

Meeting Minutes
Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Wednesday, June 10, 2015

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:

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| <i>Addison:</i> | | <i>Orwell:</i> | |
| <i>Bridport:</i> | Edward Payne Andrew Manning | <i>Panton:</i> | |
| <i>Bristol:</i> | Peter Grant | <i>Ripton:</i> | Jeremy Grip |
| <i>Cornwall:</i> | Jim Duclos Holly Noordsy Stan Grzyb | <i>Salisbury:</i> | Mary Anne Sullivan Tom Scanlon Barrie Bailey |
| <i>Ferrisburgh:</i> | Tim Davis Arabella Holzapfel | <i>Shoreham:</i> | |
| <i>Goshen:</i> | Jim Pulver | <i>Starksboro:</i> | Richard Warren |
| <i>Leicester:</i> | Diane Benware | <i>Vergennes:</i> | |
| <i>Lincoln:</i> | | <i>Waltham:</i> | |
| <i>Middlebury:</i> | Karl Neuse Ted Davis Ross Conrad | <i>Weybridge:</i> | Ron Crawford |
| <i>Monkton:</i> | Thea Gaudette Wendy Sue Harper Steve Pilcher | <i>Whiting:</i> | Ellen Kurrelmeyer |
| <i>New Haven:</i> | Harvey Smith Jim Walsh | | |

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

Addison County Farm Bureau:
Addison County Economic Development Corp:
Otter Creek Audubon Society:
Otter Creek Natural Resources:
Addison County Chamber of Commerce:

Kent Wright
Harvey Smith
Diana Carter
Paul Wagner

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 Planner: Josh Donabedian
Land use Planner: Claire Tebbs
Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Pauline Cousino

7:30 p.m. Program:

Teri Kuczynski, the Executive Director of the Addison County Solid Waste Management District (“ACSWMD”), provided a presentation on the new solid waste management regulations that municipalities will be responsible for implementing starting July 1, 2015. Teri focused on municipal responsibilities and compliance. She also provided an update on the proposed amendments to the ACSWMD Solid Waste Implementation Plan to meet the new requirements, explained changes allowing new towns to join ACSWMD and then took questions. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation that Teri presented can be found at:

At the end of her presentation, Thea and the commission thanked Teri for her presentation and Thea announced a 5 minute break.

Business Meeting:

Thea opened the business meeting at 8:38 p.m.

- I. Approval of the April 8, 2015 minutes:** Wendy Sue Harper moved approval of the April minutes. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion. Thea asked that the minutes be amended to note that Igor Hughes spoke on his own behalf and not on behalf of the Monkton Planning Commission. Ross Conrad pointed out a couple of typos. The minutes as amended passed by voice vote with Jim Pulver abstaining.
- II. Approval of the May 13, 2015 minutes of the Annual Meeting:** Ellen moved the May meeting minutes. Peter Grant seconded the motion. Steve Pilcher requested that the minutes be amended to add Rich Warren as an attending member. The minutes as amended passed by voice vote with Holly Noordsy, Jim Pulver, Mary Ann Sullivan and Tom Scanlon abstaining.
- III. Executive Board Minutes:** Thea noted that the Executive Board minutes for the months of April and May 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.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report:** Adam noted that the Treasurer’s report dated as of June 10, 2015 (The Balance Sheet listed current balances as of June 10, 2015; the monthly budget reflects activity through the end of May 2015). Focusing on this year through May, Adam noted that revenues are slightly behind expenses. However, Adam noted that we had included May’s expenses, but not its revenue. Adam offered to take any questions on the Treasurer’s report. **Ellen Kurrelmeyer moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Mary Ann Sullivan seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**
- V. Committee Reports:**

Act 250: Ellen gave an abbreviated Act 250/Section 248 report noting that the committee had met, had reviewed TDI’s answers to ACRPC’s interrogatories and had voted to recommend to the commission that Adam should keep pursuing the tax implications for the pipeline and other items of interest to ACRPC. Adam noted that he had discussed ACRPC’s concerns with

TDI's attorneys and representatives on Tuesday and would be filing a letter by Friday with the Public Service Board reserving the authority of the lakeside municipalities to tax the pipeline.

Energy: Jeremy noted the Committee had not met since the last commission meeting. He noted that at the Committee's July meeting, they will help host a Public Informational Meeting on the Statewide Energy Plan. He also noted that the Committee should discuss reconciling the proposed plan language on solar installations the committee created with the recently passed legislation in H40.

