

**Southern Windsor County
Regional Planning Commission**

Minutes of Monday, April 17, 2017
Martin Memorial Hall, Ascutney, VT

Commissioners Present: Tom Bock, Chester; Peter Daniels, Weathersfield; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Kathy Rondeau, Reading; Logan Nicoll, Ludlow; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor; Walter Martone, Springfield; Joe Fromberger, Andover.

Staff Present: Tom Kennedy, Jason Rasmussen, Cynthia Porter, Katharine Otto.

Tom Bock opened the meeting at 12:18 PM.

1. Changes to the Agenda
 - a. The order of agenda item numbers 4 and 5 were switched.
2. Secretary's Report
 - a. *Tom Kenyon made a motion to approve the March 27, 2017 Secretary's Report. Second by Peter Daniels. Motion passed.*
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Cynthia Porter reported that 100 River Street is current with their payments.
 - b. *Peter Daniels made a motion to accept the March 2017 Treasurer's Report. Second by Tom Kenyon. Motion passed.*
 - c. At the next meeting, Tom Kennedy will report on SRDC loan repayment details.
4. National Award for A to B Mobility Study
 - a. Tom Kennedy reported that the SWCRPC has won an Excellence in Regional Transportation Award from NADO for one of Katharine's recent projects: *A to B Mobility Report*. The Board congratulated Katharine on the award.
 - b. Katharine Otto gave a brief presentation about the study findings. This planning effort evaluated transportation services for getting around the area without driving your own personal vehicle. The resulting report and interactive online map is informative for a variety of groups, but perhaps it is most helpful to human service providers.
5. Discussion about Economic Development
 - a. Tom Kennedy gave a presentation about Facilitating Economic Development in Villages and Downtowns. The presentation was developed by ACCD and NVDA. The presentation generated a good discussion. A number of suggestions were made to tailor the presentation for this region.
6. Update on Land Use Chapter
 - a. Jason Rasmussen reported that the Land Use Advisory Committee has representation from all towns except Ludlow at this time. Someone from Ludlow is welcome to attend. A draft should be ready for review near the beginning of summer, with a final draft by the end of August. The Board is

being kept in the loop with meeting notes and meeting announcements. All are welcome to attend.

7. Update on Legislative Activity

- a. Tom Kennedy and Tom Bock provided updates on a few bills. S.135 would allow for the creation of additional Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts in more communities in Vermont. TIF is an important economic development tool. There is a lot of interest in Springfield in creating a TIF district. The Legislature is largely focusing on funding and water quality at this point of the year. It looks like the session will end the first week of May.

8. Old Business

- a. Tom Kenyon observed that the last snow storm of the year caused more damage to water quality than all of the other storms combined. Due to the weather and road conditions, a lot of snow and sand was plowed into ditches and ended up in the streams.

9. New Business

- a. none

10. The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 PM.