



## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday July 20, 2021

**5:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting**, Physical location: Fairfax Community Library, Hunt St., Fairfax

**Attendance:** Elisabeth Nance, Lori Ruple, Andy Alling, Lynn Douglas, Rowena Brown, Catherine Dimitruk (at physical location)

**Adjustments to the Agenda-** There were no adjustments to the agenda.

### **Executive Director Updates**

C. Dimitruk provided an overview of upcoming hiring, evaluation schedules, and office update. E. Nance noted the announcement about Dean Pierce joining the staff. L. Ruple asked that we extend an invitation for him to join the July Board meeting. C. Dimitruk provided an update on the Working Communities Challenge, Richford community development, and healthy roots. The committee discussed staff at the office alone for public meetings that are otherwise virtual. The consensus is that staff should avoid being at the office alone through scheduling at other public locations, ensuring other staff may be present or having hybrid meetings. If a staff member needs to schedule a meeting alone at the office, other safety protocols will be used. C. Dimitruk will communicate this to staff, have discussions at staff meetings and update the committee.

### **Project Review Committee- Regional Plan Conformance**

The committee discussed the conflicts between local and regional plans in the vicinity of exit 20 and how that is addressed in Act 250. The committee discussed the importance of sidewalks and paths and the regional plan policies. C. Dimitruk will continue to communicate with local officials and will update the committee.

### **Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion- next steps**

The committee discussed next steps for the commission and ideas for actions including: drafting an inclusion statement for the Board, sharing the municipal inclusion statement with our communities, ensuring the regional plan includes this woven throughout, adding an Abenaki rep. on the Board of Commissioners and having inclusion guidelines for committees. For the Board agenda item, it was agreed that the Board will be asked to endorse tasking the Executive and Regional Plan committees with drafting a statement and collection of action items for consideration at the September meeting.

### **FY 22 Committee Assignments**

Committee members discussed committee membership and potential changes for the FY 22 appointments.

### **Member and staff announcements**

E. Nance noted that US 78 construction will begin in 2025, and that this is being done to support A-35 construction traffic. C. Dimitruk noted that L. Douglas has agreed to be the HRC advisory committee member from the Board.

E. Nance moved to adjourn. A. Alling seconded. Motion carried unanimously.