

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2005

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's full commission meeting was held on November 9, 2005, at the Great Falls Club, Frog Hollow in Middlebury, with Donald Shall presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>	David Cole	<i>Orwell:</i>	David King
<i>Bridport:</i>	Andrew Manning Edward Payne	<i>Panton:</i>	Michael Hermann
<i>Bristol:</i>	Jim Peabody Peter Grant	<i>Ripton:</i>	Judy Kowalczyk Jeremy Grip
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Donald Shall Harvey Huetter	<i>Salisbury:</i>	Brennan Michaels
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Bob McNary Stephen Gutowski	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Elizabeth Pidgeon
<i>Goshen:</i>		<i>Starksboro:</i>	Elissa Close
<i>Leicester:</i>	Kathleen Ramsay	<i>Vergennes:</i>	Renny Perry
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Jason Oleet Steve Revell	<i>Waltham:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington Karl Neuse Brian Bauer	<i>Weybridge:</i>	Jan Albers
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette Charles Huizenga	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Milo Schaefer Harvey Smith		

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

AC Chamber of Commerce:

AC Community Action Group:

AC Economic Development Corp:

Otter Creek Audubon Society:

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

CHAIR: Donald Shall

VICE-CHAIR: Renny Perry

SECRETARY: Andrea Ochs

TREASURER: Karl Neuse

Andrew Manning

Elissa Close

William Sayre

STAFF:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Adam Lougee

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/GIS DATA MANAGER: Kevin Behm

EMERGENCY MGT PLANNER/SENIOR PLANNER: Tim Bouton

SENIOR/TRANSPORTATION PLANNER: Richard Kehne

PLANNER/GRANT WRITER:

WATERSHED PLANNER: Neil Fraser

OFFICE MANAGER/BOOKKEEPER: Pauline Cousino

TELEPHONE: 388-3141

FAX: 388-0038

Business Meeting

Noting a quorum being present, Chairman Don Shall called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and proceeded with the business agenda prior to a vote on the Utilities, Facilities and Service section of the Regional Plan, and re-adoption of the entire plan.

I. Approval of Minutes: October 12, 2005

Bob McNary moved to approve the minutes for October 12, 2005. David Cole seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Minutes approved as presented.

II. Executive Board Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Board meeting held October 26, 2005 were previously distributed via first class mail to commission delegates for their review. (copy attached)

III. Treasurer's Report

Adam reported that the updated Treasurer's report (copy attached) reflects a strong checkbook balance, and receivables back down to normal. The audit is near completion and will be available by the next Executive Board meeting. **Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report passed unanimously by voice vote.**

IV. Committee Reports

Local Government

See "New Business" for presentation of the Cornwall Town Plan and vote.

Act 250 and 248

Fred Dunnington reported that an application has been received from Vermont RSA Ltd. Partnership to build a cellular tower in the form of a pine tree on Shackett Road in Leciester; and a resubmitted application from Foote Farm Associates for a 22-lot subdivision on Route 125 in Cornwall. The committee also approved a permit for Hendy Brothers to add an 11,000-square-foot addition to their existing facility on Route 7 in Middlebury.

Natural Resources Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 5th to review the watershed plan and renewable energy initiatives, as well as an update on International Paper's tire test burn.

TAC Transportation Committee

State Transportation Secretary Dawn Terrill will meet with members at the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury next Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Utilities, Facilities & Services Committee

Later in the agenda.

Bylaws Committee

Thea reported that the Bylaws Committee continues its work incorporating statutory changes to the regional planning commission's bylaws and anticipates submitting a draft in December. The committee is scheduled to meet again December 14th at 6:30 p.m., prior to the commission's regular meeting.

V. Delegates/Staff Recognition:

Commission members welcomed new delegate David Cole from Addison. Laurel Kritkauskay, a delegate from Cornwall, recently gave birth to a son, Bjorn. Adam noted that interviews will be scheduled in December to fill the grant writer/planner position.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Vote on Proposed Utilities, Facilities and Services Section of the Regional Plan and Re-Adoption of the Entire Plan

Ellen Kurrelmeyer moved to adopt the proposed Utilities, Facilities and Services section of the Regional Plan; Peter Grant seconded the motion.

