CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE JANUARY 25, 2018 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Project Review Committee was held on Thursday, January 25, 2018 in the Conference Room of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

Committee Members Present:

Byron Atwood – Town of Barre Town
Brian Fitzgerald – Town of Duxbury, Chair

Janet Shatney – Barre City
Bob Wernecke – Town of Berlin

Committee Members Absent:

Gerry D'Amico – Town of Roxbury, Alternate

Laura Hill-Eubanks – Town of Northfield

Others Present:

Jamie Stewart – Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation

Eric Vorwald, AICP – CVRPC Senior Planner

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mr. Fitzgerald called the regular meeting of the CVRPC Project Review Committee to order at 4:05pm.

CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

No changes to the agenda were offered.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wernecke made a motion to approve the October 26, 2017 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Shatney. With no further discussion, the Committee voted 3 - 0 in favor of the motion to approve the October 26, 2017 minutes.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS & PETITIONS THAT MAY QUALIFY FOR SUBSTANTIAL REGIONAL IMPACT & UPDATE ON PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS

Mr. Vorwald stated that a list of applications that had been submitted since the last meeting was included in the agenda packet. He provided an overview of the projects and highlighted several specific items. These included the jurisdictional opinion for Grow Compost to be removed from Act 250 jurisdiction, the jurisdictional opinion for the Rock of Ages quarry and NEMG crusher regarding the need for an Act 250 permit, and the 45 day advanced notice under Section 248 for a battery storage facility in Barre Town's Wilson Industrial Park. The Committee suggested that it may be appropriate to invite the applicants of the battery storage facility to a future meeting to understand what is all involved with a project of this nature in the anticipation that more projects like this may be submitted in the future.

REVIEW OF SUBSTANTIAL REGIONAL IMPACT

The Committee continued its discussion of Substantial Regional Impact (SRI) guidelines with Mr. Vorwald providing an update to the changes that were made since the last meeting. He provided a revised draft of the SRI guidelines and the Committee began their review. The Committee engaged in significant discussions related to the need for clarification of specific thresholds for new projects or expansions to existing projects. The Committee also discussed general guidelines related to trip generation and traffic impacts. Overall, the Committee felt one additional meeting to review changes would be needed before making a recommendation to the full Commission regarding approval of the SRI guidelines.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Vorwald noted that SRI would need to be incorporated into the regional plan before it can become effective. He noted that an update to the regional plan was pending, but may not include SRI at this time due to the nature of the updates. He also noted that he would review the draft updates and try to establish a pathway to incorporate the updated SRI guidelines into the draft update.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Fitzgerald called for a motion to adjourn which was offered by Mr. Wernecke and seconded by Mr. Atwood. The vote was 3-0 in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.