Questions for Commissioners – December 2\textsuperscript{nd}

Summary of Responses

Perspectives on the value of the Commission and your role in it.

What is your primary interest in serving as a Commissioner?
- Resource/information gathering/provide bigger picture to town/understand what’s going on regionally-statewide.
- Adding capacity to town/serve as a resource person.
- Bring local issues to region.
- Help plan and manage development/affect change.
- Personal interest (topical, professional)
- Collaboration and communication/participate in a community.
- Asked to serve.

Over/under-utilized by town?
- Towns don’t understand what Commission/Commissioners can offer/towns don’t know what to do with information.
- Not a priority for towns/selectboards too busy/not interested.
- WRC should improve town understanding/more facetime with towns/greater familiarity.

Over/under-utilized by Commission?
- Resource/Citizen Interest commissioners not used enough.
- Personal decision by Commissioner as to level of engagement.

What would make service more meaningful?
- More engagement in problem-solving/decision-making.
- Greater awareness of what resources/knowledge Commissioners bring.
- Involvement in projects with results/WRC engagement in meaningful issues where difference can be made.
- WRC work too local-should be more regional/statewide.
- Lack of engagement by state agencies/statutes and regulations marginalize regional input.
- Better if towns could choose to be WRC member rather than required.

Perspectives on how the Commission functions.

Does structure promote meaningful engagement by Commissioners in Commission decision-making?
- Overall committee structure works well/little decision making at Full Commission meetings but that’s okay.
Should changes be made to this structure? If so what type of changes?

- Wider distribution of committee minutes.
- More training of commissioners/commissioner orientation/new person has to get up to speed fast.
- More joint committee meetings/break out of issue “silos”

What would make Full Commission meetings more valuable to you?

- Fewer meetings and meeting locations/more meetings and meeting locations.
- 7 p.m. Full Commission start time okay/Start winter meetings at 6 p.m.
- Incorporate committee summary into Full Commission agenda/“family” sharing with people in room versus reading minutes/more back and forth discussion among commissioners.
- More technical training in town planning, Act 250/peer communication.
- More info on Act 250, Public Service Board/speakers that are educational, substantive, process, procedure oriented/relate speakers to work of committees/have official from host town speak at meeting.
- Some support bi-monthly meetings/prefer 4-5 full commission meetings with crosstown talks/10 meetings per year.
- 2 hour meeting time is sometimes insufficient/sometimes too long.
- More unstructured time at meetings/more time to meet, talk with others.
- Tables/chairs should be arranged in circle.

**Commissioner interaction beyond normal committee and Full Commission meetings.**

Is interaction with your fellow Commissioners beyond committee and Full Commission meetings important to you? If so, through what means?

- Commissioner manual needs to be updated, kept current, and made available online.
- Need more staff administrative assistance.
- Need a central repository for contacts.
- More social events are needed and desired – the December 2\textsuperscript{nd} meeting was great.