

**TRORC Board Meeting – Zoom Meeting
April 27, 2022 – Board Meeting Minutes**

Attendance:

Name	Town	2/24/21	4/28/21	5/26/21	6/23/21	9/22/21	12/15/21	2/23/22	4/27/22
Jerry Fredrickson	Barnard	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Steve Cota	Barnard (Alt)								
Paul Vallee	Bethel	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Carl Russell	Bethel (Alt)								
Nancy Jones	Bradford	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marcey Carver	Bradford (Alt)		X		X			X	X
Marlys Eddy	Braintree							X	X
Chris Southworth	Bridgewater								
Gwynn Zakov	Brookfield		X	X	X	X		X	
Jon Binhammer	Brookfield (Alt.)	X							
Carl Pepperman	Chelsea	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Tim O'Dell	Corinth	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Peter Berger	Fairlee	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mark Belisle	Granville				X		X		X
Monica Collins	Hancock	X		X	X	X			X
Lori Hirshfield	Hartford		X		X	X			X
Bruce Riddle	Hartford (Alt)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Charles Jeffries	Hartland		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
David Ormiston	Hartland		X	X		X	X		
Frank Tegethoff	Newbury	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Larry Scott	Newbury (Alt.)								
Jeff Lubell	Norwich		X	X	X	X		X	
Jaci Allen	Norwich (Alt.)								X
Sarah Gallagher	Pittsfield	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Anne Brown	Plymouth							X	X
Jim Allen	Plymouth (Alt.)								
Bill Emmons	Pomfret	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Phil Dechert	Pomfret (Alt)		X	X	X		X	X	
Ramsey Papp	Randolph	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gary Dir	Randolph (Alt)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Anni Mackay	Rochester	X	X	X			X	X	
Doon Hinderyckx	Rochester (Alt)	X	X	X			X	X	
David Brandau	Royalton	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Bushrod Powers	Royalton (Alt)	X	X	X	X		X	X	

Ira Clark	Sharon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sue Sellew	Sharon (Alt.)								
Bill Edgerton	Stockbridge								
John Echeverria	Strafford		X	X	X		X	X	X
Jesse Anderson	Thetford	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Jim Masland	Thetford (Alt)			X					
Jim Clark	Topsham								X
Michael Sacca	Tunbridge		X	X				X	
Kevin Rose	Tunbridge (Alt)			X				X	X
Bill Baylis	Vershire								
Nancy Malmquist	W. Fairlee	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Don Bourdon	Woodstock	X		X		X	X		
Brad Prescott	Woodstock (Alt)					X			
Meghan Butts	At-Large	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Jennifer Colby	At-Large						X		X
Ken Alton	At-Large		X	X		X	X		X
Dan Rudell	At-Large						X		X
Andrew Winter	At-Large	X	X	X		X		X	X
Meg Emmons	At-Large	X	X			X	X		

Staff: Peter Gregory, Kevin Geiger, Lori Kay, Sage Doviak

1. Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, Roll Call, and Public Comments:

The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. A quorum after roll call was declared. No changes to the agenda were made. There were no comments from the public.

2. Public Hearing – proposed Hancock Town Plan and Hancock Confirmation

No comments were made during the public hearing. Commissioner Fredrickson closed the public hearing.

3. Hancock Town Plan Approval, Hancock Confirmation of Planning Effort

A motion was made by Commissioner Bill Emmons and seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Planner Sage Doviak provided an overview of the 2022 version of the Hancock Town Plan noting that the Town Plan had gone through a major overhaul since its previous version. Doviak had one small recommendation and that was to add information about costs into the Energy section of the Town Plan. Commissioner Fredrickson called for a vote on the acceptance of the Plan. The Town Plan Review was unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

On a motion by Commissioner Tegethoff and seconded by Commissioner Vallee, the Town of Hancock's planning process was confirmed and approved unanimously.

4. Approval of TRORC Board Minutes from February 23, 2022

On a motion made by Commissioner Bill Emmons, and seconded by Commissioner Berger, the February meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Acceptance of the Unaudited February 2022 and March 2022 TRORC Financial Reports

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, and seconded by Commissioner Belisle, to approve the unaudited February 2022 and March 2022 Financial Reports.

Peter Gregory noted that TRORC had additional income this year, which is reflected in the financial reports.

One of the larger projects was the Sole Proprietor grant program that provided grants to Sole Proprietor businesses in about half of Vermont. There is one more grant to make, and then the project can be closed out. The State of Vermont is pleased with TRORC's grant-making services under this program.

Salaries expenditures are higher as well as TRORC has brought on an extra part-time employee to assist with projects. Staff in general is very busy at this time.

Last month, the Executive Committee approved the hire of RHR Smith as TRORC's auditors for another three-year period. RHR Smith will assign a different lead auditor each year to ensure fresh eyes review our financial documents.

Chair Fredrickson called the vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. TRORC Strategic Plan Draft and Action

Kevin Geiger shared the Executive Summary of TRORC's updated Strategic Plan document and provided additional information on each of the strategies and actions. On a motion made by Commissioner Belisle, and seconded by Commissioner Vallee, the updated TRORC Strategic Plan was approved unanimously. Actions from the old Plan, that were accomplished, were deleted. Geiger used a committee to review and update the Strategic Plan.

7. Staff/Commissioner Updates

TRORC Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, June 22, from 5-8pm, outdoors at the King Farm (128 King Farm Road, Woodstock VT). Commissioners and their partners are invited. The meeting will include dinner and a guest speaker, as well as a business meeting to elect officers, adopt the FY23 budget, and announcement of the Volunteer of the Year award and TRORC Scholarship awards.

Volunteer of the Year award nominations are currently open. Nomination forms are available on the TRORC website. Deadline for submission is May 23, 2022.

TRORC staff are assisting three towns in the region which have all recently lost their Zoning Administrators. TRORC is providing short-term assistance to Norwich, Randolph and Woodstock.

EPA Brownfields – we should know in June whether more Federal funds will be made available for this project.

TRORC helped Plymouth with their Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) recently, and that effort will be complete in May. Six to seven more towns in the TRORC region have received state funding to update and write their plans.

TRORC is helping Bradford with an update of their Town Plan. This project should be complete by the end of May 2022.

Work on Woodstock's Transportation Survey has started. Woodstock will use the data collected for their capital planning.

Village designations – TRORC staff are writing three applications; Hancock, Plymouth and Taftsville.

Legislative updates:

- The House Committee on Energy and Technology continues their proposed municipal buildings fuel-switching program. \$35 to \$46 million has been recommended for the grant program. The bill would also allow each RPC to hire one employee for a two-year period to assist towns with energy savings audits and weatherization.
- Housing bills – Federal funds are a major source of funding for each of the proposed Housing bills. \$650,000 is in the appropriations bill for a second year of Housing By-law Modernization grants.
- Funding for the State's Municipal Planning Grants may increase to \$872,000 next year - a 100% increase.
- Transportation bill – includes funds to invest in the transportation infrastructure to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gases.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Meeting Minutes prepared by:
Lori Kay, Finance Manager, May 4, 2022