

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
January 23, 2019

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board held its monthly meeting at the Regional Planning Commission's office in Middlebury with Chair, Diane Benware, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Ferrisburgh Tim Davis
Leicester Diane Benware
Lincoln Steve Revell
Middlebury
Shoreham Nick Causton
Monkton Steve Pilcher
Vergennes Shannon Haggett

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Diane opened the meeting at 6:30.

MINUTES

Minutes: Steve Revell moved to adopt the November 28, 2018 minutes. Nick Causton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Adam handed out a financial report through December 2018. He noted that revenues trail expenses by about \$50,000. However, he also noted that due to illness, we had not sent out most of the quarterly billings or December's billing. Adam expects that once we send those billings the cashflow situation will show a much closer balance. After some discussion, **Shannon Haggett moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Steve Revell seconded the motion which all approved.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Act 250/248: Adam noted no action since the Full Commission meeting.

Energy: The Committee met on December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Local Government: No activity since the Starksboro meeting on December 6th.

Natural Resources: The Committee will meet again before the February Full Commission meeting.

Transportation: The TAC met in January. It reviewed regional priorities, discussed the response from VTrans to its request for action concerning the accident location on the knoll to the west of Middlebury on Route 125, discussed the 22A Truck Impact Study for Vergennes and discussed the scoping study at Old Hollow Road and Rt 7 in Ferrisburgh, all of which are on the agenda for later in this meeting.

Policy Committee: The policy committee met just before the Executive Board, reviewed the existing personnel policy and worked its way through amending about half of the policy. It hopes to finish amendments by next month, send it out for a legal review and then bring back to the Executive Board and full commission in March or April for approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Personnel – Community Planner: Adam noted that he had made an offer on the Community Planner position and expects he will fill the position with a qualified person by mid-February. We received a number of good applications.

Building Lease. Adam reported that he continued to receive good news from REMORA, the Commission's landlord concerning its lease of 14 Seminary Street. Adam will meet with Bill Townsend tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. and hopes to finalize a lease on the terms and conditions discussed at the November 28, 2018 Executive Board meeting.

Appoint Housing and Economic Development Committees:

At the November Full Commission meeting the Commission voted to enable two new committees to work on the Economic Development and Population and Housing Sections of the Regional Plan. Adam requested volunteers to serve on the committees. Several Commission members responded with requests for committee assignments and Adam shared those with the Executive Board. The Board made the following assignments:

Economic Development Committee (To work with ACEDC committee members): Bob Feuerstein and Ross Conrad;

Population and Housing Committee: Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Ashley Laux and Tim Davis.

I had requested more volunteers for either Committee and hoped to collect them in January at the full Commission meeting. Since it was cancelled for weather, I will ask again in February.

Changing time of the March meeting to 5:00 p.m. Adam requested that the Executive Board consider amending the time of its March meeting to 5:00 p.m. to allow he and Shannon to attend the Public Meeting on the Vergennes Truck Mitigation study ACRPC, Stantec and VTrans are currently working on. Shannon Haggett moved that the Executive Board move the time of its March 28th meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Steve Pilcher seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote with Nick Causton abstaining.

Other: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Route 22A Truck Study Update. Adam gave the Executive Board an update regarding the 22A Truck study ACRPC is sponsoring with VTrans to determine ways to mitigate truck impacts on the City of Vergennes without passing on those impacts to other communities in the Region. He noted that we have chosen to take some additional time to complete the study. We will now hold the next public hearing at the end of March (Subsequently moved to April 3rd at the Vergennes Opera House). He noted that TAC would have the opportunity to comment on the study prior to its presentation to the public and then it will vote on the preferred alternative and make a presentation to the full commission for its approval after the public hearing. Adam noted he believes the investment in the extra time is necessary to create a better final product.

Route 125 Letter from VTrans: Adam distributed the response ACRPC and its member communities had received from VTrans responding to its previous letter requesting VTrans to fix the safety hazards created by a small knoll located to the west of Middlebury on Route 125. Adam explained he had also given the letter to the TAC at its last meeting. The TAC, after discussion, decided that VTrans' letter did not do enough to address the safety issues with the knoll and instructed staff to work with the communities impacted and the College to request support again and to get a timeline for the improvements offered. The Executive Board supported the TAC's instructions.

Old Hollow Road Route 7 intersections scoping study. Tim Davis reported that he had attended this meeting. He noted that the majority of Ferrisburgh residents in attendance overwhelmingly supported immediately constructing a traffic light at this intersection to address safety concerns. Tim recognized ACRPC's call for a roundabout to also be studied, but stated unequivocally that most community members want a light immediately.

The good news is that VTrans is acting quickly and has a lot of community support spurring it to action.

Other: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Tim Davis moved to adjourn. Steve Revell seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Adam Lougee