

Meeting Minutes
Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Wednesday, October 8, 2014

ACRPC held its monthly meeting at ACRPC's office on 14 Seminary Street in Middlebury with the Chair, Thea Gaudette of Monkton, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Addison:

Bridport: Edward Payne
Andrew Manning

Orwell:

Panton:

Bristol: William Sayre
Peter Grant
Garland "Chico" Martin

Ripton: Jeremy Grip

Cornwall: Stan Grzyb

Salisbury: Tom Scanlon
Mary Anne Sullivan

Ferrisburgh: Tim Davis

Shoreham: Nick Causton

Starksboro:

Goshen: Jim Pulver

Vergennes:

Leicester: Diane Benware
Ron Fiske

Waltham:

Lincoln:

Weybridge:

Middlebury: David Hamilton
Ross Conrad

Whiting: Ellen Kurrelmeyer

Monkton: Thea Gaudette
Wendy Sue Harper
Steve Pilcher

New Haven: Harvey Smith

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

Addison County Farm Bureau:

Kent Wright

Addison County Economic Development Corp:

Harvey Smith

Otter Creek Audubon Society:

Diane Carter

Otter Creek Natural Resources:

Paul Wagner

Addison County Chamber of Commerce:

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Thea Gaudette

Vice-Chair: Jeremy Grip

Secretary: William Sayre

Treasurer: David Hamilton

At Large: Ted Davis
Andrew Manning
Chico Martin

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

7:30 p.m. Business Meeting:

Thea opened the business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

- I. **Approval of the September 10, 2014 minutes:** Tom Scanlon of Salisbury moved approval of the September minutes. Peter Grant of Bristol seconded them. Tom commended Adam on creating an accurate set of minutes from a difficult meeting. Ross Conrad asked to correct the minutes to reflect that the link to ANR's shoreland presentation referenced in the minutes was missing, not that "it did not work". All agreed to the proposed amendment and the minutes passed by voice vote with Bill Sayre and Steve Pilcher abstaining.
- II. **Executive Board Minutes:** Thea noted that the Executive Board minutes for the months of September are in the package for the information of the Commission. Thea noted that anyone with questions regarding the Executive Board minutes could speak with a member of the Executive Board or to Adam and moved on to the next item on the agenda.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Adam noted that the Treasurer's report dated as of September 10, 2014 (The Balance Sheet listed current balances as of October 8, 2014; the monthly budget reflects activity through the end of August, 2014). Adam noted that Vance DeBouter, ACRPC's auditor had reviewed last year's books in September. Focusing on this year through August Adam noted that revenues are ahead of expenses. Adam offered to take any questions on the Treasurer's report. **Tom Scanlon of Salisbury moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Bill Sayre of Bristol seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**
- IV. **Committee Reports:**

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

New Applications:

1. Country Commons Development, LLC in Vergennes applied for a construction completion extension to its previously permitted development in Vergennes.

Approvals or Denials:

1. On October 8, 2014 the District 9 Environmental Commission issued an administrative amendment to Steve and Marcia Dupoise allowing them to build building number 6 in their previously approved storage facility on Route 7 in New Haven.

Other:

1. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation gave a permit to the Town of Middlebury's recertifying of its wastewater sludge facility and land application plan.
2. On August 28, 2014 the District 9 Environmental Commission held a public hearing for Middle Road Ventures proposed expansion of its housing development off of Middle Road in Middlebury by 11 units. The District Commission took evidence, requested additional evidence including final wastewater, stormwater and wetlands permits and closed the hearing. It will not hold another hearing unless a party requests it. Middlebury Ventures has filed the supplemental information requested.

Steve Pilcher also reported that the Act 250 committee had met to discuss the Denecker Chevrolet application at the Corner of Route 22A and Route 7 in Ferrisburgh and the Committee was developing language that it would recommend for testimony at the hearing on

October 23, 2014. Lastly, Steve noted that the Act 250 Committee was also interested in the solar development occurring in the region.

Energy: Jeremy noted the committee met on September 11th and sponsored a presentation featuring two speakers, Sara Gilbert from NeighborWorks of Western Vermont and R.J. Adler of Suncommon, discussing the efficiency and alternative energy programs that each of them offer. Jeremy noted the emphasis Sun Common was putting on Cold climate heat pumps. Jeremy also noted the Committee would meet next on October 30th and sponsor a presentation on best practices for Siting Solar facilities.

Local Government: Thea noted that the Committee will meet with the City of Vergennes shortly.

Natural Resources: Wendy Sue stated that the committee would also meet shortly.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew Manning reported that the TAC had devoted its last meeting to a VTrans public hearing on its centerline “Rumble Stripe” policy. The TAC will not meet in October. Adam announced that the TAC had recently issued a call for projects from municipalities for transportation planning projects. It has \$10,000 which it will award at its November 19th meeting.

Plan Re-write: Thea noted that the committee had met just prior to the meeting tonight and had completed its work on the “Substantial Regional Impact” section of the plan. Next it will tackle the “Future Land Use” section of the plan.

V. **Joint Partner’s Report:** None.

VI. **Delegate/Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights:** Diane Benware introduced Leicester’s new delegate to the commission, Ron Fiske. Ron introduced himself and Thea welcomed him to the Commission. Adam deferred highlights to the project report later in the meeting.

VII. **Old Business:**

Vermont Gas, Phase II Pipeline Update: Adam updated the Commission on where the project stood. He noted that Phase I of the project had been remanded back to the Public Service Board from the Supreme Court for a hearing on the cost overruns. That hearing had taken place in September. He noted he expected a decision from the board shortly. He also noted that the Public Service Board had issued another scheduling order delaying the hearings on Phase II until January. The Board cited wanting to complete the remand and Vermont Gas needing to secure a FERC waiver as the reasons for the delay. Lastly, Vermont gas had recently sent letters to the Towns of Salisbury, Leicester and Whiting inviting them to participate in a siting committee to discuss the location of a proposed third Phase of the pipeline to Rutland.

Transportation Planner Update. Adam noted that he was pursuing hiring a new transportation planner, that he had received some good resumes and that he had scheduled a number of interviews.

ACRPC FY14 Year End Report. Adam distributed a yearend report that staff had compiled briefly describing projects and the type of work that staff had undertaken on the Commission's behalf. The report is addressed to the Agency of Commerce, but Adam felt the Commission should see it because it summarizes the broad array of good work the Commission does within the Region.

Other: None.

VIII. New Business:

Project Management Projects: Adam also took a little time to highlight some of the work the commission would undertake in the coming year. He noted that in the coming year ACRPC would have the opportunity to work with the Town of Middlebury to implement several of the planning studies and grant applications that it had helped Middlebury to pursue. Adam noted that ACRPC would be managing the a project to build sidewalks on Exchange street, a \$330,000 project that ACRPC had helped Middlebury secure grant funding for, sidewalks on Seymour Street and Pulp Mill Bridge Road, a \$770,000 project that ACRPC had helped Middlebury and Weybridge scope and apply for and on improvements to Printer's Alley opening that access into the Marble works. Adam noted that he really enjoyed seeing the planning work ACRPC did come to fruition in completed projects and that he looks forward to working with Middlebury.

Other. None.

IX. Member Concerns and Information:

X. Adjourn: Peter Grant moved to adjourn. Jeremy Grip seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee