

**TRORC
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Virtual Meeting

February 9, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Jerry Fredrickson, Chair; Bill Emmons, Vice Chair; Nancy Jones, Treasurer; David Brandau, Nancy Malmquist, Peter G. Gregory, Executive Director; Lori Kay, Finance Manager. Bill Edgerton, Kevin Geiger (Director of Planning) – absent.

1. Call to Order/Changes to Agenda:

Chair Fredrickson convened the meeting at 3:06 p.m. A quorum was declared by the Chair. No changes were made to the agenda.

2. Public Comment:

No public comments were received.

3. Approval of the January 12, 2022 Minutes:

On a motion made by Emmons and seconded by Jones, the Minutes of January 12, 2022, were approved.

4. Acceptance of the unaudited January 2022 Financial Reports:

The unaudited January 2022 Financial Reports were unanimously accepted as presented on a motion made by Emmons and seconded by Jones.

Gregory noted that TRORC is receiving income faster than expected. There have been no changes in expenses. TRORC has received payment for a good share of AR invoices in the first nine days of the month. Northwest Regional Planning Commission is expected to pay their outstanding November invoice by the end of February.

5. Draft Outreach and Communications Plan:

Tory Littlefield provided a high-level overview of the draft Outreach and Communications Plan, noting that the Communications Plan is one of the action items identified in TRORC's Strategic Plan. The Communications Plan will be on the agenda at the February Board meeting – Tory will prepare a PowerPoint presentation for the Board. Tory will be asking for the Board's input and feedback on the draft Plan. Members of the Executive Committee were asked to review the current draft and to send their notes to Peter.

Gerald Fredrickson, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
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6. Staff Updates:

The two-year Term position has been advertised locally in the Valley News and is appearing on the Indeed website and many other planning-related sites. First interview will take place at the end of the month.

7. Project, Scholarship Program, TRORC Audit RFP and Legislative Updates

The Bylaw Modernization awards have been announced and project work has started. TRORC is working with the Town of Randolph on a seven-town consortium.

TRORC will be working on a new Water Quality project. More information will be available soon.

The anticipated new hire will be working primarily on the Creative Economy project once hired. Kim Gilbert, who is leading the project for TRORC, will speak on the project at a future Board meeting.

TRORC's annual Scholarship Program has been announced a little earlier than in past years. The goal is to make the scholarship decisions in time for the local high schools' award events.

Legislation updates:

- Currently working on Housing legislation that will help landlords update their properties. The legislation would also make accessory dwelling units easier to develop.
- Additional MPG grants will be part of State's FY22 budget adjustment act. The bill will be signed soon and some towns in the TRORC region (those that were not funded in the earlier round of awards) may receive funds. Newbury and Stockbridge are possible recipients of these additional funds.
- Working with the House Committee on Energy and Technology on a municipal buildings fuel-switching program. Energy savings audits and weatherization would be part of the program.
- Working with Tom Kennedy of Mt. Ascutney Regional Commission on securing more State funds for Brownfields assessments.
- Infrastructure Transportation funds are becoming available, however there is some concern that Towns may not have the capacity to take on more projects.

Peter is on the Planning Committee for a Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center project for creating a new "Center for Rural Health Equity." More information will be available about this project soon.

8. February Board Meeting

The February board meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, February 23, 2022. Topics will include hearings and votes on the Tunbridge Town Plan Review and the Tunbridge

Determination of Energy Compliance. Staff will present on the Climate Action Plan and Comprehensive Energy Plan, as well as the Outreach and Communications Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:
Lori Kay, Finance Manager, February 11, 2022