

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission met at the commission's new office space at 14 Seminary Street in Middlebury on July 11, 2007, Fred Dunnington presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Orwell:</i>	Andrea Ochs David King
<i>Bridport:</i>	Edward Payne Andrew Manning	<i>Panton:</i>	
<i>Bristol:</i>	Peter Grant	<i>Ripton:</i>	
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Donald Shall	<i>Salisbury:</i>	
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Bob McNary	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Elizabeth Pidgeon Jeremiah Parker
<i>Goshen:</i>	Bruce Webster	<i>Starksboro:</i>	Elissa Close
<i>Leicester:</i>		<i>Vergennes:</i>	
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Jason Oleet Steve Revell	<i>Waltham:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Fred Dunnington Brian Bauer	<i>Weybridge:</i>	
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette Charles Huizenga	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Harvey Smith		

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

AC Chamber Action Group:
Addison County Farm Bureau:
AC Economic Development Corp.:
Otter Creek Audubon Society: Marcia Parker
OC Natural Resources:

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

CHAIR: Fred Dunnington
VICE-CHAIR: Elissa Close
SECRETARY: Thea Gaudette
TREASURER: Andrea Ochs
Renny Perry
William Sayre
Bruce Webster

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: Jeffrey Owen
WATERSHED PLANNER: Amy Diller
OFFICE MANAGER/BOOKKEEPER: Pauline Cousino
TELEPHONE: 388-3141 **FAX:** 388-0038

Public Program

Shannon Pytlik, river management planner with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources gave a demonstration of the department's flume – a replica of a typical riverbed created to simulate a variety of scenarios that impact the state's rivers over time. Shannon emphasized the need for a pro-active approach to ensure the quality of Vermont's rivers and streams. Marcia Parker pointed out that these initiatives should be made part of the Natural Resources section of the planning commission's work plan.

The public program concluded at 8:35 p.m.

Business Meeting

I. Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2007

Thea Gaudette moved to approve the meeting minutes for June 13, 2007; Andrea Ochs seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Minutes approved as presented.

II. Executive Board Minutes:

No action required.

III. Treasurer's Report

Adam distributed an updated copy of the Treasurer's Report (copy attached), noting that not all receivables are included in the report. Adam is confident a positive cash flow for the year will be reflected in next month's report.

Charles Huizenga moved to approve the treasurer's report; Bruce Webster seconded the motion. Treasurer's report unanimously approved by voice vote.

IV. Committee Reports

Act 250 and 248

Adam reported that the Public Service Board has issued an order permitting the 115 portion of the VELCO line, making specific findings regarding the location of substations, poles, pole heights, landscaping and other forms of aesthetic mitigation.

Brownfields Committee

Amy Diller reported that work on the Silver Towers property continues with Phase II to develop a work plan. The Brownfields Committee seeks additional properties that may qualify for the program. Adam asked delegates to act as ambassadors for the EPA's Brownfield's program, which has awarded the commission an additional \$200,000 in grant money for assessment purposes. Property owners who qualify for assessment may also qualify for the revolving loan fund for clean-up.

Energy Committee

Harvey Smith reported that work continues with municipalities to recruit Energy Coordinators, as well as with Middlebury College to explore grass pellet opportunities. Adam noted that, although the Community Development Block Grant was recently rejected, the commission may reapply with the USDA or Department of Agriculture. The 25/25 project, an effort aimed at producing 25% of the energy consumed in the United States from clean, renewable power by 2025, will be the focus of the next meeting of the Energy Committee to be held at the new ACRPC offices

on July 26th beginning at 7:00 p.m. The event will be open to the public.

Local Government

Thea Gaudette reported that the Monkton Town Plan will be warned in early September, and Middlebury's plan has been warned for public hearing.

Natural Resources

Andrea Ochs advised that the committee had planned to meet prior to the commission meeting earlier in the evening but lacked a quorum. Andrea noted that the committee will begin its work revising the natural resources section of the regional plan this year so she will need a good strong committee for that effort. She requested that people keep Natural Resources in mind when making their committee requests.

TAC Transportation Committee

Andrew Manning reported that committee members met in June with Secretary of Transportation Neil Lunderville. Secretary Lunderville explained that the State needs to focus its resources on maintaining its current infrastructure, since it is unlikely funding will be available for any new projects in the foreseeable future.

Transportation Steering Committee

Thea Gaudette reported that the draft will be complete by next week and ready to be voted on by the full commission in October.

V. Joint Partners Report

None.

VI. Delegate/Staff Recognition

Jason Oleet noted that Milo Schaefer was not re-appointed by the New Haven Select Board to serve as the town's delegate to the regional planning commission. Fred Dunnington suggested that the commission send a card of thanks for Milo's service.

VII. Old Business

Delegate and Alternate Forms

Adam has yet to receive forms from the following towns: Bridport, Goshen, Leicester, Middlebury, New Haven, Salisbury, Starksboro, and Whiting. Delegates are reminded to contact their Town Clerks.

Housekeeping: Addresses and E-mails

Delegates are asked to review the list of addresses and email information, and inform Adam of any changes. Regarding the monthly mailing, Jason Oleet advocated sending documents via email to delegates as a cost-saving measure.

Committee Membership for FY07-08

The Executive Board is soliciting membership for the commission's committees, and will announce final appointments at the September meeting. Delegates are reminded to complete their request forms and send them to the ACRPC office this month.

Other

Steve Revell offered a status report regarding the State's septic and wastewater rules. As a member of the Technical Committee, Steve expressed his disappointment with the Legislature and their failure to make a decision to move forward. Steve noted three disputed points that remain unresolved: 1) The size of replacement system requirements; 2) seasonal conversions; and 3) Design of small residence systems (1 or 2 bedrooms), which some believe encourage sprawl. The Technical Committee is scheduled to meet again July 25th.

VIII. New Business

IX. Members' Concerns/Information

Adam advised that the Executive Board has approved \$5,000 in furniture expenses for the new office space so delegates can look forward to more comfortable seating at their September meeting.

X. Adjournment

Andrea Ochs moved to adjourn; Thea Gaudette seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by,
Peggy Connor
