

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Regional Plan Committee

Draft Minutes

August 6, 2024 4:00 – 5:30 pm

29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

Remote Access Via Zoom

Committee Members:

X	Alice Peal, Waitsfield Alternate Rep
X	Alice Farrell, Barre Town Rep
X	Doug Greason, Waterbury Rep
	Mike Miller, Montpelier Alternate Rep
X	John Brabant, Calais Rep

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Staff: Will Pitkin, Eli Toohey, Niki Sabado (in person)
Zoe Christiansen – East Montpelier Rep.

Adjustment to the Agenda

No adjustments.

Public Comment

Z. Christiansen commented on changes to Open Meeting Law, discussion followed on what committee was required to post on CVRPC’s website and whether meetings should be recorded. A. Peal suggested confirming requirements with C. Meyer.

Approval of Minutes

Staff noted two errors in materials provided to the committee prior to the meeting. 1) the meeting packet contained the June 2024 meeting minutes instead of the July 2024 draft meeting minutes and 2) the July 2024 draft meeting minutes stated that in July 2024, the committee approved the May 2024 meeting minutes; in July 2024, the committee actually approved the June 2024 draft meeting minutes.

D. Greason moved to accept July 2024 draft meeting minutes as amended to note that in July 2024 the committee approved the June 2024 draft meeting minutes, A. Farrell seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Election of Officers

J. Brabant nominated A. Peal as chair, D. Greason second, all in favor, motion carried. J. Brabant nominated D. Greason as vice-chair, A. Peal seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussion

Committee discussed draft Economy chapter of Regional Plan. Committee wanted to see consistency in citing references and defining acronyms. Staff presented on findings from meeting with Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation, committee discussed how to incorporate feedback from that meeting.

Committee requested that the chapter include discussion on state taxes and their effect on the

1 economy and businesses. Discussed gender pay equality and how to address that issue in the chapter.
2 Discussed who is the audience of the Regional Plan and how to tailor writing to reach desired
3 audience(s). Committee requested a longer intro to the chapter that addressed issues including
4 economic drivers in the region, types of jobs that are available/desired, challenges to the region's
5 economy. .
6
7 Committee reviewed goals and strategies of the draft chapter and suggested edits, including to modify
8 the term "high quality jobs" to something more precise and less pejorative. A Peal shared list of topics
9 that had been discussed in previous committee meetings that remained open issues to discuss further.
10
11 Staff explained the changes to the draft
12 Economy chapter's goals and strategies from the previous Regional Plan to the current draft chapter.
13
14 Committee discussed workflow for upcoming meetings; decided to review Transportation chapter at
15 September meeting and Energy chapter at October and subsequent meeting(s). Committee discussed
16 paths forward to craft Energy chapter and requested comparison of goals and strategies from previous
17 Regional Plan's Energy chapter to draft Energy chapter for 2025 Regional Plan, summary of changes to
18 Energy chapter as required by updates to Vermont statute, shorter draft chapter and summary of what
19 sections of current draft chapter could be moved to appendices. J. Brabant suggested using Quechee
20 Test to inform aesthetic requirements in upcoming Regional Plan. Staff
21
22 D. Greason requested that staff provide the committee a revised timeline of Regional Plan development.
23
24 J. Brabant moved to adjourn, A. Farrell seconded, all in favor, motion carried.