

TRORC Board Meeting

The Thompson Senior Center, Woodstock, VT

October 25, 2017 – Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Town	10/25/17	9/27/17	7/12/17	6/28/17	5/31/17	4/26/17
Jerry Fredrickson	Barnard	X	X	X	X	X	X
Carl Russell	Bethel					X	
Nancy Jones	Bradford	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marcey Carver	Bradford (Alt)	X			X		
Malcolm Fitzpatrick	Braintree				X		
Lynne Bertram	Bridgewater		X		X		X
Jon Binhammer	Brookfield	X		X		X	X
Carl Pepperman	Chelsea	X	X		X		X
Tim O'Dell	Corinth	X	X	X	X	X	X
Peter Berger	Fairlee		X		X		
Mark Belisle	Granville	X	X		X	X	X
Monica Collins	Hancock				X		X
Lori Hirshfield	Hartford	X		X	X	X	X
Bruce Riddle	Hartford (Alt)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Charles Jeffries	Hartland	X	X	X	X	X	X
Frank Tegethoff	Newbury	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jeff Goodrich	Norwich				X	X	
Herb Kuendig	Pittsfield		X	X	X	X	
Anne Brown	Plymouth	X		X		X	X
Bill Emmons	Pomfret	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ramsey Papp	Randolph	X	X	X		X	X
Winston Sadoo	Randolph (Alt)		X	X			
Vacant	Rochester						
David Brandau	Royalton	X	X	X			
Bushrod Powers	Royalton (Alt)	X	X		X	X	X
Peter Anderson	Sharon	X			X	X	
Deb Jones	Sharon (Alt)		X				
Bill Edgerton	Stockbridge				X	X	X
Steve Campbell	Strafford	X	X	X	X		X
Stuart Rogers	Thetford	X	X		X	X	
Jim Bulger	Topsham		X				
Michael Sacca	Tunbridge		X				
Bill Baylis	Vershire				X		
Nancy Malmquist	W. Fairlee	X	X	X	X	X	
Don Bourdon	Woodstock		X	X	X	X	X
Steve Schneider	At-Large	X	X		X	X	X
Jennifer Colby	At-Large			X	X	X	X
Ken Alton	At-Large		X	X	X	X	X
Andrew Winter	At-Large	X			X		

Staff: Pete Fellows, Kevin Geiger, Dee Gish, Peter Gregory, Tory Littlefield, Michael Storage.

Guests: Tom Baccei, Planning Commission, W. Fairlee

1. Call to Order:

Chair Bill Emmons convened the Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was declared after roll call. No public comments were received.

2. Approval of September 27, 2017 TRORC Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Bushrod Powers and seconded by Nancy Jones to approve the September TRORC meeting minutes. Unanimously approved.

3. Acceptance of the September, 2017 TRORC Financial Reports:

A motion was made by Bushrod Powers and seconded by Steve Campbell to accept the September financial reports. Peter Gregory noted nearly all municipal dues have been received, that receivables are high on the report, but that the quarterly advance from ACCD has been received. Accepted unanimously.

4. Consideration of TRORC Bylaw changes:

Peter Gregory distributed copies of the Inter-municipal services law, H.249. Some changes to the proposed Bylaw changes were suggested by Commissioners:

Peter Gregory moderated a discussion of the quorum number, Section 9.5. The quorum will be changed to "official representation of not less than 13 member towns."

Lori Hirshfield asked about Section 4.4 and noted that towns cannot obligate funds for more than one year, so for multi-year agreements, there should be a termination clause that considers "subject to the approval of the budget by voters."

Bruce Riddle suggested that the word "content" be changed to "agenda" in Section 8.7, page 6. Bruce also noted that some places in the Bylaws use "TRORC" to refer to staff and sometimes the Board. Section 6.1, second sentence will be changed to "The Executive Director shall notify in writing..." Section 9.6 will be changed to read "By order of the TRORC Board, or the Executive Director, any vote may be taken by..."

It was noted that Members-At-Large can vote, but their attendance does not count toward quorum determination.

5. TRORC Regional Plan discussion:

Kevin Geiger led a discussion on the Flood Resilience and Rural Conservation sub-section of the Land Use chapter. The Flood Resilience section will be revisited by calendar year end and in the meantime, the following recommended changes will be made:

Page 2, under "Causes of Flooding," Steve Campbell suggests putting more emphasis on erosion.

Page 3, Lines 33 through 35, Nancy Malmquist suggests removing the last sentence.

Page 5: Lines 26-29 will be revised.

Page 6: Line 26, replacing "developed" with "is continuing to develop and refine" as suggested by Nancy Malmquist.

Page 12 "Upland Forests" section should be expanded to describe how forests slow the flow of rainwater and to include a mention of evapo-transpiration. Per Nancy Jones and Jon Binhammer.

Page 13, combine the hanging phrase on line 13 with the previous sentence.

Page 15 Lori Hirshfield asked for clarification on the definitions of "buildings" and "structures." Kevin will also clarify the definition of "floodways."

Kevin then revisited where we stand on the Rural and Resource Conservation Areas draft text and maps and noted that due to time constraints, comments would not be taken on the Rural and Conservation Areas sub-section. There will be more meetings with municipal Conservation Commissions to receive comments. The Board will have an opportunity to comment after the outreach meetings.

6. Draft Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) letter:

Pete Fellows reviewed the draft MRGP letter. Lori Hirshfield noted a type-o in item 3 – last sentence should read "so that towns are clear on when they would be triggered." In item 6, a dash should be added to read "in-right-of-way." Pete suggested any further comments should be emailed to jim.ryan@vermont.gov. A motion was made by David Brandau and seconded by Nancy Jones to approve the MRGP letter to Jim Ryan with the suggested changes. Approved with one nay vote by Stuart Rogers.

7. Staff/Commissioner Updates:

Tom Baccei from the W. Fairlee Planning Commission introduced himself.

Peter Gregory reported that he attended the *Act 250 Commission: The Next 50 Years* meeting where legislators were presented with an overview and history of Act 250 and the planning process. There were no legislative updates to report,

but Peter welcomes comments or concerns that he could take to Montpelier. Peter reported that TRORC is working with Downs Rachlin Martin to begin the application process for the 501 (c)3. The Executive Committee and/or Board will be suggesting a name and Board structure for the non-profit.

Lori Hirshfield reported that Hartford has hired a full-time Energy Coordinator and suggested other communities may want to do the same. Please let her know if towns have questions regarding Energy Coordinators.

Steve Campbell announced that Strafford is seeking a Village Designation. Lori Hirshfield noted that Richard Amore from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development will come visit villages seeking a designation.

8. Adjourn:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.
Minutes prepared by Dee Gish 10/27/17.