

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

January 22, 2020

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

ROLL CALL

*Ferrisburgh* Tim Davis  
*Leicester*  
*Middlebury*  
*Shoreham* Nick Causton  
*Monkton* Stephen Pilcher  
*Vergennes* Shannon Haggett  
*Whiting*

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Stephen opened the meeting at 6:32

MINUTES

**Minutes: Shannon Haggett moved to adopt the December 4, 2019 minutes. Nick Causton seconded the motion. With minor modifications to the minutes, the motion passed by a voice vote.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Adam handed out a financial report through December 2019, half way through the fiscal year. Adam and the Executive Board reviewed the financials in some depth. Adam noted that revenues exceeded expenses by about \$45,000. Adam noted that we are 50% of the way through the year, our expenses are at 52% of budget and our revenues are at just over 58%. This is healthy, but Adam reminded the Executive Board that we have also billed DHCD \$55,382 for the 3rd quarter and have collected dues for the entire year. These two pre-billed items account for all of the excess billing. Adam reviewed all other revenue programs. Much of the funding we did not collect last year will carry into this year. Adam believes we will be in good budgeting shape moving forward.

**Nick Causton moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Shannon Haggett seconded the motion, which all approved.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Act 250: Adam noted the Committee had not met. It will meet again on February 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Purpose Energy proposal and the VELCO control building in New Haven.

Energy: The Energy Committee will meet next Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> hosting a round table for Town Energy Committees and the support they need to begin implementing their enhanced energy plans. The Energy and Local Government Committees will also be hosting a hearing with the Town of Weybridge Planning Commission to review and approve Weybridge's Town Plan, which includes an enhanced energy section.

Local Government: See Energy.

Natural Resources: The Committee has not met since the last Full Commission meeting.

Economic Development Committee: Adam noted the Economic Development Committee had not met. Adam stated he needs to go out and work one on one with some of our sector representatives.

Transportation Advisory Committee: The TAC reviewed the list that VTrans will present at the STIP public hearing, reviewed the State Transportation Climate Initiative Program, discussed the Walk/Bike Summit which ACRPC will host on May 8, 2020 and the Elderly and Disabled Survey ACRPC is currently conducting about the transit system for VTrans.

Housing Committee: The Housing Committee cancelled its meeting, but staff continued its work revising the regional plan. It performed editorial and layout work and created new goals and policies. The Committee meets again in February and will be speaking with a guest from the Landlord's Association to discuss rental housing.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Water Quality Service Provider: Adam and the Board discussed ACRPC's role in the Clean Water Service Provider Position. Adam noted that the RFP was originally due to be released on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, but its release has been postponed. Hence, he does not believe that it will be due until sometime in April. Therefore, he may wait to the March Full Commission meeting to bring it to the membership for a vote, so we can learn more information about it. In the meantime, Kevin has organized a meeting for January 29<sup>th</sup> with all the other Clean Water Council Members in the Otter Creek Basin to determine how we work together to respond to the CWSP RFP.

Other: None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Annual Meeting and Program Location: The Board discussed good locations for 60 people in Addison County. Adam will solicit bids from Basin Harbor Club, the Middlebury Inn and Tourterelle. Adam asked for ideas for speakers. Tim Davis recommended Dan Sausville of Fish and Wildlife to discuss conservation practices in the region in general and Dead Creek in particular. Adam noted he and Tim could work together to schedule that for either a regular full commission meeting or for the Annual meeting.

Nominating Committee: Adam reminded the Executive Board that soliciting a Nominating Committee will be on the agenda for the February full Commission meeting. The Executive Board will recommend a slate at its February meeting and the Full Commission will elect a Nominating Committee in March to present a Slate of officers at the April meeting for a vote at the annual meeting in May.

Other: None.

**Member's Concerns/Information:** The Board spoke briefly about Dollar General's significant expansion plans and how it might impact the Region. Shannon noted Vergennes had bylaws that addressed obligations for franchise stores that he would be happy to share.

Tim Davis encouraged ACRPC to get involved in evaluating the impacts closing a school has on rural communities outside of the concerns evaluated by the School Board. The Board agreed it was an important issue and encouraged Adam to investigate whether any group was looking at the issue on a statewide level.

Tim Davis also asked the Board whether any of them knew of any bylaws or other regulatory methods to encourage redevelopment of vacant property. The Board noted that some communities had zoning provisions requiring owners to tear down "abandoned" properties, but noted it was hard to prove "abandonment" and therefore enforce.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Tim Davis moved to adjourn. Shannon Haggett seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Adam Lougee