CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 1 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** 2 **Draft MINUTES** 3 May 14, 2024 4 5 **Commissioners:** ☐ Barre City Janet Shatney, Sec/Treas ☐ Moretown David Stapleton Vacant Joyce Manchester, Alt ■ Northfield ■ Barre Town Alice Farrell Royal DeLegge Vacant Jeff Schulz, Alt ■ Berlin ☑ Orange Robert Wernecke Lee Cattaneo Karla Nuissl, Alt. ☑ Plainfield Paula Emery **区** Cabot **Brittany Butler** Bob Atchinson, Alt. ✓ Calais John Brabant ■ Roxbury Jerry D'Amico, Chair × Melanie Kehne, Alt. **▼** Waitsfield Don La Haye × **☑** Duxbury Alan Quackenbush Alice Peal, Alt. David Wendt, Alt. ☐ Warren Alexis Leacock ☐ E. Montpelier Vacant Jenny Faillace, Alt. × ☐ Washington Peter Carbee, Vice Chair Clarice Cutler, Alt. **区** Fayston **Andrew McNealus ⊠** Waterbury **Doug Greason** ☐ Marshfield ☐ Williamstown Vacant Richard Turner **☒** Middlesex Ron Krauth Jacqueline Higgins, Alt. × **⋈** Woodbury Mitch Osiecki, Alt. Michael Gray ☐ Montpelier Ariane Kissam ☐ Worcester Bill Arrand Mike Miller, Alt. 6 7 Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Brian Voigt, Lincoln Frasca, Sam Lash, Will Pitkin 8 Guests: Bill Colvin, Bennington County Regional Commission; Maddie Russell and Kevin Burke, Vermont 9 Department of Environmental Conservation 10 Call to Order: Chair D'Amico called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, a roll call was completed and quorum was 11 12 present. Christian advised that Bill Colvin, Bennington County Regional Commission would be attending our 13 meeting tonight as part of an Executive Director peer review process being undertaken by VAPDA. He also 14 noted that Catherine Dimitruk, Northwest Regional Planning Commission was unable to attend this evening, but 15 was planning to view the meeting on video. 16 17 Adjustments to the Agenda: None 18 19 Public Comments: None 20 21 **Regional Plan Readoption Hearing:** Chair D'Amico opened the public hearing for the Regional Plan Readoption. 22 This is the first of two public hearings with a second hearing scheduled for July 9, 2024.

Alice Peal, Chairman of the Regional Plan Committee provided an overview of the recommendation to move forward with readopting the current 2016 Regional Plan in order to allow more time to thoughtfully and deliberately update the current plan. CVRPC staff and the Regional Plan Committee have continued to move forward with a timeline and outline for an update. It is anticipated that a new 2025 Regional Plan update following readoption of the current plan will take between 12 and 18 months.

Christian Meyer and Sam Lash provided a presentation of the Regional Plan Assessment report that was required in order to be able to pursue readoption of the current regional plan. (This presentation will be posted on the website along with meeting minutes).

It was noted that comments related to the Regional Plan Readoption can be sent via email to cvrpc@cvregion.com prior to June 3, 2024.

It was requested that the Board be updated regularly on the progress of the plan update.

Chair D'Amico adjourned the public hearing for the Regional Plan Readoption with a plan to reconvene on July 9, 2024.

Brittany Butler and Mitch Osiecki joined the meeting following the above noted roll call.

FY25 Nominations: Jerry D'Amico, Chair of the Nominating Committee provided an overview of the recommended slate of officers and committee appointments as outlined in the meeting packet. The floor was opened to additional nominations from the floor for each committee. No additional nominations were heard and a ballot of the slate as presented in the packet will be mailed to Commissioners within five days.

ARPA 3-Acre Permit Obtainment Assistance (POA) Program: Maddie Russell and Kevin Burke from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) joined the meeting and Maddie provided a presentation on the 3-acre permit obtainment assistance Program (available on the website). This program is established to help developers and landowners obtain funding in order to comply with Act 64. DEC recognizes cost can be a barrier and the program provides support for the design phase (engineering and permit review fees), but not the construction. It was strongly encouraged that applications be submitted before September 2024, and noted that a permit must be obtained before August 2026. It was noted that there are 105 sites in Central Vermont but only 20 applications to date. Any questions must go to the DEC stormwater program - madeline.russell@vermont.gov

There was discussion related to town garage eligibility, school eligibility, and the availability of a listing of sites by municipality - <u>3acreList_09252020.pdf</u> (vermont.gov). Also discussed was the outreach to landowners that has taken place to date. DEC is requesting that members help get the word out in their communities about the availability of this funding.

FEMA Flood Maps Current Status: Brian Voigt shared a presentation on the FEMA Flood Map Updates and what commissioners should expect in their communities in the coming years. He noted that the Flood Insurance Rate Maps are being updated and when new maps go into effect, FEMA will require town bylaws meet the current standards for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). He advised that DEC has produced

some model bylaws which have been vetted and approved by FEMA. It was also noted that CVRPC can assist towns to determine what may be needed to update and to assist in the update process. He advised it is important to note that it is not necessary to wait for the new maps in order to start the process of bylaw updates. Deadlines for updating bylaws will be two years from the time working maps have been released. CVRPC has completed a review of zoning, flood hazard and river corridor bylaws for all member municipalities and can assist with updates to existing bylaws, develop new flood hazard and/or river corridor bylaws. In addition, we can support public awareness and engagement, community education, access to relevant information, and adoption of municipal plans and local hazard mitigation plans. Municipal officials can book a consultation with Brian and Lincoln for this assistance @

https://outlook.office365.com/book/CWSP1@cvregion.com/

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Community Tree Planting Grant: Lincoln Frasca provided an overview of the Community Tree Planting Grant Program being managed by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. \$630,000 in funding is available for tree planting and CVRPC can apply on behalf of municipalities if they want assistance. 1st round is due this week – 5/17; however, in January of 2025 there will be the 2nd application round and the money will be split between both rounds. It was also noted that CVRPC could potentially do a consortium application to assist multiple towns. If municipalities have ideas for use of this grant, please feel free to contact Lincoln (frasca@cvregion.com).

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Minutes – (4/9/24): Robert Wernecke moved to accept the minutes of April 9^{th} , seconded by Don La Haye. Motion passed unanimously.

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Reports: Robert Wernecke moved to accept the reports, seconded by Don La Haye. Motion passed unanimously.

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Adjournment: Don La Haye moved to adjourn at 8:10 pm; seconded by Alan Quackenbush. Motion carried.

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28 Respectfully submitted, Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager

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