Local Government: The Committee will meet in Orwell on June 17th.

Natural Resources: The Natural Resources Committee met earlier this month and continued its discussion of regionally significant resources. It will meet again just before the full Commission meeting in July.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew Manning reported that the TAC met in May. It re-elected Will Sipsey and Jeff Nelson as its officers, reviewed the Statewide Bike/Ped plan and agreed that ACRPC should work with Panton on capital budgeting

Plan Re-write: Thea noted that the committee did not meet.

VI. **Joint Partner's Report:** None.

VII. **Delegate/Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights:** Adam introduced Barrie Bailey as a new alternate representing the Town of Salisbury. Thea welcomed Barrie to the commission and invited her to introduce herself. Barrie noted she is a retired school teacher and is interested in environmental issues.

VIII. **Old Business:**

TDI NE Schedule: See above under Act 250 report.

Vermont Gas Pipeline Update: Adam announced that the technical hearings for the Phase I second remand would be on June 22 and June 23rd. The Public Service Department has chosen to continue to support the project in its testimony. Adam noted he did not plan to participate on ACRPC's behalf. Adam noted that briefs would be due on July 6th. Ross Conrad presented Thea with a petition signed by ten delegates of ACRPC requesting a special meeting of the Commission on July 1st, so it could consider the testimony and decide if the commission wanted to act before briefs were due on July 6th, 2015. Thea reviewed ACRPC's bylaws and the petition. A copy of the petition is attached for reference. She concluded that the petition was valid and that the bylaws obligated her to call a special meeting. **Thea warned the meeting for July 1, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. for the sole purpose of discussing the testimony filed in the 2nd remand of Vermont Gas and determining if ACRPC would file any information before the July 6th filing deadline for briefs, and if so, determining the content of ACRPC's filing.**

Stan Grzyb then moved that ACRPC withdraw its support for its Phase I MOU with Vermont Gas. Ross Conrad seconded the motion.

Discussion commenced regarding whether this was the proper time for this motion given the special meeting that had just been announced.

During the discussion Karl Neuse, a delegate from Middlebury who also serves as the Middlebury town attorney on many issues, noted that Ross Conrad, also representing Middlebury, had questioned whether Karl's professional relationship with Middlebury had created a conflict of interest. Karl stated he did not believe he had a conflict of interest since in both cases he was representing the interests of Middlebury, but pursuant to ACRPC bylaws requested that the commission review the conflict so his vote would not be challenged later.

After further discussion regarding the original motion, **Tom Scanlon called the question. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion to call the question. By voice vote, the commission approved the motion to call the question and terminated discussion on the original motion.**

The Commission then moved to the issue of conflict of interest. **Peter Grant moved the questions, "Should Karl Neuse be allowed to vote on the Vermont Gas issue because he does not have a conflict." Ted Davis seconded the motion. By a count of hands the Commission found that Karl did not have a conflict by a vote of 17-3, with Karl and Steve Pilcher abstaining.**

The Commission then voted on Stan Grzyb's original motion, **"Should ACRPC withdraw its support for its Phase I MOU with Vermont Gas." By a show of hands, the Commission voted 7-16 against the motion.**

Workplan and Budget for FY 2015/2016: Adam noted that the proposed 2015/2016 Workplan and Budget had been included in the packet with the Agenda. Adam stated that the documents were substantially similar to the documents presented and discussed at the April meeting. Thea asked for a motion on the Workplan and Budget. Ted Davis moved ACRPC adopt the proposed Workplan and Budget. Tom Scanlon seconded the motion. By voice vote all approved the FY2016 Workplan and Budget as presented.

Town Selection of delegates and alternates: Adam noted that all towns needed to have appointed their commissioners for next fiscal year by July 1, 2015 so all commissioners will be eligible to vote at the special meeting. He noted several towns or interest groups including:

Cornwall
Ferrisburgh
Lincoln
New Haven
Panton

Waltham
Whiting
Otter Creek Audubon Society and
Addison County Farm Bureau

had not appointed representatives to date. He urged all commissioners to speak with their selectboards so that all can vote in July.

Other: None.

New Business:

Committees and Programs: Adam noted that next meeting he would be asking delegates to choose the committee they would like to serve on. He also requested that delegates speak to him if they had ideas for programs for the commission in the next fiscal year.

IX. Adjourn: Peter Grant moved to adjourn. Harvey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission adjourned its meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee