ACRPC held its monthly meeting at its office on Seminary Street in Middlebury with the Chair, Diane Benware of Leicester, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Addison: Andrew Manning
Bridport: Andrew Manning
Ed Payne

Bristol: Tim Davis
Cornwall: Jim Pulver

Ferrisburgh: Tim Davis
Steve Huffaker

Goshen: Jim Pulver

Leicester: Diane Benware

Lincoln: Steve Revell

Middlebury: Karl Neuse
Candy McLaughlin

Monkton: Wendy Sue Harper

New Haven: Harvey Smith
Tim Bouton

Orwell: Jeremy Grip

Panton

Ripton: Jeremy Grip

Salisbury: Tom Scanlon
Barrie Bailey

Goshen: Jim Pulver

Shoreham:

Starksboro: Richard Warren

Vergennes: Cheryl Brinkman
Shannon Haggett

Waltham:

Whiting: Ellen Kurrelmeyer

CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:

Addison County Farm Bureau: Kent Wright
Addison County Economic Development Corp: Ron Payne
Otter Creek Audubon Society: Paul Wagner
Otter Creek Natural Resources:

Addison County Chamber of Commerce:

STAFF

Executive Director: Adam Lougee
Assistant Director/GIS Manager: Kevin Behm
Land use Planner: Katie Raycroft-Meyer
Transportation Planner: Mike Winslow
Emergency Planner: Andrew L’Roe
Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Pauline Cousins
Eco-Americorps member: Allison Dinwiddie
7:00 p.m. BUSINESS MEETING: Diane opened the meeting and introduced the first order of business by changing the Agenda slightly, Welcoming new Delegates first and going around the room for brief introductions. In particular, Diane welcomed Candy McLaughlin an new delegate from the Town of Middlebury. Candy introduced herself as a recent arrival to Middlebury. She noted she came from Lexington, MA where she worked in Town government for a number of years.

I. Approval of Minutes. A motion by Tom Scanlon to accept the June 12, 2019 minutes seconded by Ellen Kurrelmeyer was approved, with a couple of non-substantive amendments, by voice vote with Steve Revell and Shannon Haggett abstaining.

II. Executive Board Minutes: Diane noted that the Executive Board draft minutes are included in the meeting package. She explained that they are available for the Commission’s information, but do not require any action. Upon hearing no questions regarding the draft Executive Board meeting minutes, Diane moved to the next item on the agenda.

III. Treasurers Report: Adam presented the Treasurer’s Report. Adam distributed this year’s budget through May. Adam noted our cash flow is about as low as he has seen it, but we have lots of outstanding receivables. He noted expenses exceeded revenues by about $70,000. Adam noted we have lots of billing to do at the end of the year and that he is still hopeful revenues will catch up to expenses. Adam concluded he was happy to take any questions. A motion by Tom Scanlon to approve the treasurer’s report as presented, seconded by Steve Revell was approved unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Committee Reports:

ACT250/248 Committee: Ellen reported that the committee had not met and that it had not received any significant applications.

Energy Committee: No Meeting.

Natural Resources: Wendy Sue Harper reported the Natural Resources Committee was supposed to meet with the ANR Otter Creek Basin Planner this evening. However, they had delayed the meeting until September because the draft of the basin plan was not complete enough to discuss at this time.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew Manning reported that the TAC met in June. He noted the main item of business was a discussion of Emerald Ash Borer and its impact on the Region’s Roads and rights of way.
Local Government Committee: The Local Government Committee did not meet.

Policy Committee: Shannon reported that the Policy Committee had received comments back from VLCT’s legal team, would evaluate those comments later this month and would bring the Policies to the Commission upon completion of its review.

Economic Development Committee: Adam reported that the joint committee working on creating an Economic Development Plan for the two organizations was working with the interns it will use for data collection and analysis over the summer. Its next meeting is July 24th at 8:00 a.m.

Housing Committee: Tim Davis reported that the committee had started its work, but is still looking for a couple more members.


VI. Delegate Staff Recognition/ Project Highlights: See Welcome above.

VII. Old Business.

Committees and Programs: Adam noted that in everyone’s meeting package he had included a description of all committees and a form for Commissioner’s to complete and return requesting a committee assignment. Adam asked that all Commissioners return their requests to him prior to the August Executive Board meeting. Adam noted at the August Executive Board, the Board will appoint new committees and distribute those assignments at the September meeting. He requested that delegates on committees remain on those committees until the new committee is formed at the September meeting.

Adam also requested program ideas for the future. Ideas suggested last meeting included asking GMP to speak about constrained power lines in the Region and a program on workforce development. This meeting people added enhanced energy plans, Fish and Wildlife accesses in the Region and GMP’s renewable energy policy.

Other: None.

VIII. New Business

S96 – Water Quality work: Adam noted that lately ACRPC had been doing a lot more water quality work. He pointed to programs like Grants in Aid and the Category A Back Road grants ACRPC had received. Adam noted he expects that trend to continue with the recent passage of S96, a law establishing new “water quality service providers”.

Adam noted that
RPC’s are one of the entities the State is eying to take on this responsibility. To date, RPC’s have responded that it is work we could do, but have been unwilling to commit unequivocally because of some of the constraints ANR desired to have over the providers. The rules are just being started, so it is too early to tell how this will work out, but Adam wanted all to know this is something that ACRPC will have to address in the near future.

Meeting Calendar: Adam noted he included a calendar for the year in everyone’s meeting package. He also noted that the full Commission does not meet in August.

Other: None.

IX. Member Concerns.

X. Adjourn. On a motion to adjourn by Tom Scanlon, seconded by Tim Bouton and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Adam Lougee