hawkins	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Elizabeth Golden
<i>Goshen:</i>	Bruce Webster	<i>Starksboro:</i>	Elissa Close
<i>Leicester:</i>	Tom Drew	<i>Vergennes:</i>	Renny Perry
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Steve Revell	<i>Waltham:</i>	Tom Yager
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington Karl Neuse Brian Bauer	<i>Weybridge:</i>	Jan Albers
<i>Monkton:</i>	Charles Huizenga Thea Gaudette	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Harvey Smith		

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

**AC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:
AC COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP:
OTTER CREEK AUDUBON SOCIETY:
AC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP:
AC FARM BUREAU:
OC NATR. RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DIST:**

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

CHAIR: Donald Shall
VICE-CHAIR: Tom Yager
SECRETARY: Thea Gaudette
TREASURER: Karl Neuse
William Sayre
Renny Perry
Andrea Ochs

STAFF:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Adam Lougee
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/GIS DATA MANAGER: Kevin Behm
EMERGENCY MGT PLANNER/SENIOR PLANNER: Tim Bouton
SENIOR/TRANSPORTATION PLANNER:
PLANNER/GRANT WRITER: Brandy Saxton
WATERSHED PLANNER: Neil Fraser
OFFICE MANAGER/BOOKKEEPER: Pauline Cousino
TRANSPORTATION PLANNER: Rick Kehne

TELEPHONE: 388-3141

FAX: 388-0038

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Public Program

The Public Program began at approximately 6:30 p.m. with a presentation by ACRPC's guest speaker for the evening Dr. Jon Isham, an assistant professor in the Department of Economics and Program in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College. Dr. Isham began his discussion by describing the work that he and his students had been doing studying the makeup of the social fabric in Addison County and Cornwall. From this work he recognized the work of the local and regional planning commissions as volunteers on behalf of their community and discussed how that volunteerism helps to create the community and bind it together as a recognizable entity. He then posed the question to the members of the planning commission, "What would you like Vermont to look like in 100 years?" After allowing some time for reflection, he received several answers back from the audience. They included things like "a place much like Vermont today with small villages separated by working rural countryside", "a prosperous place where grandchildren could find good jobs", "a place with a unique identity that separates it out from "Anywhere USA"; and "an independent republic". Dr. Isham took those answers and discussed the common theme of identity and uniqueness that played throughout them. He tied those themes back into the community building work that the regional planning commission and other local civic organizations do every day. He emphasized the need to keep actively working to help implement the goals that will sustain and nurture Vermont's unique identity so that it continues to exist 100 years from now. At the conclusion of Dr. Isham's presentation, ACRPC's Chair Don Shall thanked Dr. Isham for his work and words of encouragement and closed that portion of the program.

Recognition of Longstanding Commissioners

Don then moved the Commission to another portion of the program recognizing the Commissioners for their work by honoring those commissioners that had served their communities for periods of time longer than 5 years. First, Don thanked all of the commissioners for committing their time to serve their communities. He noted that each commissioner's continued involvement and thoughtful debate will help to make Addison a better place to live for all its citizens. He summarized that local political involvement is crucial to our ability to guide our own policies and destiny.

Next, Don recognized those delegates that have consistently served their community and the region for significant periods of time.

Don asked Delegates with more than 5 years of service, but less than 10 years to rise:

- A. Bill McQuillan, Cornwall 2000;
- B. Don Shall, Cornwall Current chair and former Treasurer, 2000;
- C. Jan Albers, Weybridge 2000;
- D. Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Whiting, a former Secretary and Vice Chair of the Executive Board, 1998.
- E. Judy Kowalczyk, Alt. Ripton, formerly a citizen representative with the Otter Creek Audubon Society 1998;
- F. Peter Grant, Bristol 1997;

Don asked Delegates with more than 10 years of service, but less than 20 years to rise:

- A. Allen Karnatz, Alternate from New Haven 1995;
- B. Robert Blanchard, Alternate from Ferrisburgh, 1995;
- C. Jim Peabody, Bristol 1995;
- D. Charlie Huizenga, Monkton 1993;
- E. John Chamberlain, Alternate Weybridge 1993;
- F. Tom Yager, Waltham, outgoing Executive Board Vice Chair, 1993;
- G. Thea Gaudette, Monkton, Outgoing at large member of the Executive Board, former chair, vice chair and secretary 1992;
- H. Edward Payne, Bridport, former Vice Chair of the Executive Board 1992;
- I. Harvey Smith, New Haven, former Chair and Vice Chair of the Executive Board 1992;

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Don asked Delegates with more than 20 years of service to rise:

- A. Bill Sayre, Bristol Village 1985, Bristol Town 1989, Former Chair, Vice Chair Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board
- B. Karl Neuse, Middlebury, Alternate 1984, Delegate 1987, Commission Attorney during its creation, Former Chair during the drafting of the first plan and current Treasurer;
- C. Fred Dunnington, Middlebury Alternate 1983, Delegate 1984 Former Chair and Treasurer.

Don thanked the Delegates again. He also thanked Pauline Cousino, the Commission's financial manager and longest serving employee, with over 30 years of Service to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, for serving as staff's memory and compiling the tenure data above.

Bertha Hanson Distinguished Service Award

Don then moved to present a new award to a delegate this year for distinguished service. He noted that we have named the Award the Bertha Hanson Distinguished Service Award. Bertha Hanson was one of the founding members of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. She also served for many years on the Town of Starksboro Planning Commission and was a founding member of the Mt. Abraham School District. She had a friendly nature and a ready smile. When she spoke, people listened with respect. Bertha was a devoted student of history and active in her community. In addition to the civic boards noted above, Bertha helped to found the Starksboro Historical Society and participated actively in her church. Being a farmwoman, Bertha understood the need to find the proper balance between meeting the needs of people and the needs of the environment. Bertha was always a voice of reconciliation and common sense. She was a valued member of the Regional Planning Commission and all who knew her remember her with respect and affection.

In honor of Bertha and in light of all the qualities she exemplified, Don presented the first annual "Bertha" to Ellen Kurrelmeyer for her distinguished service to the Commission over the course of her tenure. Don explained that when we asked for suggestions for awards, we received a number of recommendations for Ellen by you, her peers. He quoted a couple of them to emphasize why we presented this award. One Delegate stated, "She is smart, committed, efficient and deserves recognition." Another stated, "Ellen did a great job running the Utilities and Facilities Committee, she was focused dedicated and thoughtful."

Don concluded, "Ellen, Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission."

Business Meeting

After a congenial dinner, the abbreviated business meeting commenced at 8:45 p.m. Because of the other activities at the annual meeting, the business meeting was limited to the following agenda:

- I. Vote on Amending the Current Fiscal Year's Budget (2004-2005)**
- II. Vote of the Workplan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006**
- III. Vote on the Confirmation and Approval of the Panton Town Plan**
- IV. Vote for Officers and Members of the Executive Board of the Commission**
- V. Vote on the Future Land Use Section of the Regional Plan**
- VI. Vote on the Utilities Facilities and Services Section of the Regional Plan**
- VII. Vote on the Introduction and Consistency Sections of the Regional Plan**
- VIII. Vote on Re-adoption of the Entire Regional Plan, as Amended by the Sections adopted above.**
- IX. Member's Concerns/Information:**
 - Comments from the Chair
 - Comments from the Delegates

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Old Business

I. Vote on Amending the Current Fiscal Year's Budget (2004-2005)

Adam noted that we had spent a considerable amount of time going over the proposed changes to the budget at the previous meeting, but volunteered to review any changes to the budget that any one had questions about. He noted that the budget changes reflected a \$45,000 positive gain from that created last May. Thea Gaudette moved to amend the current year's budget. Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

II. Vote of the Workplan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006

Adam noted that we had also spent a considerable amount of time going over the proposed changes to next years proposed Workplan and Budget at the previous meeting, but again volunteered to review the Workplan and Budget proposed for 2005/2006 and invited questions and comments from members. Karl Neuse moved to approve the proposed Budget and Workplan for 2005/2006. Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

III. Vote on the Confirmation and Approval of the Panton Town Plan

Thea Gaudette, the Chair of the Local Government Committee noted that the committee ha gone out to Panton, met with the Panton Planning Commission, confirmed that they were actively engaged in planning activities and that the Town Plan recently adopted by Panton met all of the criteria necessary to constitute a statutorily compliant town plan. She noted that the Local Government Committee had voted unanimously to recommend that the Full Commission confirm the planning activities in Panton and to regionally approve the Panton Town Plan and moved for confirmation and approval of the Panton Town Plan. Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

IV. Vote for Officers and Members of the Executive Board of the Commission

Thea Gaudette gave the report of the nominating committee. She noted that the nominating committee of herself, Fred Dunnington and Tom Yeager had met, conferred with several delegates and secured their permission to be nominated to serve on the Executive Board. She reported that the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee consisted of the following individuals:

Don Shall, Chair
Renny Perry, Vice Chair
Andrea Ochs, Secretary
Karl Neuse, Treasurer
Bill Sayre, at large
Elissa Close, at large
Andrew Manning, at large

Don thanked the nominating committee for their work and opened the floor to nominations. Hearing none, Thea moved to nominate the slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee. Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

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V. Vote on the Future Land Use Section of the Regional Plan

The next item up for vote was amending the Future Land Use Section of the Regional Plan. Adam noted that the proposed amendments had been through two public hearings, amended slightly after the first hearing to include language promoting the redevelopment of brownfields and other areas with appropriate infrastructure. Andrea Ochs moved to amend the Future Land Use Section of the Regional Plan. Thea Gaudette seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

