

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
June 9, 2020

Commissioners:

☒	Barre City	Janet Shatney	☒	Moretown	Dara Torre, Secretary/Treasurer
☐		Heather Grandfield, Alt.	☒		Joyce Manchester, Alt
☐	Barre Town	Byron Atwood	☒	Northfield	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair
☒		George Clain, Alt	☒	Orange	Lee Cattaneo
☒	Berlin	Robert Wernecke	☐	Plainfield	
☐		Karla Nuissl, Alt.	☒		Paula Emery, Alt.
☒	Cabot	Amy Hornblas	☒	Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico
☐	Calais	John Brabant	☒	Waitsfield	Don La Haye
☐		Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	☐		Harrison Snapp, Alt.
☒	Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	☐	Warren	
☒	E. Montpelier	Julie Potter	☐		J. Michael Bridgewater, Alt.
☐		Clarice Cutler, Alt.	☐	Washington	Peter Carbee
☐	Fayston		☒	Waterbury	Steve Lotspeich, Vice-Chair
☒	Marshfield	Robin Schunk	☐	Williamstown	Richard Turner
☒	Middlesex	Ron Krauth	☐		Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
☒	Montpelier	Marcella Dent	☒	Woodbury	Michael Gray
☐		Mike Miller, Alt.	☒	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. Rules of Procedure will be first, followed by Committees and Appointments, and then Elections

Public Comments

None.

Population Changes and Vermont State Revenues

Hill-Eubanks introduced Sean 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-

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

3
4 Following the presentation there were several topics discussed that included what type of work the
5 statistics for those age 65 and older include, one person households income, expenditures and
6 demographics, creating a tax structure and/or regulations that support home and farm shares to assist
7 people with aging in place, work force shortages and job training, in migration and out migration trends,
8 county growth, use of the report for future tax structure change, the effect of aging in place on the
9 housing stock, and the increase in single family households as it relates to the population data.

10 11 **Committee Rules of Procedure Updates**

12 Executive Committee - The Executive Committee Rules of Procedure incorporates updates to reflect
13 changes in the new Bylaws. There was a request for a definition of ‘general activities’ on page 14,
14 Line 35. It was confirmed that those activities are outlined above in Lines 13 – 32 and that these are
15 the activities the Board authorizes the Executive Committee to do on its behalf. There was further
16 question as to how much this list has been expanded upon since the last bylaws revision. It has not
17 been expanded.

18
19 *R. Wernecke moved to adopt the Executive Committee Rules of Procedure; D. La Haye seconded.*
20 *Question was raised if a roll call vote was necessary. Chair Hill-Eubanks advised a roll call would be*
21 *requested if there was not a unanimous decision. Voting proceeded and motion carried.*

22
23 Nominating Committee - The Nominating Rules of Procedure were tabled because they need further
24 review for conformance with the Bylaws before a request for adoption by the Board.

25 26 **Committees and Appointments**

27 J. Shatney reported that the Nominating Committee confirmed all Commissioners and Alternates serving
28 on committees wanted to remain on their committees. Question was raised about getting new
29 membership in committees and if the Nominating Committee reached out to new potential members. It
30 was noted that new members were not contacted. Nominations were opened from the floor at the last
31 meeting, and no additional nominations were made. Discussion ensued over the need to be revolving
32 people involved and that we should reach out and ask who wants to serve on committees. Hill-Eubanks
33 advised there were a lot of new members rolled in last year. This year was harder due to many people
34 being involved in COVID response. She advised we could try harder next year with outreach to address
35 turnover and get Commissioners who are not involved more involved.

36
37 Question was raised regarding the Executive Committee’s one year term and why the Vice Chair doesn’t
38 replace the Chair after one year. It was noted that the Commission’s practice is to have the Chair and
39 Vice Chair typically serve two years to maintain continuity and governance. It was further clarified that
40 there may be confusion between term limits and term of election. The Commission Bylaws do not
41 outline term limits; they speak to term of election. A person could be re-elected to the same role for
42 several years in a row. There was additional reference to Page 14 in packet – Nominating Committee
43 Guidelines - where it is stated the Executive Committee Chair will be elected with the assumption that
44 the Chair will serve two terms and the Committee will consider a previous Vice Chair if at all possible.

1 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the slate; G. D'Amico seconded. Motion carried.*

3 **Elections**

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

12 **Meeting Minutes**

13 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the minutes of May 12; J. Potter seconded. Motion carried.*

15 **Reports**

16 Waninger said Duxbury is planning to apply for a Broadband Innovation Grant and is looking to do a
17 feasibility study. The Commission's role would be related to community engagement and pulling
18 together statistics for marketing. She noted we will also be contacting Waterbury to see if they would
19 like to join this study. L. Cattaneo advised the Project Review Committee looked at a second site for
20 energy generation and still is not able to look at these sites and reference guidance as to whether or not
21 they should have onsite storage or if there is an appropriate location for infrastructure in the area. He
22 inquired as to the status of a review of energy policy in the Energy Plan to assist the committee in
23 review of these sites. Waninger said the Regional Plan Committee initiated work on the Regional Plan
24 update right before COVID; however, it would be some time before a new Regional Plan is in place. C.
25 Rock further noted that the Project Review Committee voiced strong support for addressing energy
26 storage in the Regional Plan as soon as possible.

27
28 There was also a suggestion made that the Regional Plan address issues that have arisen as a result of
29 COVID that may create conflicts within the plan (i.e. mass transit and town centers being in conflict with
30 guidance as related to physical distancing).

32 **Adjournment**

33 *R. Wernecke moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm; D. La Haye seconded. Motion carried.*

34
35 Respectfully submitted,

36
37 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager