



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Berner called meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Introductions were made.

2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 20TH AGENDA

Motion by Sommerlad to approve the June 20th agenda. Second by Gibbs. Approved by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 16TH MINUTES

Motion by Nicholson to approve the May 16th minutes. Second by Lloyd. Approved by voice vote.

4. OPEN TO PUBLIC

None present.

5. TREASURERS REPORT

Mary-Kay Skaza provided the Treasurer's Report for the May financials. Report for informational purposes only.

6. REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Sommerlad provided the report from the June 20th meeting. The committee reviewed two S. 248 cases. The first, a 3.5-megawatt solar project on Furnace Brook Road in Pittsford with single-axis trackers. The town of Pittsford voiced opposition to the project and will return to discuss further. No action taken. The second, a 500-kilowatt net meter facility, the committee voted to send a Letter 1, no significant regional impacts.

7. TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) REPORT

Transportation Planner Pepin delivered the report. The May TAC meeting discussed wildlife crossings, primarily focusing on incorporating them into existing culvert projects.

8. EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Director Neary delivered the June 12th Executive Finance Committee report. The committee met on June 12th. The Committee voted to recommend the FY24 Nominations, Updated RRPC Bylaws, Handbook, and Financial Policies, and the FY24 RRPC Budget and Work Plan. The committee also approved changes to employee salaries and benefits.

Neary also announce that a new planner named Jeremy Gildrien was added, leading the energy planning program and assisting with town and transportation planning.

9. APPROVE FY24 NOMINATIONS

Nominating Committee recommended Erica Berner for chair, Andrew Solomon for vice-chair, Larry Courcelle for treasurer, and Laura Black for at-large. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion to accept the slate as presented by Nicholson, Seconded by Stoddard. Approved by voice vote.

10. APPROVE UPDATED RRPC BYLAWS

Motion to approve the updated RRPC Bylaws by Lloyd. Seconded by Nicholson. Approved by voice vote.

11. APPROVE UPDATED RRPC HANDBOOK

Motion to approve the updated RRPC Employee Handbook by Lloyd. Second by Doenges. Approved by voice vote.

12. APPROVE UPDATED RRPC FINANCIAL PROCEDURES AND CREDIT CARD POLICY

Motion to approve updated RRPC Financial Procedures and Credit Card Policy by Courcelle. Second by Solomon. Approved by voice vote.



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13. APPROVE FY24 RRPC BUDGET

Motion to approve the FY24 Budget by Gibbs. Second by Sommerlad. Approved by voice vote.

14. APPROVE FY24 RRPC WORK PLAN

Pelkey asked about RRPC involvement in the OCCUD. Black, as new OCCUD chair, confirmed that OCCUD would like RRPC assistance but needed to refine the scope. Neary stated the RRPC would assist where possible and discuss further with Black. Pelkey also asked about housing planning work. Neary explained the RRPC would work as housing coordinators and other roles under the new S.100 legislation. Motion by Courcelle to approve the FY24 RRPC Work Plan. Second by Nicholson. Approved by voice vote.

15. AREA WIDE CITIZENS

None present.

16. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Lyle Jepson from CEDRR appreciates the transition from Ed Bove to Devon Neary – has worked well, communication was essential, expresses appreciation. Jepsen states the budget growth will help communities. RRPC's relationship with CEDRR is essential. Housing, Redevelopment, TIF, brownfield fund access, plugs The Hub, Rutland startup fund for technology economy job creation. In regards to other local developments, Jepsen says mayor Doenges has done a lot to keep it in front of the eyes of the public. Stoddard asks if commissioners can get a tour of the Hub to which Jepsen agrees. CEDRR Staff has doubled to accommodate startup incubator.

16. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Laura Black – Shrewsbury: New Zoning Administrator did not accept offer. New ordinances to be voted on then moving to town plan.

Mike Doenges - Rutland City: Asking to bring on zoning technician, that will push someone else to town planner role. Taking work off RRPC shoulders for towns that can.

Leonard Minard - W Rutland: No updates.

Robert Gibbs -Hubbardton: Prepping for battle.

Larry Courcelle – Mendon: Announces Route 4 scoping study and listening session with VHB.

Andrea Stoddard – Danby: No updates.

Fred Nicholson - Rutland Town: New fire station/public safety building. The board resurrected a loop around back side of mall, short term rental propositions.

Jack Schneider – Brandon: Select board next week will narrow down which buildings to go after MERP funding. Next month, electric and solar fests to be held.

Karen Sommerlad – Sudbury: This is the last meeting for Karen.

Andre Salamon – Killington: Town plan is up for review, thanks Maggie and Ed for their assistance . Hiring new town manager, current manager becoming public works manager. Looking at sewage and water to foster town center. Building lots of housing.

Sarah Pelkey – Poultney: Planning Commission is working on zoning bylaw modernization with Ed, talking about short term rentals. Renewals for designated downtown and East Poultney village center have been submitted. Poultney Downtown

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COOPERATIVE PLANNING IN THE REGION



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Revitalization Committee is doing lots of work: murals, banners. Better Connections wrapping up, downtown master plan expected before end of year. Finishing up VOREC grant. Talking about new town garage.

Bob Llyod – Tinmouth: Quiet time, no updates.

John Sabotka – Pawlet: Continuing to work on updating bylaws with Ed. Informed by Ed that they need to update town plan by early 2024, working on enhanced energy plan.

Jessica Metcalfe – Mt Holly: Last select board meeting Jessica was reappointed to RPC rep. Results of community vision survey went well. Village wastewater systems event scheduled.

Erika Berner – Wallingford: Prepping for Wallingford day. Planning Commission is working on zoning regulations hoping to have it over to the select board by September.

17. ADJOURN

Chair Berner adjourned the meeting at 7:58PM.