VI. Vote on the Utilities Facilities and Services Section of the Regional Plan

The next item up for vote was amending the Utilities and Facilities Section of the Regional Plan. Adam noted that the proposed amendments had been through a round of comments by the commissioners and two public hearings, amended slightly after the first hearing to include language previously approved by the committee but inadvertently left out of the draft due to a copying error. Ellen Kurrelmeyer, the Chair of the Utilities and Facilities Committee noted that the proposed draft had been subject of debate in committee and at the hearings and that everything had been said. Peter Grant moved to amend the Utilities and Facilities Section of the Regional Plan. Karl Neuse seconded the motion. The motion was first taken by voice vote. Hearing several “No” votes, Don Shall, the chair, asked for a show of hands. Adam and Don counted hands and determined the following tally 20 in favor, 6 against, 1 abstaining. Don announced that the motion carried receiving 60% of the required vote based on the number of delegates representing municipalities as required by ACRPC’s Bylaws. David King stated that he thought that a 60 % vote required that at least 23 people vote in favor of the plan based on 38 delegate slots currently available. Adam explained that at least since the vote in 2002, we had interpreted the “60% of Delegates representing municipalities” to include only actively appointed delegates, not merely vacant seats. Since we have 33 active delegates, 60% of those delegates would equal 20 votes, hence the motion passed.

VII. Vote on the Introduction and Consistency Sections of the Regional Plan

The next item up for vote was amending the Introduction and Consistency Sections of the Regional Plan. Adam noted that the proposed amendments had been through two public hearings. Peter Grant moved to amend the Introduction and Consistency Sections of the Regional Plan. Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

VIII. Vote on Re-adoption of the Entire Regional Plan, as Amended by the Sections adopted above.

The last item up for vote was amending and readopting the entire Regional Plan in light of the changes noted above. Adam noted that this had also been warned for two public hearings. Peter Grant moved to amend and readopt the entire Addison County Regional Plan. Thea Gaudette seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote. . The motion was first taken by voice vote. Hearing several “No” votes, Don Shall, the chair, asked for a show of hands. Adam and Don counted hands and determined the following tally 25 in favor, 2 against. Don announced that the motion carried receiving 60% of the required vote based on the number of delegates representing municipalities as required by ACRPC’s Bylaws.

IX. Member’s Concerns/Information:

- Comments from the Chair – Don thanked all for coming and for their service to their communities and the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.

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- Comments from the Delegates – No further comments were received from the Delegates.

Adjournment

Andrea Ochs moved to adjourn; Thea Gaudette seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Submitted by Adam Lougee

**Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Recognition of Longstanding Delegates
Annual Meeting May 11, 2005**

1. First I would like to thank all of you for committing your time to serve your communities as delegates and alternates to the regional planning commission. Thank you. Your continued involvement and thoughtful debate of policies that concern the region will help to make Addison a better place to live for all its citizens. Local political involvement is crucial to our ability to guide our own policies and destiny.
2. Next, I would like to recognize those delegates that have consistently served their community and the region for significant periods of time. Your commitments to your community and to regional planning have helped us to provide consistent and thoughtful long-term guidance and consistency to regional planning in Addison County.

I would ask Delegates with more than 5 years of service, but less than 10 years to rise:

- A. Bill McQuillan, Cornwall 2000;
- B. Don Shall, Cornwall Current chair and former Treasurer, 2000;
- C. Jan Albers, Weybridge (She was away on sabbatical for a year, but we should recognize her) 2000;
- D. Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Whiting, a former Secretary and Vice Chair of the Executive Board, 1998.
- E. Judy Kowalczyk, Alt Ripton, formerly a citizen representative with the Otter Creek Audubon Society 1998;
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- B. Karl Neuse, Middlebury, Alternate 1984, Delegate 1987, Commission Attorney during its creation, Former Chair during the drafting of the first plan and current Treasurer;
- C. Fred Dunnington, Middlebury Alternate 1983, Delegate 1984 Former Chair and Treasurer.

I hope I covered every one and gave each of you the credit you deserve. Adam asked that I thank Pauline Cousino, the Commission's financial manager and longest serving employee, with over 30 years of Service to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, for serving as staff's memory and compiling the tenure data above. Thank you all again for your service.

3. Lastly, I would like to present a new award to a delegate this year for distinguished service. We have named the Award the Bertha Hanson Distinguished Service Award. Bertha Hanson was one of the founding members of the regional planning commission (Don please insert language concerning Bertha.)

In honor of Bertha and in light of all the qualities she exemplified, we would like to present the first annual "Bertha" to Ellen Kurrelmeyer for her distinguished service to the commission over the course of her tenure. When we asked for suggestions for awards, we received a number of recommendations for Ellen by you, her peers. I am going to quote a couple of them because I believe they are telling as to why we presented this award. One Delegate stated, " She is smart, committed, efficient and deserves recognition." (This was Jan Albers recommendation to me.) Another stated, (You were going to quote Laurel).

Ellen, Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.