

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Project Review Committee was held on Thursday, September 28, 2017 in the Conference Room of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

Committee Members Present:

Brian Fitzgerald –	Town of Duxbury, Chair
Laura Hill-Eubanks –	Town of Northfield
Janet Shatney –	Barre City
Bob Wernecke –	Town of Berlin

Committee Members Absent:

Byron Atwood –	Town of Barre Town
Gerry D'Amico –	Town of Roxbury, Alternate

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 4:02pm.

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

Ms. Shatney made a motion to approve the August 24, 2017 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hill-Eubanks. With no further discussion, the Committee voted 4 – 0 in favor of the motion to approve the August 24, 2017 minutes.

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

Mr. Vorwald noted that a list of projects that had been received were included in the agenda packet. Specifically, he highlighted one project listed under Act 250 that had been appealed to the environmental court. Mr. Vorwald also noted that the petition to locate a telecommunications tower on Shutesville Hill in the Town of Waterbury had been denied by the Public Utility Commission.

Next Mr. Vorwald discussed three projects that had been submitted for consideration under Section 248. Two projects involved the reconstruction of existing electric generation substations and the third was for the establishment of a telecommunication tower. Mr. Vorwald provided an overview of each project and the Committee discussed specific aspects of each. In the end, the Committee concluded that none of the projects met the thresholds for Substantial Regional Impact. Mr. Vorwald also noted that draft letters to the Public Utility Commission were included in the agenda and he would forward those correspondences.

The Committee agreed and thanked Mr. Vorwald for including this information in the agenda. They also noted that in future agenda packets it would be helpful if additional information on the projects to be discussed was included for review.

REVIEW OF SUBSTANTIAL REGIONAL IMPACT

Mr. Vorwald presented a revised draft of the Substantial Regional Impact criteria and requested the Committee focus on the specific uses and general criteria that were included. This would help determine if there were uses that should be removed because they were not relevant or uses to include that were not listed. Mr. Vorwald also noted a conversation that he had with the District Environmental Commission regarding the kind of information that would be helpful for them to receive regarding comments on Act 250 applications.

The Committee had significant discussion on various aspects of the draft criteria including the definitions, adding additional general criteria, and incorporating additional uses. The Committee directed staff to update the draft criteria based on the comments in order to continue discussions at the next meeting. Staff agreed to update the information as requested and noted that discussions would continue at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business to discuss, Mr. Fitzgerald noted the next meeting would occur on October 26, 2017 and called for a motion to adjourn which was offered by Mr. Wernecke and seconded by Ms. Hill-Eubanks. The vote was 4 – 0 in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm.