

Meeting Minutes
Addison County Regional Planning Commission
Wednesday, April 13, 2016

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:

<i>Addison:</i>		<i>Orwell:</i>	
<i>Bridport:</i>	Edward Payne	<i>Panton:</i>	
<i>Bristol:</i>	Peter Grant	<i>Ripton:</i>	Jeremy Grip
<i>Cornwall:</i>	Stan Grzyb	<i>Salisbury:</i>	Tom Scanlon
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Tim Davis	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Nick Causton
<i>Goshen:</i>	Jim Pulver	<i>Starksboro:</i>	Richard Warren
<i>Leicester:</i>	Diane Benware	<i>Vergennes:</i>	Shannon Haggett
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Steve Revell David Ludwig	<i>Waltham:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Karl Neuse Ted Davis	<i>Weybridge:</i>	
<i>Monkton:</i>	Thea Gaudette Wendy Sue Harper Steve Pilcher	<i>Whiting:</i>	Ellen Kurrelmeyer
<i>New Haven:</i>	Jim Walsh Susan Smiley		

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:

Ron Payne
Paul Wagner
Sue Hoxie

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. Public Presentation,

Thea announced that the Commission's guests for the evening are Richard Amore, Planning Coordinator and Caitlin Corkins, Tax Credit Coordinator, representing the Agency of Commerce and Community Affairs. Richard and Caitlin stated that they were eager to speak with the Commission about the Statewide designation programs, with a special focus on the Village Center Designation Program, its benefits and application requirements. They noted they are happy to take any and all questions from the commission and public. Richard began the presentation working from a PowerPoint. A copy of their PowerPoint presentation is attached to ACRPC's website at: <http://acrpc.org/>

Richard also sent the commission a number of informative links to the Agency programs and descriptions of how they would work best. Finally, Richard and Caitlin both noted that they would be willing to visit any town in the region that desired to access any of their programs.

Thea thanked all for their comments, closed the public presentation and opened the full commission meeting at 8:30 after a short intermission.

BUSINESS MEETING: Thea opened the business meeting.

- I. Approval of the March 9, 2016 minutes:** Steve Revell moved approval of the minutes. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion. Ted Davis noted that he had voted "yes" concerning the votes on the regional plan and the minutes should be amended to reflect that. The minutes, as amended, passed unanimously by voice vote.
- II. Executive Board Minutes:** Thea noted that the Executive Board minutes are in the package for your information.
- III. Treasurer's Report:** Adam noted that the Treasurer's report dated as of April 13, 2016 (The Balance Sheet lists current balances as April 13th; the monthly budget reflects activity through the end of March 2016). Adam noted that cash balances are good and that revenues are ahead of expenses. Adam offered to take any questions on the Treasurer's Report. **Tom Scanlon moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Ted Davis seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**
- IV. Committee Reports:**

Act 250: Ellen gave an Act 250/Section 248 report. She noted that the Energy and Act 250/Section 248 committees met jointly on April 7th and undertook the following 4 actions:

1. Reviewed the Act 250 applications of Pediatric Dentistry in South Village in Middlebury and found it would not have a significant regional impact;
2. Reviewed the Act 250 application of Fowler's RR Ranch for veterans in Whiting and found it would not have significant regional impact.
3. Adam reported that staff had followed- up on Ross Conrad's request to investigate stormwater impacts on Middlebury's drinking water from the extension of the

Middlebury Runway. Staff reviewed the application, ancillary permits and spoke with ANR and the Town of Middlebury, each of whom expressed satisfaction with the application.

4. The Committee reviewed the solar siting letter the commission has sent to its member municipalities in light of the recent Chelsea Energy decision out of Bennington County to see if it should revise its advice to towns. The Committee decided that with the legislature still working on a solar siting bill, it was too early to try to redraft the letter. The Committee will review the issue after the legislative session.

Energy: Jeremy Grip noted that next month's meeting will also be a joint meeting between the Act 250/Section 248 and Energy committees.

Local Government: No meeting.

Natural Resources: **No** meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC met in March. It completed its prioritization of all State transportation infrastructure projects, except for the paving projects done at the February meeting. It expects to have an RFP for the Transportation section of the Regional Plan out shortly.

Plan Re-write: No Meeting.

- V. **Joint Partner's Report:** Sue Hoxie of the Chamber noted that the Manchester Chamber is closing this spring as a result of the poor ski season. Sue noted that the Addison Chamber, like all chambers in the state lost a significant amount of revenue when they could no longer offer health insurance as a benefit. However, the Addison Chamber still retains 400 members and ran in the black last year.
- VI. **Delegate/Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights:** Adam focused on the Drinking Water Training ACRPC is hosting at the end of the month. He asked the delegates to take the information back to their selectboards.
- VII. **Old Business:**

Other: None.

New Business:

Report of the Nominating Committee: Thea reported that the nominating committee put forth the following slate of officers and directors for election at the annual meeting:

Jeremy Grip – Chair
Diane Benware – Vice Chair

Ted Davis – Secretary
David Hamilton – Treasurer
Chico Martin – At large
Nick Causton – At large
Tim Davis – At large

Thea then opened the floor to nominations. No additional nominations were put forward. The nominating committee will make its report again at the full commission Annual Meeting and nominations will once again be open from the floor.

Proposed Annual Workplan and Budget: Adam requested that the commission delay its discussion of this item. He will bring a proposal to the Executive Board at the end of the month. He will also distribute that proposal before the annual meeting for a vote at the June meeting.

Discussion of Annual Meeting and Speaker: Adam announced that the Commission would be holding its annual meeting at Mary's on Baldwin Creek this year as per its vote at the last meeting. He also announced that our speaker for the event would be Glenn Andrus, a retired professor of Architecture at Middlebury College. Adam noted that Dr. Andrus is a lively public speaker with an impressive grasp of why the built environment in Addison County looks like it does. Adam expects the discussion will be thoughtful, informative and fun. Adam invited all commission members and a guest to join ACRPC for its annual meeting on Wednesday, May 11th starting at 5:00 p.m. for a social hour to proceed the speaker, dinner and an abbreviated meeting.

Nominations for the Bertha Hanson Award: Thea also asked each Commissioner to think about who they might nominate for this year's Bertha award and to speak with Adam or a member of the Executive Board prior to the E-Board meeting on April 27th.

Other: Ed Payne expressed his opposition to the City of Vergennes proposal to use Routes 17 and 7 as a bypass around Vergennes for northbound truck traffic. Thea thanked Ed for his comments and noted that the TAC had discussed this at its last meeting and believes that Vergennes needs to engage in a study of the proposal with its neighbors before it could move forward. The TAC wants to ensure everyone, including Vergennes, has the opportunity for a fair and informed discussion of the merits of the proposal.

VIII. Adjourn: Peter Grant moved to adjourn. Jeremy Grip seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee