

Meeting Minutes
Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Wednesday, January 9, 2013

ACRPC held its Monthly Meeting at ACRPC's office on 14 Seminary Street in Middlebury on January 9, 2013 with Harvey Smith of New Haven, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

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| <i>Addison:</i> | | <i>Orwell:</i> | |
| <i>Bridport:</i> | Ed Payne Andrew Manning | <i>Panton:</i> | Jamie Dayton |
| <i>Bristol:</i> | Bill Sayre Chico Martin Peter Grant | <i>Ripton:</i> | Jeremy Grip |
| <i>Cornwall:</i> | | <i>Salisbury:</i> | |
| <i>Ferrisburgh:</i> | | <i>Shoreham:</i> | |
| <i>Goshen:</i> | | <i>Starksboro:</i> | |
| <i>Leicester:</i> | | <i>Vergennes:</i> | |
| <i>Lincoln:</i> | Steve Revell David Ludwig | <i>Waltham:</i> | |
| <i>Middlebury:</i> | Fred Dunnington David Hamilton Susan Shashok Karl Neuse | <i>Weybridge:</i> | |
| <i>Monkton:</i> | Thea Gaudette Wendy Sue Harper | <i>Whiting:</i> | Ellen Kurrelmeyer |
| <i>New Haven:</i> | Harvey Smith | | |

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

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| <i>Addison County Farm Bureau:</i> | Kent Wright |
| <i>Addison County Economic Development Corp:</i> | Harvey Smith |
| <i>Otter Creek Audubon Society:</i> | Margaret Lowe |
| <i>Otter Creek Natural Resources:</i> | |
| <i>Addison County Chamber of Commerce:</i> | |

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Harvey Smith
Vice-Chair: Jeremy Grip
Secretary: William Sayre
Treasurer: Fred Dunnington
At Large: Steve Revell
Andrew Manning
Ellen Kurrelmeyer

STAFF

Executive Director: Adam Lougee
Assistant Director/GIS Manager: Kevin Behm
EM/Senior Planner: Tim Bouton
Transportation/Senior Planner: Daryl Benoit
Land use Planner: Claire Tebbs
Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Pauline Cousino
Regional Planner: Kevin Lehman

7:30 Business Meeting:

- I. **Approval of the Minutes:** Thea Gaudette of Monkton moved the minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting. Ellen Kurrelmeyer of Whiting seconded the motion. The Commission passed the minutes by voice vote with all approving.
- II. **Executive Board Minutes:** No Meeting for December.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Adam handed out the treasurer's report as of January 9, 2013 showing activity through November. Adam noted that our fund balances remained strong. He also noted that as of this point in our fiscal year, our revenues and expenses are very close to even. Adam will watch both revenues and expenses to make sure they continue to balance. Adam offered to take any questions on the Treasurer's report. **Wendy Sue Harper of Monkton moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Susan Shashok of Middlebury seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- IV. **Committee Reports:**

Act 250: Ellen gave the ACT 250 report as follows:

New Applications: On December 18, 2012 Lincoln Applied Geology filed an application on behalf of New Haven Tire requesting a series of amendments to its existing permit for pre-existing additions to the facility, including an 18 x 26' addition to the existing residence; a 42' x 60' tire shed a replacement mound and a subdivision of the residence from the business. The application will be treated as a minor unless a party requests a hearing prior to January 18, 2013.

Approvals or Denials: On January 4, 2013 the District 9 environmental Commission issued an administrative permit modifying the permit it granted to the President and fellows of Middlebury College for the squash facility it had previously permitted in November. The amendment reduces the size of the facility from 19,200 sq. ft to 18,000 sq. ft.

Other: On November 16, 2012 WhistlePig, LLC filed an act 250 application to make improvements to an existing Rye Whiskey Distillery located on Palmer Road in Shoreham, Vermont. A site visit and hearing will be held on January 15, 2012. The hearing will be in the Shoreham Town Library. This has turned into a contested case. It has a lot of interesting policy questions regarding what constitutes an agricultural enterprise and when and how agriculture or the value added manufacturing of agricultural products should be regulated as part of the Act 250, or for that matter local process.

After some discussion regarding whether or not the application satisfied the "significant regional impact" criterion, the Commission instructed Adam to attend the initial hearing and requested that he report back to the Commission.

Energy: Fred Dunnington of Middlebury reported that the Energy Committee had focused its meeting on launching the 2013 Home weatherization challenge. ACRPC will act as a

Facilitator to try to encourage 3% of the homes in participating communities to make improvements to improve their thermal energy efficiency. He noted that eight communities in Addison County have committed to participate. He also noted the statewide kickoff meeting is this Saturday, January 12th at Norwich University from 1:00 – 3:00.

Local Government: Fred Dunnington reported that the committee had not met since the last full commission meeting.

Natural Resources: Margaret Lowe of the Audubon Society noted that the committee had not met since the last full commission meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew Manning reported that the TAC had discussed the New Haven Field Days mobility study it had commissioned at a meeting in December, but prior to the full commission meeting on December 12th.

V. Joint Partners Report: None.

VI. Delegate/Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights: Adam distributed the project highlights to the commission. He noted the Transportation application that Daryl Benoit is working on to improve fish habitat on high Knob Brook in Starksboro.

VII. Old Business:

Update concerning Vermont Gas pipeline: Adam included the letter he had filed on the Commission's behalf with the Vermont Public Service Board in the package sent to the Commission. He noted the letter spelled out how ACRPC would participate and the issues the Committees felt were important. He noted Vermont Gas had filed its application on December 20th, but the PSB had yet to assign a Docket number or schedule a hearing. He would know more when the PSB formally accepted the application and created a schedule.

Thea noted that Vermont Gas would be at a public meeting in Monkton tomorrow (Thursday) evening. The focus of the discussion will be on Monkton Road. She hopes VT Gas will listen to Monkton's concerns. Thea expects the Selectboard will use the information it collects at the meeting to inform its actions. She also expected that the Selectboard will appoint some citizens to act on behalf of Monkton.

Fred noted that Middlebury had also filed a letter and was concerned about the compression station in Middlebury and the service area. He noted Middlebury would have a meeting with Vermont Gas on **January 21st** to discuss the distribution area and invited other towns to participate.

Acceptance of the Broadband Report presented at October Meeting: Adam noted that we had run long our previous two meetings and had not gotten to this agenda item. He gave a brief synopsis of the project and offered to take questions. **After a brief discussion Thea**

Gaudette moved that the Commission accept the Broadband Plan. Bill Sayre of Bristol seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Other: Adam asked the Commission if they had heard any follow-up concerning last month's Front porch forum presentation. Specifically he asked if any towns had taken any action to sign up.

Wendy Sue Harper of Monkton noted that Monkton Talk already existed. After some initial interest, people became concerned about the influence of Vermont Gas on the FPF after someone saw it listed as a corporate sponsor.

Jamie Dayton of Panton noted that the Panton Selectboard had voted not to join because of the cost.

Similarly, Jeremy Grip of Ripton noted that Ripton's selectboard had also voted not to join based upon the cost.

VIII. New Business:

Other: None.

IX. Members Concerns: None.

X. Adjourn: Peter Grant of Bristol moved to adjourn the meeting, Chico Martin of Bristol seconded the motion. The motion, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Adam G. Lougee, Director