

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2017

ACRPC held its annual meeting at the Basin Harbor Club in Ferrisburgh, Vermont with the Chair, Jeremy Grip of Ripton, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

<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>		<i>Salisbury:</i>	Barrie Bailey
<i>Ferrisburgh:</i>	Tim Davis Arabella Holzafel	<i>Shoreham:</i>	Linda Oaks
<i>Goshen:</i>		<i>Starksboro:</i>	Rich Warren
<i>Leicester:</i>		<i>Vergennes:</i>	Cheryl Brinkman Mel Hawley
<i>Lincoln:</i>	Steve Revell	<i>Waltham:</i>	
<i>Middlebury:</i>	Kathleen Ramsay Karl Neuse Ross Conrad	<i>Weybridge:</i>	
<i>Monkton:</i>	Stephen Pilcher Wendy Sue Harper Charles Huizenga	<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

ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Jeremy Grip
Vice-Chair: Diane Benware
Secretary: Ted Davis
Treasurer: David Hamilton
At Large: Nick Causton
Steve Revell
Tim Davis

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

6:00 p.m. SPEAKER: Jeremy Grip opened the meeting by introducing the first order of business and Addison County Regional Planning Commission’s guest speaker for the evening, David Brynn. Jeremy noted David would speak to us about the future of forestry in Vermont and that David has entitled his discussion, “From Forest Resource Management to Forest Ecosystem Conservation: Re-thinking Vermont Forestry in a Rapidly Changing Climate Economy and Culture.” A copy of the transcript of David’s speech can be found here: <http://acrpc.org/resources/minutes-agendas/commission-minutes/>, next to these minutes.

After a brief hiatus for dinner, Jeremy brought ACRPC back to order for its abbreviated business meeting, which began at 7:45.

BUSINESS MEETING:

I. New Business

Report of the Nominating Committee/Nominations from the floor: Jeremy reminded the Commission that it elected Karl Neuse, Stephen Pilcher and Arabella Holzapfel as members of the nominating Committee and asked Karl for the report of the Committee. Karl reported that the Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers and Executive Board members:

- Jeremy Grip, Chair
- Diane Benware, Vice-Chair
- Nick Causton, Secretary
- Ted Davis, Treasurer
- Steve Revell, at large
- Tim Davis, at large
- David Hamilton, at large

Jeremy opened the floor to further nominations. None were offered. Jeremy thanked the nominating committee for their work. **Steve Pilcher moved that ACRPC elect the slate of officers and directors as presented by the nominating committee. Ross Conrad seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the Commission elected the slate of officers and directors.**

Vote on the confirmation of the Town of New Haven’s planning process and to regionally approve the New Haven Town Plan: Tim Davis reported that ACRPC’s Local Government Committee had held a duly warned public hearing on the Town of New Haven’s Planning process and the New Haven Town Plan jointly with the Town of New Haven Planning Commission on May 8th, 2017. The hearing progressed smoothly with a good interaction

between the Local Government Committee, the New Haven Planning Commission and the public in attendance. At the close of the hearing, the Local Government Committee found that New Haven had a planning process and that its plan, duly approved by the voters of the Town of New Haven, included all statutory elements required by Vermont Statute. As such, they recommended that ACRPC confirm New Haven’s planning process and regionally approve the New Haven Town Plan. **Ed Payne moved to confirm New Haven’s planning process and regionally approve the New Haven Town Plan. Ellen Kurrelmeyer seconded the motion.** During the discussion that followed, Rich Warren asked Tim Davis if the Local Government Committee had received and addressed the letter that he and many other commissioners had received from John Madden, a citizen of the Town of New Haven who expressed “concern” regarding New Haven’s Public notice process prior to adoption. Tim responded that staff had investigated Mr. Madden’s concerns. Adam reported that staff believes that New Haven substantially complied with all notice requirements. More importantly, Adam noted that since New Haven’s Plan had gone to public vote, Mr. Madden’s remedies to challenge that vote were limited by statute and his time to act had expired. **After no further discussion, the Commission by a voice vote voted to confirm New Haven’s planning process and regionally approve the New Haven Town Plan.**

Awards: Mel Hawley, as a delegate on behalf of Vergennes, presented Claire Tebbs with the Merit Award that the City had received for its Strong Community Better Connection Master Plan in consideration for the work she had done leading the City in that planning process.

Bertha Hanson Award: Steve Revell, on behalf of ACRPC presented Ed Payne of Bridport with ACRPC’s Bertha Hanson Community Service Award for his long and faithful service to ACRPC and the Town of Bridport.

Other: None.

II. Adjourn. On a motion to adjourn by Peter Grant, seconded by Steve Pilcher and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Adam Lougee