

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Draft MINUTES**  
**December 8, 2020**

**Commissioners:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Barre City	Janet Shatney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moretown	Dara Torre, Secretary/Treasurer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	Heather Grandfield, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Joyce Manchester, Alt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin	Byron Atwood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orange	Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	George Clain, Alt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plainfield	Lee Cattaneo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabot	Robert Wernecke	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paula Emery
<input type="checkbox"/> Calais	Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury	Bob Atchinson, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Hornblas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield	Gerry D'Amico
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duxbury	John Brabant	<input type="checkbox"/> Warren	Don La Haye
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier	Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	Harrison Snapp, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alan Quackenbush	<input type="checkbox"/> Waterbury	J. Michael Bridgewater, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fayston	Julie Potter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williamstown	Peter Carbee
<input type="checkbox"/> Marshfield	Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Steve Lotspeich, Vice-Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middlesex	Russ Bowen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Richard Turner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Robin Schunk		Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Krauth		Michael Gray
	Marcella Dent		Bill Arrand
	Mike Miller, Alt.		

Staff: Bonnie Waninger, Nancy Chartrand, Zach Maia, Grace Vinson, Clare Rock

Guests: Dr. Mark Levine and Joan Marie Misk, Vermont Department of Health; Zach Sullivan,

**Call to Order**

Chair L. Hill-Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Quorum was present.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

None.

**Public Comments**

None.

**Dr. Mark Levine, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health (VDH)**

Hill-Eubanks introduced Dr. Levine who provided an overview of the status of COVID-19 in the state, and noted that VDH is focused on the number of situations in our region. He advised everyone needs to be encouraged regarding masking, physical distancing and avoiding gatherings. They are however, hopeful that multiple household gatherings over Thanksgiving were the exception rather than the rule, and that will be a good predictor of how to address Christmas and New Year's. He noted we want to be at lower level of virus going into these holidays and currently we are at too high a level to be comfortable.

1 Abiding by travel guidance and multi household gathering guidance is part of addressing this. He noted  
2 that the vaccine doses should be here in about one week (5,850 doses initially with 5,850 held in reserve  
3 for a second dose) and these will be available to the health care and long term care work force and long  
4 term care residents. Distribution during a later phase of vaccinations will likely be at pharmacies,  
5 primary care offices, and VDH district offices. In conclusion he stated he remains very concerned about  
6 this part of the State, that he doesn't think it is as bad as a few weeks ago, but still is not good. He  
7 opened the floor and questions were addressed regarding vaccines, testing statistics, when people  
8 should test, and how data is being tracked as it relates to other factors impacted by the virus such as  
9 bankruptcies, suicides, domestic abuse, etc. There was also inquiry as to how can education and  
10 outreach at the municipal level help with vaccinations? He advised that VDH has a lot of  
11 communications developed and in development to share and recommends municipalities work with  
12 their healthcare community and public health community (district offices) to help get out appropriate  
13 messaging. A video of the meeting and discussion is available at  
14 <https://centralvtplanning.org/about/minutes-agendas-staff-reports/>  
15

### 16 **Vermont Mask Survey**

17 Hill-Eubanks introduced Amy Hornblas and the VT Mask Survey, which is included in the packet.  
18 Hornblas provided an overview of why she is doing the survey, noting she is an evidence based health  
19 educator with experience with people of all ages and abilities in a number of community settings. The  
20 survey is ongoing and addresses the cost/benefit of mask wearing. She advised there is a lot of  
21 discussion on benefits of mask wearing, but very little discussion on the costs. She directed the Board  
22 to the detailed information in the packet, and provided an overview of the survey results, noting her  
23 focus tonight is on difficulty breathing and difficulty washing your hands during mask use. She noted all  
24 21 survey respondents indicated they had difficulty breathing while wearing a mask and provided data  
25 from an N95 study that noted reduced air exchange while mask wearing. Also noted was difficulty in  
26 cleaning your hands every time you touch your mask may increase risk of infections and that the CDC is  
27 very clear that you should not be touching your mask.  
28

29 She advised it is important to keep collecting data, provide current community resources, respect  
30 exemptions, educate about hygiene (face and hands), take frequent breath breaks, be alert to  
31 difficulties and be ready to treat. She noted you can email her at [vtmasksurvey@mail.com](mailto:vtmasksurvey@mail.com) for more  
32 information. A video of the meeting and discussion is available at  
33 <https://centralvtplanning.org/about/minutes-agendas-staff-reports/> and the presentation shared will be  
34 published on CVRPC's website.  
35

### 36 **Committee Rules of Procedure Updates**

37 Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to the information in the packet and provided an overview of why these  
38 Rules of Procedure (ROP) need to be brought into conformance with the Bylaws. The Committees have  
39 revised their ROP and the Executive Committee has recommended that these draft ROP be approved by  
40 the Board.  
41

42 It was noted the open meeting law language should cite specific statute and Waninger clarified that it  
43 must have gotten dropped out of one, but needs to be entered into all.  
44

45 Discussion ensued regarding the Transportation Advisory Committee ROP as to whether or not they

1 want outside representatives to be full members on Committee. It was confirmed TAC voted not to  
2 have outside representatives as voting members, as outlined by the Bylaws. When approved these ROP  
3 will comply with Bylaws, however, after they are approved it is anticipated the Bylaws will be reviewed  
4 and potentially changed related to this topic, at which time the TAC ROP may need to be revised again.  
5

6 *R. Wernecke moved to adopt changes to the Rules of Procedure for Clean Water Advisory Committee;*  
7 *Municipal Plan Review Committee; and Transportation Advisory Committee. Motion seconded by D. La*  
8 *Haye. Motion carried.*  
9

## 10 **Bylaw Work Group**

11 Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to the information in the packet and provided an overview as to a need  
12 to review of the most recent rewrite of the Bylaws. The Executive Committee has set up a  
13 subcommittee/work group for the Bylaws' review. S. Lotspeich and M. Gray have volunteered to be  
14 Executive Committee members, and G. Clain has volunteered to be a Board member. The floor was  
15 opened for any additional volunteers to be part of the Bylaws Work Group. No volunteers came  
16 forward.  
17

18 *R. Wernecke moved to have George Clain join the Committee to rewrite the bylaws; seconded by Bill*  
19 *Arrand. Motion carried*  
20

## 21 **Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2020**

22 Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to the information in the packet.  
23

24 *G. D'Amico moved to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes; D. La Haye seconded. Motion carried.*  
25

## 26 **Reports**

27 Hill-Eubanks directed the Board to the information in the packet. There was clarification that the Board  
28 meeting date was incorrect and should reflect 12/8 not 12/15. There was also clarification that the  
29 Project Review Committee would likely not be meeting on 12/17, but this will be confirmed before the  
30 end of the week. Waninger was congratulated for her work in the Working Communities Challenge.  
31 Rock provided additional information about the Letter of Support for Act 250 application 5W1206-5 in  
32 the packet. She noted the Project Review Committee (PRC) reviewed the application and based on the  
33 subdivision's location found it was a project of Significant Regional Impact due to being in the Shutesville  
34 Wildlife Corridor and policy in regional plan. PRC made a finding the project was not in conformance  
35 with the Regional Plan and at this time we are still waiting to see what the ruling from the District Office  
36 will be on the comments received and on the application as it stands.  
37

## 38 **Adjournment**

39 *D. La Haye moved to adjourn at 7:49 pm; A. Hornblas seconded. Motion carried.*  
40

41 Respectfully submitted,  
42

43 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager