

**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"/> Waitsfield | 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 type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier | Julie Potter, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterbury | Peter Carbee |
| <input checked="" 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 for voting purposes.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: B. Waninger advised Project Review Committee needs to have a special meeting and there is a sheet being passed for noting availability. She also noted there is a training survey available for completion for the previous webmap training that was held. B. Waninger also advised that RPC's do an annual report every year and take those individual reports to create an RPC collective annual report, which is now available in brochure form.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT**

2 J. Potter introduced and welcomed Jamie Stewart of CVEDC. He noted that an Opportunity Zone
3 meeting was recently held with a good turnout. Noted was that the federal government has provided
4 guidance regarding investments in economic opportunity development zones but not clarity for
5 businesses who are receiving the investment. Upon clarification this will be shared with business
6 owners. He also noted they are continuing to work with businesses in Wilson Industrial Park. Public
7 Transportation is a high priority for this location and VTrans and GMT have been contacted to work to
8 establish van pools, car sharing, etc. pending establishment of a bus line. CVEDC remains extremely
9 busy with business and facility expansions. Further noted was the availability of a skilled workforce
10 continues to be biggest concern raised by businesses. A number of programs are being initiated to
11 address this issue. A Workforce Summit was recently held and a lot of work has been done with the
12 granite industry in working to re-establish an apprenticeship program. However, across the entire
13 region there continue to be concerns about filling positions.

14
15 In response to an inquiry, Jamie advised workforce training is largely conducted on-the-job. In addition
16 they work closely with CCV and VTC, and Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center. It was noted that in
17 addition to skills training, CVEDC has been working with a number of companies on leadership training
18 and there is currently great opportunity for young people for advancement in the workforce.

19
20 Jamie noted that overall, the Central Vermont region is doing very well and is doing better than many
21 other regions in the State.

22
23 **CENTRAL VERMONT BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM “Blight to Might”**

24 J. Potter introduced Clare Rock of CVRPC to provide an overview and presentation of the Brownfields
25 Program and revitalizing abandoned and underutilized properties. Highlighted for informational
26 purposes was the Taylor Street Transit Center site with details about historic, current and future uses.

27
28 Also reviewed were properties recently enrolled in Brownsfield program and the benefits of those as
29 outlined below:

30 Woodbury General Store - provides jobs, increases community pride, decreases flood damages.

31 Union Elementary School in Montpelier – sustainable stormwater management, provides jobs, creates a
32 healthy environment for next generation.

33 Granite Works in Montpelier – creates jobs, implements the vision within the TIF district, increase in
34 local tax base, opportunity for new business or business expansion.

35
36 CVRPC’s Brownfields program builds partnerships with stakeholders, helps to identify funding sources,
37 and provides education.

38
39 In response to an inquiry it was advised that the Agency of Natural Resources Environmental Atlas
40 identifies Brownfields or potential Brownfields sites. Also provided was detail regarding the difference
41 in definition of a Brownfield versus a Super Fund site.

1 **TRANSIT FOR ALL**

2 J. Potter introduced Dan Currier of CVRPC to provide an overview of our current Transportation is
3 Changing – Make It Work For You project. This project is addressing the existing transit system and its
4 service to older adults and persons with disabilities through an Inclusive Planning grant. This project
5 engages directly with the potential users of a paratransit system in an effort to be more inclusive. Dan
6 provided a detailed presentation outlining the project and how it has been engaging stakeholders. One
7 of those methods was through a survey and those results were shared with the Board as well as future
8 goals of the project.

9

10 **CODE OF CONDUCT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

11 J. Potter reviewed the the information in the Board packet outlining what has changed since the Board
12 saw this draft policy in September and directed the Board to the new draft policy; which has already
13 been reviewed by the Executive Committee.

14

15 B. Towbin recommended a minor change in the wording; which was discussed in detail, however, it was
16 determined that such change was not necessary. Also noted was a minor correction changing the word
17 “appraise” to “apprise”.

18

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

21

22 **MEETING MINUTES**

23 J. Potter advised there were three previous meeting minutes and summary to approve (July, October,
24 and November).

25

26 *P. Carbee moved to approve the minutes of three previous meetings and group discussions; seconded by*
27 *R. Wernecke. Motion carried.*

28

29 **REPORTS**

30 J. Potter directed the Board to the staff report in the packet. In addition B. Waninger advised CVRPC has
31 been invited by CVPSA Board to talk to them about CVRPC and the services we provide. She also noted
32 CVRPC is a representative to GMT and their Board and that transit funding is currently not sustainable so
33 at the upcoming meeting there will be discussion about alternatives and potential route suspensions.
34 This is a statewide problem based on how transit is currently funded. It is anticipated that there will be
35 discussion in the Legislature on this issue in the upcoming session.

36

37 D. Currier advised he will be appointed to the Public Transit Advisory Council as a new representative
38 and will be sharing updates in the future.

39

40 J. Potter directed the Board to the Committee activity report in the packet and also to the webmap
41 questionnaires to be completed.

42

1 **ADJOURNMENT**

2 *R. Wernecke made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 pm; seconded by D. La Haye. Motion carried.*

3

4 Respectfully submitted,

5

6 Nancy Chartrand

7 Office Manager