

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Addison County Regional Planning Commission**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2015**

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

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**ROLL CALL:**

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Orwell:</i>	
<i>Bridport:</i>	Edward Payne Andrew Manning	<i>Panton:</i>	Jamie Dayton
<i>Bristol:</i>		<i>Ripton:</i>	Jeremy Grip
<i>Cornwall:</i>		<i>Salisbury:</i>	Mary Anne Sullivan Tom Scanlon Barrie Bailey
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>		<i>Shoreham:</i>	
<i>Goshen:</i>	Jim Pulver	<i>Starksboro:</i>	
<i>Leicester:</i>	Ron Fiske	<i>Vergennes:</i>	Mel Hawley
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Steve Revell	<i>Waltham:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Karl Neuse Ted Davis David Hamilton	<i>Weybridge:</i>	Ron Crawford
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette Wendy Sue Harper Steve Pilcher	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Susan Smiley		

**CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:**

<i>Addison County Farm Bureau:</i>	Kent Wright
<i>Addison County Economic Development Corp:</i>	
<i>Otter Creek Audubon Society:</i>	Diana Carter
<i>Otter Creek Natural Resources:</i>	Paul Wagner
<i>Addison County Chamber of Commerce:</i>	

**ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*Chair:* Thea Gaudette  
*Vice-Chair:* Jeremy Grip  
*Secretary:* Ted Davis  
*Treasurer:* David Hamilton  
*At Large:* Chico Martin  
Diane Benware  
Nick Causton

**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. Business Meeting:**

Thea opened the business meeting at 7:30 p.m. She started the meeting by thanking all of the Commissioners for their conduct at the previous special meeting.

- I. Approval of the June 10, 2015 minutes:** Ellen Kurrelmeyer moved approval of the June 10, 2015 minutes. Ed Payne seconded the motion. The minutes as amended passed by voice vote.
- II. Approval of the July 1, 2015 minutes:** Ted Davis moved the July 1<sup>st</sup> special meeting minutes. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion. Several commissioners asked that the minutes be amended to reflect changes better reflecting the statements they made. The minutes as amended passed by voice vote with Wendy Sue Harper and Diana Carter 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. Adam noted that he hoped we could catch up with billing at the end of the quarter, but that it would be close and possible we could end the year with a deficit. Adam offered to take any questions on the Treasurer's report. **Tom Scanlon moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Steve Revell seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**
- V. Committee Reports:**

Act 250: Ellen gave an Act 250/Section 248 report noting June activity including:

New Applications:

1. Ferrisburgh Community Solar...45 day notice submitted 4/13/15, Application submitted 6/5/2015, Based on the size and my above explanation, it appears that the RPC has until 7/15/15 to submit any recommendations.
2. Middlebury College residences...Act 250 application submitted 6/15/15, the application has been reviewed and a draft permit was distributed on 6/25/15. The draft gives the RPC until 7/24/15 to identify any issues and request a public hearing. Otherwise, no hearing will be held and the permit will likely be issued.
3. The Casella recertification application...A complete application was received by ANR and notice was published in local newspapers. Public comment will be received up to 14 days following the last publication date. That comment period will end on 7/12/15.

4. Next Generation Solar Farm...45 day notice received 11/12/14, New Haven responded to the 45 day notice on 12/17/14, Full application submitted 5/8/15. New Haven filed a motion to intervene on 5/20/15 which was responded to by the applicant on 6/2/15. A prehearing conference was scheduled for 6/29/15. I have not received any information following that conference in relation to a schedule for intervening or for the public hearing. We can probably still intervene if the commission feels it is necessary.
5. HVT Solar, rte #7 Vergennes... 45 Day notice submitted 2/26/15. Application was submitted on 6/24/15. Based on the above interpretations, the RPC has 45 days to respond (8/8/15) with comments. I would expect a prehearing conference will be scheduled but I have not seen anything yet. Also the VTrans Letter of Intent in relation to a request for a break in limited access for this project was filed 6/16/15. There is no comment period for this LOI.

Energy: Jeremy noted the Committee had met on June 18<sup>th</sup> to try to reconcile the proposed plan language on solar installations the committee created with the recently passed legislation in H40. He noted that at the Committee's July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, they will help host a Public Informational Meeting on the Statewide Energy Plan.

Local Government: Deferred to new business.

Natural Resources: The Natural Resources Committee did not meet this month and will meet again in September.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew Manning reported that the TAC met in June and reviewed the study that it had created last year to preserve the Old Turnpike in Ripton as a town road so that it will be available as an alternative to Route 125 in the case of an emergency.

Plan Re-write: Thea noted that the committee met immediately prior to the meeting and completed its work on the Future Land Use Section of the Regional Plan. It will meet again in August and hopes to present its work to the Commission at its meeting in September.

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

VII. **Delegate/Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights:** None.

VIII. **Old Business:**

Committee Assignments. Adam noted that a request for committee assignments went out in the package. He requested that every one return them to him as soon as possible so the Executive Board will have the ability to review them in July and August to make appointments at the full commission in September. Adam noted that under the bylaws, the

Executive Board makes Committee assignments for September. The Board tries to appoint balanced and representative committees.

Other: None.

**New Business:**

ACRPC Meeting Calendar: Thea noted that the calendar was included in the package and that the Commission does not meet during the month of August.

Vote on the confirmation of the planning process in Orwell and regional approval of the Orwell Town Plan: Thea noted that the Local Government committee had been to Orwell, met with the planning Commission and conducted a hearing. At the end of the hearing the Committee recommends the confirmation of the planning process in Orwell and the approval of the Orwell Town Plan. **Andrew Manning moved to accept the committee recommendation of confirmation and approval. Tom Scanlon Seconded the motion. All approved by voice vote.**

Other: Tom Scanlon noted that the federal government has not yet approved a federal transportation budget and that it may impact state funding. Several other commissioners confirmed Tom was correct, but noted that the Secretary of Transportation had noted that State projects would proceed on schedule this summer.

**IX. Adjourn: Tom Scanlon moved to adjourn. Ed Payne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:10 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee