

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE
DRAFT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Draft Plan Review Committee was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission located at 29 Main Street Suite #4, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

Members Present:

Scott Bascom - Barre City
Laura Hill-Eubanks - Town of Northfield
Dara Torre - Town of Moretown
Dan Hoxworth - Capstone Community Action

Others Present:

Marianne Wolz - CVRPC Staff
Eric Vorwald, AICP - CVRPC Staff

Call to Order

Since the committee has no formally appointed chair, Mr. Vorwald convened the meeting at 4:05pm.

Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes noted to the agenda.

Public Comments

No members of the public were in attendance therefore no comments were provided.

Discussion of the Draft Energy Element

Mr. Vorwald introduced the primary topic of discussion which was the draft energy element as part of the regional plan update. Mr. Vorwald provided an overview of the information included in the draft and explained that a more detailed project related to energy would be developed later this year through a contract with the Vermont Department of Public Service. This project would involve four of the RPCs and would continue to build on a pilot project that involved three RPCs. Mr. Vorwald also provided an overview of the state's Comprehensive Energy Plan that was recently updated including the goals that are identified therein.

Following the overview and introduction of the element, the committee began to discuss specific areas where changes should be made and discussions centered on clarification of information included. Some areas of discussion included the definition of renewables related to hydroelectric power and methane gas; specific data that was noted in the tables and ways to clarify this information; including an overall introductory statement to outline where we want to direct the reader; and an assessment of what municipalities in Central Vermont are currently doing regarding their energy future.

After discussion of the text was complete, Mr. Vorwald asked the committee to provide guidance on the general goals that were drafted. This included a discussion to determine if additional goals should be added or if the existing

draft goals were adequate to provide specific action items related to energy. The Committee agreed that the goals were adequate to provide guidance regarding specific action items.

Next Steps

Mr. Vorwald provided the committee with an overview of the next steps in the process. Specifically, he noted that the draft text and goals would go back to the working group for their discussion and to develop specific objectives and policies to accompany the draft goals.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12pm.