

TRORC Board Meeting

Thompson Senior Center, Woodstock, VT

September 28, 2016 -Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Town	9/28/16	7/27/16	6/22/16	5/25/16	4/27/16	3/23/16
Jerry Fredrickson	Barnard	X		X	X	X	X
Carl Russell	Bethel	X		X		X	X
Nancy Jones	Bradford		X	X	X	X	
Marcey Carver	Bradford (Alt)						X
Mark Bannon	Braintree	X	X			X	
Malcolm Fitzpatrick	Braintree (Alt)	X					
Lynne Bertram	Bridgewater	X		X			X
Dee Montie	Brookfield	X		X			X
Carl Pepperman	Chelsea	X		X	X	X	
Vacant	Corinth			X	X	X	X
Peter Berger	Fairlee	X		X	X	X	X
Mark Belisle	Granville	X	X	X	X		
Monica Collins	Hancock			X		X	
Lori Hirshfield	Hartford		X	X	X	X	
Bruce Riddle	Hartford (Alt)		X	X	X	X	X
Charles Jeffries	Hartland	X			X	X	X
Richard Waddell	Hartland (Alt)		X				
Frank Tegethoff	Newbury	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jeff Goodrich	Norwich						X
Matt Corron	Pittsfield						
Anne Brown	Plymouth	X	X		X		
Bill Emmons	Pomfret	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ramsey Papp	Randolph	X		X			X
Winston Sadoo	Randolph (Alt)	X	X	X	X	X	
Larry Straus	Rochester	X				X	
David Brandau	Royalton			X			
Bushrod Powers	Royalton (Alt)		X	X	X	X	X
Peter Anderson	Sharon	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bill Edgerton	Stockbridge					X	X
Steve Campbell	Strafford	X			X	X	X
Vacant	Thetford		X	X		X	X
Jim Masland	Thetford (Alt)			X			
Jim Bulger	Topsham					X	
Michael Sacca	Tunbridge	X		X		X	X
Bill Baylis	Vershire			X		X	
Nancy Malmquist	W. Fairlee			X			
Don Bourdon	Woodstock	X	X	X	X	X	
UVLSRPC	At-Large			X			
Jennifer Colby	At-Large	X		X			
Ken Alton	At-Large	X	X	X	X	X	
Andrew Winter	At-Large						

Staff: Chris Damiani, Kevin Geiger, Peter Gregory, Dee Gish, Loralee Morrow, Ben Wood
Guests: Jane Huppe, Representative Tim Briglin, John Echeverria

1. Call To Order/Agenda Changes/Public Comments:

Chair Bill Emmons convened the Board meeting at 6:35 p.m. A quorum was declared. There were no public comments.

2. Public hearing – Barnard Town Plan Approval and Confirmation Action:

Chairperson Emmons opened the Public Hearing. There were no public comments. Chairperson Emmons closed the hearing.

3. Approval of Barnard Town Plan and confirmation of planning efforts per 24 VSA, Section 4350:

A motion was made by Dee Montie and seconded by Don Bourdon to approve the Barnard Town Plan. Malcolm Fitzpatrick asked if Town Plans can be approved temporarily since there were qualifiers in the Barnard Town Plan that should have been addressed. Malcolm also asked about zoning. Chris Sargent noted that TRORC looks for substantial progress towards compliance in Town Plans but that statute does not allow temporary approvals. TRORC identifies areas in Plans that should be addressed during the next Plan approval period. Sometimes towns do not seek approval from TRORC. Kevin Geiger noted that zoning bylaws do not come before TRORC. So moved.

A motion was made by Dee Montie and seconded by Frank Tegethoff to Confirm the Barnard planning efforts. So moved.

4. Acceptance of the unaudited July and August Financial Reports:

A motion was made by Mark Belisle and seconded by Peter Berger to approve the July and August Financial reports. So moved.

5. Approval of May and July TRORC Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Don Bourdon and seconded by Anne Brown to approve the May and July TRORC Board Minutes. So moved.

6. Approval of FY 18 Dues Rate:

A motion was made by Jerry Fredrickson, with the Executive Committee recommendation, and seconded by Frank Tegethoff to approve the FY 18 Dues Rate. Chairman Emmons noted that the rate is an increase of 3% per capita from last year, and has been increasing as such for the past few years based on TRORC Board guidance. So moved.

7. TRORC Procurement Procedures Approval:

Dee Gish noted that representatives from VT Agency of Transportation reviewed the Procurement Procedures that were approved in May of 2016 and recommended few changes that were incorporated into the current draft Procedures. Dee also noted an error on page 5 where, in paragraph iii., "standard bid" should have been crossed out and "simplified bid" should remain. A motion was made by Don Bourdon and seconded by Dee Montie to approve the TRORC Procurement Procedures with the noted change. So moved.

8. Rural and Conservation Area development and the proposed New Vista concept:

Chris Sargent and Kevin Geiger gave a presentation regarding rural and conservation area development with regard to Town Plans. Discussion followed. Kevin Geiger noted that 90% of the TRORC region consists of rural and conservation areas. Concerns were raised regarding how to define low density, trying to minimize fragmentation, the scale of the New Vista concept with 20,000 people and the sustainability and impact of such a development. Chris Sargent noted that zoning is a great way for towns to deal with and plan for large scale development. Carl Russell commented that the New Vista idea is a good impetus for towns to review Plans and consider what we want our conservation areas to represent. Michael Sacca mentioned that the Alliance for Vermont Communities is a newly formed organization that seeks to educate communities and to deter land sales to New Vista. Chairman Emmons then called for a ten minute break before the resumption of the meeting.

9. TRORC Regional Plan Chapter – "Fostering Healthier Communities":

Loralee Morrow noted that while not a required chapter for Regional Plans, with encouragement from Commissioners, TRORC has drafted this Healthier Communities chapter for review. Please provide comments to Loralee.

10. Staff/Commissioner Updates:

Kevin Geiger reported that the Act 250 decision on the Quechee Highlands proposal is pending from the VT Supreme Court. Kevin noted that a letter has been sent to towns seeking volunteers for the Clean Water Advisory Committee. Water Quality project funding has increased this fiscal year, while funding for TRORC assistance for towns seeking enhanced energy planning is coming. Chris Sargent noted that some section of the draft Land Use chapter will be coming in November, followed by public hearings in late winter and early spring. In June, TRORC Commissioners will be voting on approval for the Land Use, Health and Energy chapters for the Regional Plan at the Annual Meeting. Chris also announced that the VT Department of Public Service is holding a public hearing for the Act 174 draft standards for enhanced energy planning on October 11 in Randolph.

11. Adjournment – 8:26 pm:

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry Fredrickson. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held Wednesday, October 26th at the Thompson Senior Center in Woodstock.

Minutes Prepared By Dee Gish – September 30, 2016.