Jim Peabody asked if any additional amendments would be considered. Don Shall explained that the two public hearings having been held in accordance with state statute, any additional substantive amendments at this juncture would require a repeat of the public process. **Thea called the question to proceed with a vote; seconded by Jan Albers. Motion to proceed with immediate vote passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Roll Call Vote on Adoption of the Utilities facilities and Services Section of the regional plan:

David Cole	yes		
Ed Payne	no	Thea Gaudette	yes
Andrew Manning	yes	Charles Huizenga	yes
Jim Peabody	no	Harvey Smith	yes
Peter Grant	yes	Milo Shaefer	yes
Don Shall	yes	David King	yes
Harvey Huetter	yes	Michael Hermann	yes
Bob McNary	yes	Jeremy Grip	yes
Stephen Gutowski	yes	Kathleen Ramsay	yes
Brennan Michaels	yes	Steve Revell	yes
Elizabeth Pidgeon	yes	Jason Oleet	yes
Elissa Close	yes	Fred Dunnington	yes
Renny Perry	yes	Karl Neuse	yes
Jan Albers	yes	Brian Bauer	yes
Ellen Kurrelmeyer	yes		

Motion carried: 26 yes; 2 no.

Thea Gaudette moved to re-adopt the entire Regional Plan with the inclusion of the Utilities, Facilities and Service section; Jim Peabody seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

David Cole	yes		
Ed Payne	yes	Thea Gaudette	yes
Andrew Manning	yes	Charles Huizenga	yes
Jim Peabody	yes	Harvey Smith	yes
Peter Grant	yes	Milo Shaefer	yes
Don Shall	yes	David King	yes
Harvey Huetter	yes	Michael Hermann	yes
Bob McNary	yes	Jeremy Grip	yes
Stephen Gutowski	yes	Judy Kowalczyk	yes
Kathleen Ramsay	yes	Brennan Michaels	yes
Steve Revell	yes	Elizabeth Pidgeon	yes
Jason Oleet	yes	Elissa Close	yes
Fred Dunnington	yes	Renny Perry	yes
Karl Neuse	yes	Jan Albers	yes
Brian Bauer	yes	Ellen Kurrelmeyer	yes

Motion passed unanimously.

VELCO Update

Fred Dunnington reported that the final aesthetic mitigation plan has been received by the Public Service Board, and is posted on the following website: nrvp.com Although VELCO has been responsive, and hundreds of plantings are proposed, the plan does not begin to adequately mitigate the project's significant impact on the landscape. Any final comments on the plan, or requests for a site visit at a particular location along the 345 KV line, should be filed with the Public Service Board no later than November 14th. Maps are available for public review at the Town Planner's office in the Middlebury Municipal Building.

Adam also reminded members that the Town of New Haven's appeal will be heard by the Vermont Supreme Court Thursday, November 10th.

Karl Neuse moved to withdraw his motion made at a previous commission meeting, and to reinstate Addison County Regional Planning Commission as a party to the appeal proceedings. Harvey Smith seconded the motion.

Harvey Smith noted that some New Haven landowners have been involved in negotiations with VELCO and the Public Service Board, and asked if the reinstatement of the planning commission as a party would adversely affect those discussions. Adam responded that he did not believe there would be any unfavorable impact.

Ed Payne asked Karl why he reversed his position on the issue. Karl explained that there were some inconsistencies with his position and that of the Town of Middlebury in terms of the level of support the commission should lend to the New Haven appeal.

Jeremy Grip called the question and moved to proceed with an immediate vote. All in favor.

Roll Call Vote:

David Cole	no		
Ed Payne	no	Thea Gaudette	yes
Andrew Manning	no	Charles Huizenga	yes
Jim Peabody	abstain	Harvey Smith	yes
Peter Grant	yes	Milo Shaefer	yes
Don Shall	yes	David King	yes
Harvey Huetter	yes	Michael Hermann	yes
Bob McNary	no	Jeremy Grip	yes
Stephen Gutowski	no	Kathleen Ramsay	yes
Brennan Michaels	yes	Steve Revell	yes
Elizabeth Pidgeon	yes	Jason Oleet	yes
Elissa Close	yes	Fred Dunnington	yes
Renny Perry	yes	Karl Neuse	yes
Jan Albers	yes	Brian Bauer	yes
Ellen Kurrelmeyer	yes		

Motion passed: 22 in favor, 5 opposed, and 1 abstention.

