

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**June 9, 2020**

**Commissioners:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre City	Janet Shatney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moretown	Dara Torre, Secretary/Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/>		Heather Grandfield, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Joyce Manchester, Alt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barre Town	Byron Atwood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		George Clain, Alt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plainfield	
<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	E. Montpelier	Julie Potter	<input type="checkbox"/>		J. Michael Bridgewater, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Peter Carbee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fayston		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich, Vice-Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	Robin Schunk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Williamstown	Richard Turner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Montpelier	Marcella Dent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Woodbury	Michael Gray
<input type="checkbox"/>		Mike Miller, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Bill Arrand

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Nancy Chartrand, Clare Rock

Guests: Seán Sheehan, Vermont Tax Structure Commission

**Call to Order**

Chair L. Hill-Eubanks called the remote meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Quorum was present to conduct business. She read documentation which explained compliance with Open Meeting Law and roll call was completed.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

Hill-Eubanks advised that Dara Torre will be late so we will reverse the order on the agenda of Elections, Committees and Appointments, and Rules of Procedure Updates. We will do Rules of Procedure first, followed by Committees and Appointments, and then Elections

**Public Comments**

None.

**Population Changes and Vermont State Revenues**

Hill-Eubanks introduced Seán Sheehan of Vermont Tax Structure Commission, who presented on Population Changes and Vermont State Revenues with assistance from Joyce Manchester. Specifically outlined were the following trends in Vermont: #1 - More Seniors, Fewer Children, and Fewer Working-

age Adults; #2 – More Metropolitan, Less Rural Growth; #3 – More Households with Fewer People. A copy of the presentation slides are available on the website.

Following the presentation there were several topics discussed that included what type of work the statistics for those age 65 and older include, one person households income, expenditures and demographics, creating a tax structure and/or regulations that support home and farm shares to assist people with aging in place, work force shortages and job training, in migration and out migration trends, county growth, use of the report for future tax structure change, the effect of aging in place on the housing stock, and the increase in single family households as it relates to the population data.

### **Committee Rules of Procedure Updates (Executive Committee / Nominating Committee)**

Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to information in the packet. The first up for discussion are the Executive Committee, which incorporates updates to reflect changes in the new Bylaws. There was a request for a definition of ‘general activities’ on page 14, Line 35. It was confirmed that those activities are outlined above in Lines 13 – 32 and that these are the activities the Board authorizes the Executive Committee to do on its behalf. There was further question as to how much this list has been expanded upon since the last bylaws revision and it was noted it has not been expanded.

*R. Wernecke made a motion to adopt the Executive Committee Rules of Procedure, seconded by D. LaHaye. Question was raised if a roll call vote was necessary. Chair Hill-Eubanks advised a roll call would be requested if there was not a unanimous decision. Voting proceeded and motion carried.*

Hill-Eubanks advised the Nominating Rules of Procedure will be tabled at this time because they need further review for conformance with the Bylaws before a request for adoption by the Board.

### **Committees and Appointments**

Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to information in the packet. J. Shatney noted that as advised at the last meeting the Nominating Committee reached out and secured everyone who was currently within a term and inquired if they wanted to continue their term, and those whose terms were up agreed to come back for another term. Question was raised about getting new membership in committees and if the Nominating Committee reached out to new potential members. It was noted that new members were not contacted, however, nominations were opened from the floor at the last meeting to add to the slate and no additional nominations were made. Discussion ensued over the need to be revolving people involved and that we should reach out and ask who wants to serve on committees. Hill-Eubanks advised there were a lot of new members rolled in last year, and felt this year was harder due to many people being involved in COVID response. She advised we could try harder next year with outreach to address turnover and get Commissioners who are not involved more involved.

Question was raised regarding the Executive Committee’s one year term and why the Vice Chair doesn’t replace the Chair after one year. It was advised that in practice our Chair and Vice Chair typically serve two years to maintain continuity and governance. It was further clarified that there may be confusion between term limits and term of election. The Commission Bylaws do not outline term limits; they just speak to term of election so theoretically a person could be re-elected to the same role for several years in a row. There was additional reference to Page 14 in packet – Nominating Committee Guidelines - where it is stated the Executive Committee Chair will be elected with the assumption that the Chair will

1 serve two terms and the Committee will consider a previous Vice Chair if at all possible.

2  
3 *R. Wernecke made a motion to approve the slate, seconded by G. D'Amico. Motion carried.*

## 4 5 **Elections**

6 Hill-Eubanks invited D. Torre, Secretary/Treasurer to provide the results of the voting for the Executive  
7 Committee. Torre advised 15 ballots were collected and reviewed; and the full slate of seven Executive  
8 Committee members was voted for on those ballots. There was question if ballots went out to both  
9 Commissioners and Alternates. N. Chartrand advised that ballots were only sent to Alternates in the  
10 event that there was not currently Commissioner representation to vote on behalf of the municipality,  
11 as in Plainfield. It was noted that in the future we may want to send to both Alternates and  
12 Commissioners, and B. Waninger advised this would be taken under consideration.

## 13 14 **Meeting Minutes**

15 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the minutes; J. Potter seconded. Motion carried.*

## 16 17 **Reports**

18 Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to the information in the packet and Waninger further advised Duxbury  
19 is planning to apply for a Broadband Innovation Grant and are looking to do a feasibility study and that  
20 the Commission's role would be related to community engagement and pulling together statistics for  
21 marketing. She noted we will also be contacting Waterbury to see if they would like to join this study.  
22 L. Catteneo advised the Project Review Committee looked at second site for energy generation and still  
23 is not able to look at these sites and reference guidance as to whether or not they should have onsite  
24 storage or if there is an appropriate location for infrastructure in the area. He inquired as to the status  
25 of a review of energy policy in the Energy Plan to assist the committee in review of these sites. Waninger  
26 advised that the Regional Plan Committee did an exercise right before COVID that identified that in the  
27 new draft of the Regional Plan issues such as those Catteneo raised would be addressed, however, it  
28 would be some time before a new Regional Plan is in place. C. Rock further noted that the Project  
29 Review Committee voiced strong support for addressing energy storage in the Regional Plan as soon as  
30 possible.

31  
32 There was also a suggestion made that the Regional Plan address issues that have arisen as a result of  
33 COVID that may create conflicts within the plan (i.e. mass transit and town centers being in conflict with  
34 guidance as related to physical distancing).

## 35 36 **Adjournment**

37 *R. Wernecke moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm; D. LaHaye seconded. Motion carried.*

38  
39 Respectfully submitted,

40  
41 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager