CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

D Torre opened the meeting at 4:05pm. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

L Hill-Eubanks made a motion to approve the January 21, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by M Dent. All in favor. Motioned carried.

REGIONAL PLAN: AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT PLAN

Staff gave a brief summary of the presentation and Board comments on the proposed amendments which took place at the last Board of Commissioners meeting. Brief discussion followed regarding the number of public hearings and the dates. Under statute we are not required to advertise both hearing dates in the first public hearing notice, internally staff and the Executive Director has not discussed whether we will set both dates in the first notice or just the first date.

REGIONAL PLAN: NEW PLAN

Rock referenced the documents titled “Planning Process and Plan Development Guide” which will have to be re-created and redistributed. Once re-drafted staff will circulate to committee members for review prior to distribution to the Board.

Regarding the plan timeline, there is time on the March Board meeting agenda and this could present an opportunity to inform the Commission on the new regional plan development process. This would be ahead of the first public hearing on the amendments, providing context for the minimal changes to current plan at this time. This would also set the stage for the April (or May) Board meeting which will include a presentation from the State Tax Department about the impacts of Vermont’s changing demographics. A good lead in to the new regional plan.
Staff gave an overview of the contents of the memo and the draft Vision and Values/Goals documents. Staff indicated that the title used the term Values, but within the documents they were titled as Goals. Discussion followed about values and goals. Committee member suggested they be called “aspirations,” other members agrees with this term.

Staff added that the “Aspirations” could be presented as the overarching principle of a chapter/topic and then envisions there will a subset of accompanying goals, policies and strategy or actions.

The committee voiced support of the draft shorter vision statement as presented and the accompanying goals/“aspirations.” One specific comment was about the lack of the word equity, committee agreed to add to line 13: “equity.”

Brief discussion about the organization of the plan which is yet to be determined. This aspect of the plan may be dependent on what the analysis part of the plan looks like. We do not need to make a decision on this yet.

Upon agreement on the draft vision documents, the committee agreed to share this with the board and seek feedback. Staff suggested Commission members could review the document and then come prepared to add comments via sticky notes, providing the opportunity for all members to contribute feedback as some do not always voice their opinions in front of the entire board. Board members will also be asked to identify their priority “aspirations” by sticky dot voting. Each board member will be given 3 (or 5) dots and will be asked to place their dots next to the “aspiration” they think are prior for the region.

Staff will circulate the “Planning Process + Plan Development Guide” for committee feedback before circulating the board as a DRAFT.

At the next committee meeting we'll review the types of comments and results of sticky dot voting.

The committee would like to see the Plan Central Vermont draft (less interested in the words but is interested in the data.) And would like to offer feedback on the types of data which is relevant and which data isn’t. We’ll start with the demographics at the next meeting either in March or April.

ADJOURNMENT

L Hill-Eubanks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by J Potter, all in favor. Motion carried.

Next meeting Date: 3/17 at 4pm (3rd Tuesdays)