

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
June 14, 2016**

Commission Members:

X	Barre City	Janet Shatney	X	Moretown	Dara Torre
X	Barre Town	Byron Atwood, Chair	X	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mark Nicholson, Alt.	X	Orange	George Malek
X	Berlin	Bob Wernecke	X	Plainfield	David Strong, Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cabot	Dick Payne	<input type="checkbox"/>		Robert Atchinson, Alt.
X	Calais	Paul Rose	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roxbury	Gerry D'Amico
<input type="checkbox"/>		John Brabant, Alt.	X	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
X	Duxbury	Brian Fitzgerald	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Harrison Snapp, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Alan Quackenbush, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Camila Behn
X	E. Montpelier	Julie Potter, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Waterbury	Gary Winders
X		Jack Pauly, Alt.	X	Williamstown	Steve Lotspeich
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fayston	Carol Chamberlin	X	Woodbury	Larry Hebert
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	VACANT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Michael Gray
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Ron Krauth			Bill Arrand
X	Montpelier	Tina Ruth, Secretary			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mike Miller, Alt.			

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Gail Aloisio, Eric Vorwald

Guests: Sam Andersen and Jamie Stewart (CVEDC); Ivan Shadis (Marshfield Planning Commission); Matt Roleau and Margaret Phillips (Williamstown Planning Commission); Victor Guandango (Bright Blue EcoMedia)

Chair B. Atwood called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. The meeting began with introductions.

**PUBLIC HEARING: WILLIAMSTOWN TOWN PLAN**

*T. Ruth moved to open the public hearing regarding regional approval and confirmation of the 2016 Williamstown Town Plan at 7:06 pm; D La Haye seconded. Motion carried.*

E. Vorwald recapped the staff review of the Town Plan, stating it addressed all state planning goals and required elements of a municipal plan. The Town Plan Review Committee meet on May 26<sup>th</sup> to review the Plan. A quorum was not present, and a formal recommendation could not be forwarded to the Commission. The members present suggested the Commission approve the Williamstown Plan and confirm the Town's planning process. Committee members noted the plan was very well done for a fully volunteer effort. The layout and graphics make the plan especially readable.

*B. Werneke moved to close the public hearing at 7:16 pm; T. Ruth seconded. Motion carried.*

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

*P. Rose moved to suspend the rules to allow a vote on approval of the Williamstown Town Plan and confirmation of its planning process; T. Ruth seconded. Motion carried.*

*P. Rose moved to grant regional approval to the Williamstown Town Plan, to confirm the Town's planning process, and to adopt a resolution so stating this; G. Malek seconded. Motion carried. Chair B. Atwood read the resolution, which had been included as a draft in the Commission meeting packet.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no members of the public present to give comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING: 2016 REGIONAL PLAN**

*G. Malek moved to open a public hearing at 7:20 pm to accept public comment on the 2016 Regional Plan; J. Shatney seconded. Motion carried.*

E. Vorwald explained that this was the first of two statutorily-required public hearings to accept public comments on the 2016 Regional Plan. The 2016 Regional Plan will supersede the 2008 Regional Plan as amended, which is currently in effect. The adoption was warned on May 11<sup>th</sup>, and no public comments had been received.

The contents of the 2016 Regional Plan are the same as the 2008 Regional Plan as amended with minor exceptions. The 2016 Plan includes an Implementation Plan in table format with additional information, such as indication of priority actions, and changing references to the plan timeframe of five years to eight years in accordance with statute.. All goals and actions of the 2008 Plan as amended are included in the 2016 Plan.

The 2008 Regional Plan as amended will expire in September 2016. Adopting the content of that Plan with changes as the 2016 Regional Plan will afford the Commission the time to complete Plan Central Vermont. Plan Central Vermont is a substantial rewrite of the Plan in its entirety and has been in the development process since 2013. Staff anticipates completing Plan Central Vermont within 2 years. This will include a Regional Energy Planning Project to be kicked off next month.

The second Public Hearing on the 2016 Regional Plan is scheduled for the July 12<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting. The Regional Plan must be adopted by 60% of Regional Commissioners to take effect.

