



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

RUTLAND REGION EXECUTIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, 5:00 PM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual Option: [Teams Meeting](#), Call in: 1-802-440-1368, Meeting ID: 362 171 909#

In-Person Option: The Opera House, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701

MEETING MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Berner at 5:01 PM.

2) APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13TH AGENDA

Motion by Allaire to approve the February 13th agenda. Second by Sommerlad. Approved by voice vote.

3) APPROVAL OF JANUARY 9TH MINUTES

Motion by Sommerlad to approve the January 9th minutes. Second by Gibbs. Approved by voice vote.

3) OPEN TO PUBLIC

None present.

4) TREASURERS REPORT

Director Neary provided the treasurers report for December 2022. No significant changes from November 2022. Financials are in good shape.

5) DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Neary provided several updates:

- A. Currently RRPC bylaws include an update to allow share services agreements through the municipal service agreement section.
- B. Final Draft of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is available. Will be sent to full board for review ahead of an approval vote at March meeting.
- C. Neary will be meeting with Rutland Caucus on Wednesday March 15th to meet new legislators, discuss RPC priorities and issues, funding, and successes.
- D. Regional Plan working group is in full swing. Devon, Ed, and Steffanie are leading the working group and have been working on high level outlines, processes, and timelines. Beginning work on outreach plan that will include several public engagement events with Towns.

The Opera House | 67 Merchants Row | Rutland, Vermont

P.O. Box 430 | Rutland, Vermont 05702

RutlandRPC.org | (802) 775-0871

COOPERATIVE PLANNING IN THE REGION



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

- E. Neary completed the VAPDA fringe benefit survey. Will work with MK on some proposals to bring before the committee for discussion. RRPC wants to stay competitive with other RPC benefits.
- F. Neary discussed the legislative funding for RPCs. There are many issues being discussed in the legislature which RPCs could help address if adequate funding is provided. These issues include rural capacity, housing, shared services, climate change, economic development, etc. To address this, the RPC Directors are recommending full statutory formula funding be provided to RPCs. If full statutory formula funding was provided, it would approximately double our regional planning funds. The RRPC boards across the state are being asked to support a resolution for full statutory funding by February 24th.

Normally, the current RRPC bylaws, Section 1103: Notice requires 20 days for “meetings, which include as an agenda item any action related to a bylaw amendment, adoption or amendment of the Commission's budget, Action Plan, or legislative positions of the Commission.” However, due to the tight timeline of the request ahead of legislative action, the Executive Finance Committee under Section 1205: Powers and Duties may “act for the Commission between regular meetings and when immediate action is required, and proper notice under Section 1103 of the Bylaws cannot be given for a special Commission meeting; in this instance a quorum of greater than fifty percent of the Committee must be present to transact any business.” The executive finance committee agreed that this was an appropriate use of Section 1205 and that it was important for the RRPC to have a voice in this discussion and approved the following resolution with a Motion by Gibbs, Second by Solomon, and approved by voice vote:

As regional planning commission board members, we are requesting support from the Legislature to provide full statutory formula funding to regional planning commissions. The capacity of our towns is strained, which has resulted in towns not taking advantage of federal and state funding opportunities. The continued underfunding of RPCs has resulted in lost opportunities and support for our towns. The Property Transfer Tax funding is the foundation that RPCs use to provide support to leverage federal and state resources. We hereby ask the Legislature to support full statutory formula funding for the RPCs increasing the funding from \$4,574,416 in FY23 to the full property transfer tax formula amount of \$10,134,624.

The executive committee also discussed the RRPC Bylaws as it relates to 1103: Notice. The RRPC is the only RPC in the State with bylaw language like 1103. Neary will propose updates for June.

The Opera House | 67 Merchants Row | Rutland, Vermont
P.O. Box 430 | Rutland, Vermont 05702
RutlandRPC.org | (802) 775-0871

COOPERATIVE PLANNING IN THE REGION



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

6) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – FEBRUARY MEETING AGENDA

Director Neary stated that there would be guest speakers from our local Rutland Caucus. The legislative updates will be made from Representatives Jerome from Brandon, Shaw from Pittsford, and Harrison from Chittenden.

7) MEMBER UPDATES

Rutland City: continuing zoning update and received a bylaw modernization grant, 8.3 million in bonds and 1% option tax on the ballot.

Sudbury: moving back to regular March Town Meeting schedule.

Hubbardton: PC is working on some small bylaw revisions.

Killington: TIF bonds are on the ballot and held public meetings on bond vote, looking to buy building for new Town Office.

Shrewsbury: open seat on the SB.

Wallingford: Preparing for town meeting day, RRPC hosting first kickoff meeting for sidewalk replacement project.

9) ADJOURN

Motion by Sommerlad. Second by Gibbs. Adjourned at 5:52 PM.

The Opera House | 67 Merchants Row | Rutland, Vermont
P.O. Box 430 | Rutland, Vermont 05702
RutlandRPC.org | (802) 775-0871

COOPERATIVE PLANNING IN THE REGION