

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Town Plan Review Committee

Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce (Lower Level Conference Room)
963 Paine Turnpike N., Berlin, Vermont 05602

Approved Minutes

July 10, 2018

Committee Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bill Arrand, Worcester
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lee Cattaneo, Orange Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ron Krauth, Middlesex Commissioner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Manchester, Moretown Alternate Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jan Ohlsson, Calais Alternate Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Karla Nuisssl, Berlin Alternate Commissioner (Alternate Seat)

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Staff: Clare Rock
Town representatives: Jean Vissering, Julie Potter

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Bill Arrand, Vice Chair at 6:05 pm.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING REGIONAL APPROVAL OF THE TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER MUNICIPAL PLAN AND CONFIRMATION OF THEIR PLANNING PROCESS

R Krauth moved to open the hearing, seconded by J Ohlsson, all in favor. Motion carried.

There were no member of the public present. Jean Vissering, past Chair of the East Montpelier Planning Commission (PC) and Julie Potter, representing the East Montpelier Planning Commission were in attendance to respond to any questions about the Plan. The Committee agreed to leave the hearing open while a discussion with the Town ensued.

Committee member inquired about the process the town undertook to gather public input on the planning process and whether the town engaged a consultant to help. Jean Vissering responded, the town did not hire a consultant due to timing and funding constraints. The PC worked with members of the public to update the plan and to add new sections. The PC also undertook a length public process during the development of the Village Master Plan which was a substantial additional to the new plan. Also during a recent farm conservation acquisition project the town was engaged in a public process about the conservation plans which also included a discussion about development. The PC held one public hearing for the plan and the feedback was generally positive. Committee member Ohlsson commended the town on the large undertaking and complimented the inclusion on many nice photos. The town solicited photos form community members as way to engaged them on the process.

1 Staff reported on the highlights of the municipal plan review. Staff noted the accessory apartment
2 discussion should be more robust, as noted in the meeting materials, but this weakness would not
3 present a reason to not recommend the plan. Discussion followed about accessory dwelling, the
4 statutory definition and the statutory requirement to allow these types of dwelling by-right in all
5 districts where single family homes are permitted.
6

7 Staff also noted this is the first plan which has included information on forest integrity in response to the
8 new planning provisions. And the town should be commended on its planning efforts for the village area
9 which resulted in the village master plan. Lastly staff noted that the town was seeking regional approval
10 and confirmation this summer in preparation for submitting their Village Center Designation renewal
11 application in September 2018, yet at the close of the legislative session an extension to the State
12 Designation timeframes was approved. Whereas Village Designations were on a 5-year cycle, they are
13 now on an 8-year cycle to sync up with the town plan cycle. So East Montpelier's Village Center
14 Designation will not need to be renewed until September 2021.
15

16 Jean Vissering noted how helpful it was work with the RPC on a preliminary review of the town plan and
17 for assistance on the forest integrity component. The Town also worked with Fish & Wildlife on the
18 forest integrity piece.
19

20 Lastly Committee member Ohlsson asked both East Montpelier and CVRPC how to encourage a local
21 selectboard to become more accountable in meeting the goals and actions of a town plan. East
22 Montpelier added their Town Administrator takes the Town Plan implementation table to the
23 selectboard as a reminder which is helpful. Ohlsson is interested how other towns without staff can
24 work with their selectboards.
25

26 *R Krauth moved to close the hearing, seconded by J Ohlsson, all in favor. Motion carried.*
27

28 **REGIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THE TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER**

29 *L Cattaneo made a motion to recommend regional approval of the Town of East Montpelier's Municipal*
30 *Plan and confirm their planning process, seconded by R Krauth, all in favor. Motion carried.*
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32 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

33 Bill Arrand asked if there were any volunteers or suggestions for a Chair and Vice Chair. Ohlsson
34 volunteered to be Vice Chair.
35

36 *J Ohlsson made a motion to nominate Bill Arrand as the Chair, seconded by R Krauth, all in favor. Motion*
37 *carried.*
38

39 *R Krauth made a motion to nominate Jan Ohlsson as the Vice Chair, seconded by L Cattaneo, all in favor.*
40 *Motion carried.*
41

42 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

43 Due to a lack of quorum of members who were at the April 10th meeting, the committee agreed not to
44 approve the last meeting minutes. Rock added that Open Meeting law only states the requirement for
45 producing the draft minutes, and that requirement was already met.
46

47 **ADJOURNMENT**

48 *R Krauth moved to adjourn at 6:50 pm, seconded by L Cattaneo, all in favor. Motion carried.*