

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
 CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – FINAL MINUTES

DATE: **Tuesday, October 2, 2018**  
 SCHEDULED TIME: 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
 PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT  
 DOCUMENTS: Minutes, documents, and presentations discussed accessible at:  
<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/meetings/clean-water-advisory-committee/>

<b>Committee Members in Attendance</b>		
Bolton:	Hinesburg:	St. George:
Buels Gore:	Huntington: Darlene Palola	Underhill: Brian Bigelow
Burlington:	Jericho:	Westford:
Charlotte: Marty Illick	Milton: Dave Allerton	Williston:
Colchester: Karen Adams; Andrew Douglas (intern)	Richmond: Jessica Draper	Winooski: Tim Grover
Essex: Annie Costandi	Shelburne:	VAOT:
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo	South Burlington: Tom DiPietro	VANR: Christy Witters
Burlington Airport: Polly Harris (Stantec): arrived 11:15 a.m.	University of VT: Claire Forbes	CCRPC Board:
Friends of the Winooski River:	Lewis Creek Assoc:	Winooski NRCD: Kristen Balschunat
<b>Other Attendees:</b> unknown Winooski resident		
<b>CCRPC Staff:</b> Dan Albrecht, Regina Mahony, Chris Dubin, Charlie Baker		

**1. Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by Annie Costandi.

**2. Review and action on draft minutes of September 4, 2018**

After a brief recap by Dan Albrecht, *Karen Adams made a motion, seconded by Tom DiPietro to approve the minutes. MOTION PASSED with Grover, Illick and Forbes abstaining.*

**3. Review & approve CCRPC comment letter on draft 2018 Winooski Tactical Basin Plan: Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner**

Dan Albrecht recapped the draft comment letter which the CWAC will finalize today, be examined tomorrow by the CCRPC Executive Committee and then voted on by the full Commission at its October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Overall, the letter demonstrates how the various objectives and strategies in the Winooski TBP are consistent with key strategies in the ECOS Plan, especially Actions identified under *ECOS Strategy #3 “Improve the safety, water quality, and habitat of our rivers, streams, wetlands and lakes in each watershed.*

Albrecht noted several separate recommendations many of which were included in the CCRP’s comments on the draft 2016 Lamoille TBP. These include: prioritizing implementation of project with a high phosphorus remove benefit per cost ratio especially those with additional co-benefits such as hazard mitigation, transportation improvement, social benefit, etc; more work on scoping and design of projects in areas of high phosphorus loading and providing mechanisms (e.g. credit trading) by which municipalities and the private sector could invest in natural resources or agriculture projects so as to achieve the highest phosphorus reduction per dollar spent.

Albrecht took some extra time explaining the rationale behind recommendation #2 on page 4, namely that six non-phosphorus removal strategies in the TBP should be considered as Secondary Strategies. Members concurred with this point.

The letter also emphasizes that forcing municipal wastewater plants to spend millions in a non-cost-efficient manner to remove a relatively small amount of phosphorus will have negative effects (by driving up the cost of housing) and make it difficult to meet key strategies in the ECOS Plan especially #2, Strive for 80% of new development in areas for planned growth. Given an increase Darlene Palola suggested adding language noting that this would also make infill and brownfields redevelopment more expensive. Members agreed with this proposed revision.

Palola and Brian Bigelow noted that the references to towns in the Basin on page 1 should have Bolton, Huntington and Richmond added and that Underhill be listed as a town with only a small portion in the Basin.

1 *Darlene Palola made a motion, seconded by Brian Bigelow to approve the letter as drafted with the minor*  
2 *additions just discussed. MOTION PASSED with Illick and Harris abstaining.*  
3

4 **4. Recommend appointment guidelines for non-municipal representatives to CWAC: Charlie Baker,**  
5 **CCRPC Executive Director**

6 Charlie Baker first apologized for the awkwardness of having the CCRPC Board going ahead with his  
7 recommendation to appoint Friends of the Winooski River, Lewis Creek Association and Winooski NRCD as  
8 CWAC members absent a formal CWAC recommendation. The short amount of time the CWAC had to  
9 discuss it at their September meeting and the requirements of the FY19 grant agreement led to an accelerated  
10 time frame and it is not how things are usually done.

11 The Board had a robust discussion of potential criteria and would like to hear back from the CWAC as to  
12 their recommendations. The four suggested guidelines in the staff memo to the CWAC come from both  
13 discussions at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> CWAC and September 19<sup>th</sup> full board meeting as well as from  
14 communications from individual CWAC members to him. [Note: These four guidelines are:

- 15 1) the organization's primary focus is on watersheds that are within Chittenden County;  
16 2) that they are established non-profit organizations with a track record of participating as partners with our  
17 municipalities on the implementation of water quality research, outreach and improvement projects;  
18 3) that the organization be nominated by at least one CWAC municipal member; and  
19 4) that the organization not be primarily engaged in political or lobbying activities.

20 Marty Illick noted that to her organization, Lewis Creek Association, it is not critical that they be able to  
21 vote. She views their group as a support group that enhance the capabilities of the municipalities. Kristen  
22 Balschunat echoed those statements noting that the organizations can help with grant implementation.

23 Members had no concerns with guidelines #1-#3. There was some discussion about removing #4 as first  
24 three guidelines would likely preclude membership from overtly political/lobbying groups. Karen Adams  
25 noted that #4 had primarily come from James Sherrard so we should wait to see how he feels about the issue.  
26 Members agreed to resume action on these guidelines at the next CWAC meeting.

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28 **5. Updates**

29 None.  
30

31 **6. Items for November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda**

32  
33 Continued work on guidelines for non-municipal CWAC members; status of 3-acre permit rule and  
34 preliminary list of potential regulated parcels.  
35

36 **Adjournment**

37 The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.  
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39

*Respectfully submitted, Dan Albrecht*