*J. Potter moved to close the hearing at 7:35 pm; S. Lotspeich seconded. Motion carried.*

**2016 REGIONAL PLAN DISCUSSION**

At a Commissioner's request, staff clarified that the 2008 Regional Plan as amended included amendments to the Economic Development, Utilities & Facilities & Land Use Elements, and the addition of a Land Use map. The 2016 Regional Plan includes that same content with changes as described above and in the adoption notice.

1 *L. Hebert moved to end debate; L. Hill Eubanks seconded the motion but then withdrew the*  
2 *second. Motion carried with one vote in opposition. Commissioners did not authorize any*  
3 *changes be made to the 2016 Plan as proposed.*  
4

5 **MAY 10, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

6 *B. Werneke moved to accept the May 10, 2016 Commission Meeting Minutes as presented; J.*  
7 *Shatney seconded. Motion carried.*  
8

9 **STAFF REPORTS**

10 Staff reports were taken as written.  
11

12 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

13 B. Waninger reported that the Supreme Court will hear arguments on June 21 regarding the  
14 Amicus Brief for the Exit 1 development.  
15

16 The Energy Siting Bill, S. 230, has been replaced by S.260 and has been signed by the Governor.  
17 It includes \$300,000 to assist local municipalities with municipal plan updates.  
18

19 Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston, Duxbury & Moretown have been participating in a stormwater  
20 planning effort that includes the entire Mad River Watershed. Called Ridge to River, the project  
21 will explore regulatory and non-regulatory options for managing stormwater as it travels from  
22 mountain ridges to the Mad River. CVRPC participates on the project steering committee and  
23 will partners with the Mad River Valley Planning District to lead the planning technical team.  
24 Friends of the Mad River is the project coordinator.  
25

26 **REGIONAL PARTNERS REPORT**

27 Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation - S. Anderson reported there will be a  
28 workshop on June 27 regarding Financing Solutions for Existing and Perspective Business  
29 Owners. Register Online at VTSBDC.org. The Central Vermont Job Fair hosted 788 job  
30 seekers and 60 employers. Anderson introduced Jaime Stewart, the new Executive Director  
31 of CVEDC.  
32

33 **CVRPC COMMITTEES**

34 J. Potter announced that appointments to CVRPC's Committees will be made at the July  
35 meeting. Volunteers who would like to serve may contact staff. The Project Review Committee  
36 has two seats for appointment, and the Town Plan Review Committee has five seats for  
37 appointment.  
38

39 **COLLABORATION PROPOSAL – BRIGHT BLUE MEDIA**

40 V. Guadagno of Bright Blue EcoMedia proposed a collaboration to allow CVRPC to learn more  
41 about how permaculture principles could be implemented at the regional scale. Permaculture  
42 attempts to mimic and work within natural systems to maintain a healthy balance of inputs and  
43 outputs within the planning area.  
44

45 CVRPC can assist by providing GIS mapping services to define and characterize the region. The  
46 work will follow the Permaculture master planning model, which usually focuses on a site

1 specific scale. Because of its focus on hydrology, the permaculture analysis may assist  
2 municipalities to plan for flood resilience and forest integrity, and to manage stormwater.

3  
4 *D. Strong moved that CVRPC provide up to 80 hours of free GIS services to Bright Blue*  
5 *EcoMedia; P. Rose made a friendly amendment that GIS assistance to municipalities will take*  
6 *priority over this work. D. Strong accepted the amendment; L. Hebert seconded the amended*  
7 *motion.*

8  
9 *G. Malek moved to amend the motion further by tabling the item indefinitely. In discussion,*  
10 *Malek noted the decision should be a management decision by the Director. P. Rose and B.*  
11 *Werneke asked about setting precedence and benefits to the Commission. Motion did not carry.*  
12 *The four (4) in favor and five (5) opposed vote was not the necessary 2/3 majority vote to carry.*

13  
14 Discussion followed and a vote was taken on the motion presented by D. Strong as amended by  
15 P. Rose. *Motion carried with twelve (12) in favor, three (3) opposed.*

16  
17 **ADJOURNMENT**

18 *G. Malek moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm; B. Fitzgerald seconded. Motion carried.*

19  
20 Respectfully submitted,

21  
22 Gail Aloisio, Assistant Planner