



STATE OF VERMONT
General Assembly
Commission on Act 250:
the Next 50 Years

MINUTES – OCTOBER 11, 2018

Pursuant to 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 47 (Act 47), Chair Rep. Sheldon convened the Commission on Act 250: the Next 50 Years (Commission) convened on Thursday, October 11, 2018, at 10 a.m. in the Ethan Allen Room at the State House in Montpelier.

Commission members present

Rep. Amy Sheldon, Chair	Rep. David Deen
Sen. Christopher A. Pearson, Vice Chair	Rep. Paul Lefebvre
Sen. Brian Campion	Sen. Richard McCormack

Advisors to the Commission or designees of advisors present

Chris Cochran, ACCD	Billy Coster, ANR
Dan Dutcher, AOT	Sharon Murray, VPA
Brian Shupe, VNRC	Diane Snelling, Chair, NRB
Gerry Tarrant, VBA	

Staff present

Aaron Adler, Legislative Counsel	Michael O'Grady, Dep. Director, Legal
Ellen Czajkowski, Law Clerk	Mike Ferrant, Dep. Director for Operations

Others present

Paul Dickin, Cope and Associates	Donna Barlow Casey, NRB
Greg Boulbol, NRB	Elizabeth Humstone, Humstone Assoc.
Sam Lincoln, Dep. Commissioner, DFW	Cindy Locke, VAST
Diane Snelling, NRB	Michael Snyder, Commissioner, DFW

Mr. Dickin of Cope and Associates presented the draft community input report to the Commission and answered questions from the Commission. The Commission discussed an issue related to identifying information that may be present in e-mails and written comments submitted to the Commission. Mr. O'Grady attended briefly to testify on this issue. The Commission indicated that, when its report is submitted, it would like to redact contact information in the e-

mails and written comments such as e-mail addresses, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers.

Mr. Adler reviewed a draft structural outline of the Commission's report and the results of research into land use regulation in other jurisdictions. He answered questions from the Commission.

Chair Snelling and Messrs. Boulbol and Coster testified on the issue of Act 250 jurisdiction over trails and the working group report related to that issue submitted pursuant to 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 194, Sec. 3. They answered questions from the Commission.

Chair Snelling, Deputy Commissioner Lincoln, and Mr. Boulbol testified on the issue of Act 250 permit conditions for forest processing operations raised by 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 194, Sec. 7, and answered questions from the Commission.

Mr. Boulbol will follow up by sending the Commission statistics cited in his presentations on trails and forest processing operations.

Ms. Humstone, an urban planner and principal at Humstone Associates, testified on the development in the 1970s of Act 250's capability and development plan. Ms. Humstone formerly worked for the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the State Planning Office.

Mr. Dutcher requested that the Commission allot time at its October 26 meeting to hear testimony from the Agency of Transportation.

Ms. Locke testified on costs relating to disputing Act 250 jurisdiction over trails operated by the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers and to obtaining permits when required.

Ms. Murray and Mr. Shupe stated that they sought to testify at the October 26 meeting.

The Commission discussed scheduling future meetings after October 26. The scheduling will be completed through a Doodle poll.

The Commission then reviewed the issues itemized in the structural outline and discussed whether additional information was needed on these items. It made requests of staff and advisors relative to information needed and potential future testimony.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Adler
Legislative Counsel