

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
September 10, 2019

Commissioners:

<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	Byron Atwood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Nicholson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input type="checkbox"/> Plainfield	Bram Towbin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Emery, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabot	Amy Hornblas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calais	John Brabant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harrison Snapp, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/> Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	<input type="checkbox"/> Warren	Alison Duckworth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier	Julie Potter	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Michael Bridgewater, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jack Pauly, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	Peter Carbee
<input type="checkbox"/> Fayston	Karl Klein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich, Vice-Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshfield	Robin Schunk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williamstown	Richard Turner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/> Williamstown	Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Kirby Keeton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Michael Gray, Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Miller, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Nancy Chartrand, Clare Rock

Guests: Jon Copans, Vermont Council on Rural Development

Call To Order

Chair Hill-Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Quorum was present to conduct business.
The meeting began with introductions.

Adjustments To The Agenda

None

Public Comments

None

Climate Economy Model Communities

Chair Hill-Eubanks introduced Jon Copans of Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD), who provided a presentation on Climate Economy Model Communities. Copans provided an overview of the VCRD Organization. Its work includes community visits statewide, climate economy initiative, leadership development, and working lands.

1 For working communities, VCRD uses a three-step process that strives to engage as many people as
2 possible – Community Visit Day, Community Meeting Day, and Community Resource Day. Regional
3 Planning Commission staff participate in this process alongside VCRD.
4

5 Copans discussed VCRD's Climate Economy Program. VCRD is viewing actions related to climate change
6 as economic opportunities, noting economic growth and a reduction in fossil fuel utilization can go hand
7 in hand. The program works directly with individual communities to address setting priorities for
8 climate initiative opportunities and creating task forces within the communities to address the priorities
9 they choose to focus on. VCRD also partners with Efficiency Vermont, which provides free home
10 energy visits as part of this program.
11

12 VCRD is working with Marshfield and Plainfield, which set a priority to get their collective community
13 voice heard to improve streetscapes when the VTrans completes Route 2 corridor work occurs in the
14 future. Past work completed in Danville was raised as an example.
15

16 There was discussion regarding the challenges with weatherization of existing buildings and how
17 communities are addressing this.
18

19 VCRD advised its has worked with six towns over three years on the program. Funding for the towns to
20 leverage is a result of the community engagement and priorities set and pursuing grants and other
21 resources. USDA Rural Development and Vermont Community Foundation have programs that can
22 assist with funding.
23

24 VCRD is looking to recruit another community to participate in the Climate Economy Model Community
25 Project in 2020. It is also recruiting 8-10 community leaders for the Community Climate Economy
26 Accelerator to direct targeted projects in their communities. There will be an application process for
27 these later this fall.
28

29 **Municipal Plan Approval & Confirmation of Planning Process**

30 B. Arrand, Chair of the Town Plan Review Committee, provided an overview of the Committee's meeting
31 on August 27th regarding the Warren Town Plan. Warren's Zoning Administrator and its Planning
32 Commission Vice Chair participated. C. Rock noted that Zach Maia was responsible for a good deal of
33 the work on the review and coordination for the town plan review approval process. It was noted the
34 meeting involved a considerable amount of discussion regarding the Town's housing challenges. A
35 significant amount of housing is being used for Air BnB purposes or as second homes rather, making it
36 unavailable to address resident needs for housing.
37

38 Arrand advised the Town Plan Review Committee recommends that the Commission approve the
39 Warren Town Plan and the Town's planning process.
40

1 *P. Carbee moved to approve the 2019 Warren Town Plan per 24 V.S.A. § 4350(b); to confirm the local*
2 *planning process as per 24 V.S.A. § 4350(a); and to approve signature of the CVRPC resolution by the*
3 *Chair. L. Catteneo seconded. Motion carried.*
4

5 **Meeting Minutes**

6 *S. Lotspeich moved to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes as presented; J. Potter seconded. Motion*
7 *carried.*
8

9 **Reports**

10 C. Rock provided supplemental information regarding village center designation applications (Middlesex
11 & East Montpelier). Waninger advised a Regional Energy Roundtable will be held on 10/2, which is co-
12 sponsored with VECAN and VCRD. Commissioners requested a flyer be sent to
13 Commissioners/Alternates should they want to distribute. Waninger welcomed Nick Kramer as CVRPC's
14 AmeriCorps VISTA member. Kramer has begun driving the region to assess cell service. He will also be
15 participating in activities related to housing and childcare and will be presenting ideas at Planning &
16 Zoning roundtables in the spring. He is assisting with energy roundtables.
17

18 With regard to the cell service inventory being conducted, question arose as to how the communities
19 will obtain the data collected. Waninger said the Public Service Department will download our
20 information so CVRPC can generate maps for towns. D'Amico requested that Roxbury be provided with
21 its information in advance of Town Meeting.
22

23 In follow-up to the Project Review Committee information in the Committee report, it was noted there
24 needs to be emphasis addressing storage for solar projects in the Regional Plan.
25

26 Waninger thanked the Commissioners who participated in the Transportation Climate Initiative meeting
27 last week.
28

29 Hill-Eubanks thanked Bill Arrand for his work on the Town Plan Review Committee; she welcomed Paula
30 Emery back to the Board; and she thanked Kirby Keeton for his service as he is stepping down from the
31 Commission. Keeton indicated another member of the Montpelier Planning Commission will be
32 appointed.
33

34 **Adjournment**

35 *D. La Haye moved to adjourn at 7:57 pm; B. Wernecke seconded. Motion carried.*
36

37 Respectfully submitted,
38

39 Nancy Chartrand

40 Office Manager