VII. New Business

Presentation of Cornwall Town Plan and Vote

The Town of Cornwall has completed work on amendments to their Town Plan in accordance with State statute. **Thea Gaudette moved to confirm the Town of Cornwall's local planning process and to regionally approve the plan as recommended by the Local Government Committee. Motion seconded.** Bruce Byers, chairman of the Cornwall Planning Board, expressed his thanks to Brandy Saxton for her help in the Town Plan process, which included four public hearings over the course of a year.

**Motion to approve the Cornwall Town Plan passed unanimously by voice vote.
Request for Support of Brownfield's Grant Applications**

Adam explained that two \$200,000 grants are available on a region-wide basis for the purpose of defining property sites affected by hazardous materials, commonly known as Brownfields. He noted that one fund addressed contamination with Petroleum and that one addressed contamination with other hazardous materials, like metals. He pointed out that the funds are not targeted for cleanup, but rather to define the scope of the project through an assessment process. If approved by the commission, Adam proposes to submit two applications to the Environmental Protection Agency to assess property on a region-wide basis. The properties to be assessed and the consultants to do the assessment work will be chosen at a later date by a committee representing the region. Adam suggested that the Commission should consider appointing an ad hoc committee to oversee the work or possibly assign the Natural Resources or Act 250 Committee to oversee the effort. **Steve Revell moved that the Commission support the application process.** The motion was duly seconded by Elizabeth Pidgeon and passed unanimously by voice vote. **Elizabeth Pidgeon moved to create an ad hoc committee to serve as the body to administer the program and volunteered to serve on the committee. The Commission unanimously supported creating a new ad hoc committee to oversee the program.** Don Shall, the chair sought additional volunteers. In addition to Elizabeth, Fred Dunnington, Renny Perry, Jeremy Grip, and Steve Revell agreed to serve on the ad hoc committee. The Commission also advised Adam to invite at least 4 other members of the community to also join the committee, thereby creating a 9 person oversight committee for the program.

IX. Member's Concerns/Information

Fred Dunnington advised that the Town of Middlebury will reapply for designation of the downtown, an action that requires notification to the regional planning commission. A written notice will be forthcoming.

Karl Neuse requested members of the TAC Committee to formerly express support for the proposed Cross Bridge in Middlebury at their November 16th meeting with State Transportation Secretary Dawn Terrill. **Karl so moved; Ed Payne seconded the motion.**

Jim Peabody pointed out that, without advance warning of the Cross Street Bridge issue, the commission should not vote on whether or not to extend its support. Harvey Huetter expressed his opposition to the proposed second bridge in Middlebury. Harvey was of the opinion that the bridge does not necessarily have to be located in Middlebury since an alternate route is a county issue.

Adam noted that the TAC Committee has made the bridge its second highest priority among the list it has recommended to the State.

Jim Peabody moved to table the motion; seconded by Harvey Huetter. Motion failed by voice vote.

Jan Albers offered that although she was not convinced the proposed Cross Street was the best option, she was open to being persuaded. Jan would prefer that a second bridge be located nearer to Porter Hospital.

Fred Dunnington requested that, before the commission votes on the motion, he be afforded the opportunity to present more detailed information gathered by the Middlebury Bridge Committee, which led to their recommendation. Fred also pointed out that the proposed Cross Street Bridge was only one option. Don Shall suggested that Fred give a comprehensive presentation at the commission's January meeting.

All members concurred.

Harvey Huetter suggested that a more businesslike setting be found for future commission meetings. Adam advised that the Executive Board continues to seek a permanent home for ACRPC.

Adam distributed a notice of public hearings in connection with International Paper's test tire burn, and noted that a Vermont meeting is scheduled for November 15th. Adam also encouraged members to review the draft compiled by the Douglas administration regarding affordable housing for Vermonters (copy attached).

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by Peggy Connor