Natural Resources Committee
August 21, 2013 meeting
Approved Minutes

Attendance
Commissioners: Maggie Bartenhagen, Nicholas Bartenhagen, Andy Toepfer, John Whitman, Dick Clark, Mal Herbert

Staff: Dinah Reed

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:16 pm

Minutes - Draft Minutes of the June meeting, moved to be accepted as written.

Discussion of Update to Regional Plan - Land Use Chapter
- The Committee expressed concern that the Regional Plan was not being looked at holistically and asked for details about the Regional Plan Review Committee, which Dinah said she would provide in email. There was discussion about the timeline for reviewing the policies. It was explained that the updates were being made first, and then the policies would be reviewed to reflect all the updates.
- Overall suggestions made by the Committee:
  - Consider having a category called “infrastructure lands or information corridors” addressing potential issues that most development will occur in those strips in the future.
  - Historical information may be out-of-date in many sections. Needs a good look.
  - Concern about the carrying capacity of the Dover region with regards to resort development. Jay Peak was given as an example.
  - Addressing climate change – VT trend for the past 40 years has made it the 5th warming (temperature increase) state in the union. If we don’t address climate change, our plan will be out-of-date.
  - The fact that the state of VT proposes that infill and development take place in our Villages, but that septic issues prevent this from being a reality. Plan needs to have a reality check about this conundrum.
- Committee members submitted written comments on the Land Use Chapter to Dinah, which were forwarded to Cullen.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Dinah Reed