

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **MEETING SUMMARY**
3 **January, 9, 2018**

4
5 Commissioners:

6

<input type="checkbox"/>	Barre City	Janet Shatney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Montpelier	Kirby Keeton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre Town	Byron Atwood	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mike Miller, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mark Nicholson, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moretown	Dara Torre, Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Vice Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>		Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cabot	Amy Hornblas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plainfield	Bram Towbin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Calais	John Brabant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Robert Atchinson, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Duxbury	Brian Fitzgerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input type="checkbox"/>		Alan Quackenbush, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>		Harrison Snapp, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	E. Montpelier	Julie Potter, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Daniel Raddock
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Jack Pauly, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Gary Winders
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fayston	Carol Chamberlin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	Ivan Shadis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Williamstown	VACANT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Woodbury	Michael Gray, Treasurer
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Bill Arrand

7
8 Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Eric Vorwald, and Daniel Currier

9
10 Guests: Jean Vissering (East Montpelier); Monica Przyperhart (VT Fish & Wildlife)

11
12 **CALL TO ORDER**

13 Chair J. Potter called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Quorum was not present. Potter asked for
14 introductions.

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16 **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

17 None.

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19 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

20 None.

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22 **Conservation Design**

23 Monica Przyperhart of VT Fish & Wildlife presented to the Commission on Conservation Design. Ms.
24 Przyperhart introduced what Conservation Design is, what the maps represent and how they help
25 people prioritize important parts of our landscape. She also talked about how forest fragmentation is
26 affecting our forests.

27

1 The Conservation Design mapping data includes two types of data. Landscape scale data (forest blocks)
2 and hot spots specific/community scale data. She also talk about how at the State level the highest
3 priority are the large forest blocks and that it's important to recognize and prevent further
4 fragmentation. It's also important to consider the connections between block and protecting those.
5 The maps and data are available to everyone on BioFinder - <http://anr.vermont.gov/maps/biofinder/>.

6
7 Ms. Przyperhart spent a few minutes talking about the Central Vermont Regional Plan. She suggested
8 Commissioners may want to consider updating it to include these large forest blocks.

9
10 Commissioners asked questions related to habitat bio diversity, the roles that urban and rural
11 communities have to protect forest integrity, and where agricultural land falls on the maps.

12 **Regional Energy Plan**

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14 E. Vorwald presented on the draft Regional Energy Plan and the steps to advance the Plan to public
15 hearing and adoption. Mr. Vorwald started by outlining the relationship between the Regional Plan and
16 Regional Energy Plan. The Regional Energy Plan is a standalone plan that will need to be incorporated in
17 the Region Plan. Staff is proposing to update the existing energy element and add a new Regional Plan
18 appendix for the Regional Energy Plan.

19
20 Mr. Vorwald discussed the updates to the Regional Energy Plan and comments received from the Public
21 Service Department and others during its review. Almost all the comments were requesting more
22 details and clarification in the Plan. Each comment was considered, and more details were added. One
23 of the more substantial comments was in reference to the Plan's prohibition on industrial scale wind. To
24 address this, a new paragraph is being proposed for page 15 to help explain why. It was suggested, and
25 agreed to by the Commissioner from Barre Town, that all reference to Barre Town be removed from the
26 new paragraph. Discussion ensued on why the prohibition on industrial scale wind was included.

27
28 The commission suggested clarifying text on page v of the Plan related to the replacement of
29 approximately 75,000 vehicles from fossil fuel to alternative fuels to clarify the 75,000 vehicles is a
30 future projection.

31 **2016 Regional Plan Update**

32
33 E. Vorwald presented on the draft energy element and the steps to advance an update to the 2016
34 Regional Plan to public hearing and adoption. To incorporate the Regional Energy Plan into the 2016
35 Regional Plan, staff will update the existing energy element to match the data in the Regional Energy
36 Plan and include references to Regional Energy Plan. The energy plan will be added as an appendix to
37 the 2016 Regional Plan.

38
39 The next step is to move both the Regional Plan and Regional Energy Plan to public hearings. Vorwald
40 noted CVRPC is aiming for a March 1, 2018 start of the public hearing notice period. Two public hearings
41 are required. Staff is working on forest integrity language, which will need to be included in the
42 Regional Plan update before it can move to public hearing.

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2 Discussion ensued about the forest integrity requirements and the public hearing on the Regional Plan.
3 Commissioners requested the forest integrity language be incorporated concurrently with energy.
4

5 **Public Hearings**

6 J. Potter relayed an Executive Committee recommendation that the Town Plan Review Committee hold
7 public hearings for town plan approvals outside of the regular Commission meetings. The Executive
8 Committee would prefer that hearings be held in the town that is being reviewed. Also, the hearing
9 could be held so recommendations are presented in advance to the Commission. Commissioners
10 present were in favor of this change.

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12 **NOVEMBER 14, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

13 No action was taken.

14
15 **REPORTS**

16 B. Wanager provided the following updates:

- 17 • The Chamber of Commerce is holding its Legislative Reception. She requested Commissioners
18 let her know if they would like to participate on behalf of CVRPC.
- 19 • On Thursday January 12 from 5-7 pm at Montpelier City Hall, GMT will present on the NextGen
20 Plan Capital District Service Scenarios.
- 21 • The Legislature would like to know which Towns are interested in developing Local Energy Plans.
22 If your Town is interested and would like to be added to the list, please let Eric know.

23
24 **ADJOURNMENT**

25 No action was taken. Commissioners departed at 9:05 pm.

26
27 Respectfully submitted,

28
29 Daniel Currier, Program Manager