

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
December 11, 2018**

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Commissioners:

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|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre City | Janet Shatney | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moretown | Dara Torre, Secretary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Heather Grandfield, Alt. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Joyce Manchester, Alt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre Town | Byron Atwood | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield | Laura Hill-Eubanks, Vice-Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mark Nicholson, Alt. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orange | Lee Cattaneo |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin | Robert Wernecke | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plainfield | Bram Towbin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Karla Nuissl, Alt. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury | Paula Emery, Alt. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabot | Amy Hornblas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waittsfield | Jerry D'Amico |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calais | John Brabant | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don La Haye |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jan Ohlsson, Alt. | <input type="checkbox"/> Warren | Harrison Snapp, Alt. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duxbury | Alan Quackenbush | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington | Camilla Behn |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier | Julie Potter, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterbury | Peter Carbee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jack Pauly, Alt. | <input type="checkbox"/> Williamstown | Steve Lotspeich |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fayston | Karl Klein | <input type="checkbox"/> Williamstown | Richard Turner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marshfield | Melissa Seifert | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodbury | Jacqueline Higgins, Alt. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Middlesex | Ron Krauth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester | Michael Gray, Treasurer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier | Kirby Keeton | | Bill Arrand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mike Miller, Alt. | | |

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Nancy Chartrand, Clare Rock, Dan Currier

Guests: Jamie Stewart, Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation

CALL TO ORDER

Chair J. Potter called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Quorum was present to conduct business.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT

Jamie Stewart of CVEDC noted that an Opportunity Zone meeting was recently held with a good turnout. The federal government has provided guidance regarding investments in economic opportunity development zones but not clarity for businesses who are receiving the investment. He also noted they are continuing to work with businesses in Wilson Industrial Park. Public Transportation is a high priority for this location and VTTrans and GMT have been contacted to work to establish van pools, car sharing,

1 etc. pending establishment of a bus line. CVEDC remains extremely busy with business and facility
2 expansions. The availability of a skilled workforce continues to be biggest concern raised by businesses.
3 A number of programs are being initiated to address this issue. A Workforce Summit was recently held.
4 Concerns about filling positions continue across the region. The granite industry is working to re-
5 establish its apprenticeship program.

6
7 In response to an inquiry, Stewart said workforce training is conducted largely on-the-job. CVEDC works
8 closely with CCV, VTC, and the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center. In addition to skills training,
9 CVEDC has been working with companies on leadership training. There is opportunity for young people
10 to advance in the workforce.

11
12 Stewart noted that the Central Vermont region is doing very well and is doing better than many other
13 regions in the State.

14 15 **CENTRAL VERMONT BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM “Blight to Might”**

16 Clare Rock provided an overview of the Brownfields Program and revitalizing abandoned and
17 underutilized properties. She highlighted the Taylor Street Transit Center site and other properties that
18 participated in CVRPC’s Brownsfield program:

- 19 • Woodbury General Store - provides jobs, increases community pride, decreases flood damages.
- 20 • Union Elementary School in Montpelier – sustainable stormwater management, provides jobs,
21 creates a healthy environment for next generation.
- 22 • Granite Works in Montpelier – creates jobs, implements the vision within the TIF district,
23 increase in local tax base, opportunity for new business or business expansion.

24
25 CVRPC’s Brownfields program builds partnerships with stakeholders, helps to identify funding sources,
26 and provides education.

27
28 In response to an inquiry, Rock said the Agency of Natural Resources Environmental Atlas identifies
29 brownfield sites. She explained the difference between a brownfield versus a federal Superfund site.

30 31 **TRANSIT FOR ALL**

32 Dan Carrier provided an overview of CVRPC’s Transportation is Changing – Make It Work For You
33 project. This project is addressing the existing transit system and its service to older adults and persons
34 with disabilities through inclusive planning. This project engages directly with the potential users of a
35 paratransit system in an effort to be more inclusive. Carrier outlined the project and how it has been
36 engaging stakeholders. He highlighted results of a survey and future goals of the project.

37 38 **CODE OF CONDUCT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

39 J. Potter reviewed changes to the draft policy since the Board’s September review. B. Towbin
40 recommended a minor change in the wording. It was discussed in detail and determined not to be
41 necessary. A minor correction was made to change the word “appraise” to “apprise”.

1 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the proposed Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy with the*
2 *grammatical correction; B. Towbin seconded. Motion carried.*

3

4 **MEETING MINUTES**

5 *P. Carbee moved to approve the July and October minutes and the November meeting summary; R.*
6 *Wernecke seconded. Motion carried.*

7

8 **REPORTS**

9 B. Waninger advised CVRPC has been invited by the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority Board to
10 discuss CVRPC and its services. She noted CVRPC is a representative to GMT's Board and that how
11 transit is currently funded is not sustainable. The GMT Board will be discussing alternatives and
12 potential route suspensions. Waninger noted that transit funding is a statewide problem. GMT and
13 other transit providers will be educating Legislators on this issue in the upcoming session. D. Carrier
14 advised he will be appointed to the Public Transit Advisory Council as a new representative and will be
15 sharing updates in the future.

16

17 **ADJOURNMENT**

18 *R. Wernecke moved to adjourn at 8:51 pm; D. La Haye seconded. Motion carried.*

19

20 Respectfully submitted,

21

22 Nancy Chartrand

23 Office Manager