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

MINUTES – OCTOBER 26, 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 Friday, October 26, 2018, at 10 a.m. in Room 11 at the State House in Montpelier.

Commission members present

Rep. Amy Sheldon, Chair Sen. Christopher A. Pearson, Vice Chair Sen. Brian Campion

Rep. David Deen Rep. Paul Lefebvre Sen. Richard McCormack

Billy Coster, ANR Sharon Murray, VPA

Advisors to the Commission or designees of advisors present

Chris Cochran, ACCD Dan Dutcher, AOT Brian Shupe, VNRC

Staff present

Aaron Adler, Legislative Counsel Ellen Czajkowski, Law Clerk Faith Brown, Committee Assistant

Diane Snelling, Chair, NRB

Others present

John Adams, ADS Kate McCarthy, VNRC Peter Walke, Deputy Secretary, ANR Jamey Fidel, VNRC Bruce Post

Mr. Adler reviewed the findings made by the General Assembly in 1970 when it passed Act 250, the findings from 1973 that form the Capability and Development Plan, and the Act 250 criteria.

Mr. Adams presented data related to Vermont's settlement patterns.

Mr. Shupe spoke on issues related to Vermont's settlement patterns and Act 250.

Mr. Post testified on changes to the land over time and the possible inclusion of a criterion related to ecological assessment and protection.

Chair Snelling and Deputy Secretary Walke made recommendations on issues within the Commission's charge.

Ms. Murray presented recommendations from the Vermont Planners Association.

Mr. Adler reviewed draft language for the committee's report related to factual and statutory background on the settlement patterns issue.

Chair Rep. Sheldon requested that all advisors submit their recommendations by the Commission's next meeting, scheduled for November 8, 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Adler Legislative Counsel