

State of Vermont
Department of Housing and Community Development
Deane C. Davis Building – 6th Floor [phone] 802-828-3211
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

*Agency of Commerce and
Community Development*

Memorandum

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

From: Katie Buckley, Commissioner
Department of Housing and Community Development

Date: October 9, 2018

RE: Sunset Advisory Commission Testimony
(Dale Azaria, General Counsel, will testify on behalf of DHCD)

Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs:

- ACCD has no statutory oversight, provides administrative staffing only
- This Commission meets as needed, typically 9 times per year
- Agenda and Minutes are found: <http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/partners/vcnaa>
- Members are: Paul Fassler term expires 8/31/2019; Eugene Rich term expires 8/31/2020; Jennifer Morton-Dow term expires 8/31/2019; Cheryl O'Neil term expires 8/31/2020; Carol Irons term expires 8/31/2020; Richard Holschuh term expires 8/31/2020; Andrea Lee Brett term expires 8/31/2019; Carol McGranaghan term expires 8/31/2020; one open seat. Terms of 2 years or until successors are appointed; cannot serve more than two consecutive terms unless there are no sufficient replacements.
- Commission Member's per diem rate is: \$50.00 per day plus mileage at federal rate; \$0.545
- VCNAA recognizes the historic and cultural contributions of Native American heritage and addresses needs in state policy, programs, actions and provides technical assistance on application process for state recognition of Native American Indian tribes.
- Yes, purpose is still needed
- If no longer fulfilled purpose: No government representative of Vermont Native American population
- Four state tribes have been recognized by the VCNAA. The commission identifies educational, employment, social service, health care and housing issues related to Vermont's Native American population.
- If executed in a different manner: Expansion of the assistance by state government to include agencies of Education and Health & Human Services to provide more proactive support to commission and identified issues, especially as they related to their mission of developing policies and programs to benefit Vermont's Native American Indian population.
- This commission has no overlap with other state/federal boards or state agencies

- Enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose of Commission: In part (yes for recognition of state tribes/no for developing policies and programs to benefit Vermont's Native American population with regard to education, employment, social services, health care, and house as these are all issues beyond the capacity of VDHP).
- Fiscal year costs equal \$8670. (per diem \$2636/mileage reimbursement \$2840/staff time \$3194)
- No reports or studies are required

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

- Required Board as part of federal funding and National Historic Preservation Act/Vermont Historic Preservation Act; Four members of the ACHP are required to be recognized professionals in the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, and archeology.
- This Board meets 11 times per year
- Members are: Britta Tonn, term expires 2/28/2021; David Donath, term expires 2/29/2019; Paul Wyncoop, term expires 2/28/2020; Joseph Luneau, term expires 2/28/2021; Edward Clark, term expires 2/28/2020; Blaine Cliver 2/29/2019. terms of 3 years or until successors are appointed
- Board Member's Appointing Authority: Governor w/candidate list provided by VDHP
- Board Member's per diem rate is: \$50.00 per day plus mileage at federal rate; \$0.545
- The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation augments the efforts of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and serves as the State Review Board as required by the National Historic Preservation Act. By State statute, the members are charged with approving nominations to the State Register of Historic Places, reviewing nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, assessing of the survey documentation for historic properties, approving the Predictive Model for archaeologically sensitive areas; annually evaluating the activities of VDHP outlined in State Historic Preservation Plan, recommending projects seeking state and federal grant funding, and providing consultation on state and federal undertakings that may affect historic properties. Some of these activities have been delegated to the staff of VDHP.
- Yes, purpose is still needed
- If no longer fulfilled purpose: Non-compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act; loss of federal funding
- Evidence of performance: The ACHP has upheld their federal and state requirements. In the past year, they awarded 17 certified local government grants, 34 barn preservation grants, 31 historic preservation grants, reviewed and recommended forwarding 5 National Register nominations, accepted a new state historic context related to transportation, listed 4 properties to the State Register and delisted one property from the State Register, awarded 11 commemorative Roadside Historic Site Markers, and evaluated all project review under Section 106 and 22 VSA, as well as monitored the activities of the State Historic Preservation Office based on the State Preservation Plan. All activities are reported annually to the National Park Service as required by the National Historic Preservation Act.
- There is no overlap with other state/federal boards or state agencies
- Enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose of Commission: Yes
- Fiscal year costs equal \$10,402.: per diem \$3000/mileage reimbursement \$3596/catering \$306/staff time \$3500

- No legislative reports or studies required: Reporting is done to the National Park Service annually by State Historic Preservation Officer

Vermont Community Development Board:

- This Board meets 3 times per year (April, June, November)
- Agenda and Minutes are found: [VCDP Board](#)
- Members are: Cynthia Gubb, term expires 4/21/21; Elizabeth Ruffa, term expires 4/21/21; David Scherr, term expires 4/21/19; Sarah Carpenter, term expires 4/21/21; Lisa Sullivan, term expires 4/21/19; Kenneth Niemczyk, term expires 4/21/20; Amelia Silver, term expires 4/21/20; Bruce MacLean, term expires 4/21/20; Angus Chaney, term expires 4/21/21. (confirm length of terms)
Originally, Board members were appointed as follows: appoint three for one year, three for two years and three for three years.
- Board Member's Appointing Authority: Governor
- Board Members per diem rate: \$50.00 per day plus mileage (at federal rate \$0.545) and reimbursed for necessary expenses
- The goal of this board is to provide funding recommendations to the ACCD Secretary for approximately \$6.5 million in annual CDBG grant funds.
- Yes, purpose is still needed
- If no longer fulfilled purpose: The Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) would not have the wide range of expertise from board members who represent a wide range of professional experience from residents in different geographic regions of the state.
- Evidence of this board's performance can be found in the Annual report to Governor and General Assembly and CAPER (HUD).
- This board has no overlap with other state/federal boards or state agencies
- Fiscal Year Cost = \$2,433.10 for per diem and mileage reimbursement
- This Board is required to submit a report yearly to the Governor and General Assembly

Vermont Downtown Development Board:

- This board meets 6 times per year
- Minutes are available via <https://accd.vermont.gov/document-categories/minutes>
- Members are: Katie Buckley (chair), designated by the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development
Michele Boomhower (vice-chair), designated by the Secretary of Transportation
Peter Walke, designated by the Secretary of Natural Resources
Michael Desrochers, designated by the Commissioner of Public Safety
Laura Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer
Patricia M. Sears, appointed by the Governor, representing the Vermont Natural Resources Council and the Preservation Trust of Vermont
Thomas Torti, appointed by the Governor, representing the VT Association of Chamber Executives
Gabrielle Ciuffreda, designated by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Michael McDonough, appointed by the Governor, representing local government

Liz Gamache, appointed by the Governor, representing local government

Chip Sawyer, designated by the Vermont Planners Association

Donna Casey, designated by Chair of the Natural Resources Board

Tasha Wallis, designated by the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies

- Board Member's Appointing Authority: Governor, with some statutory appointments by stakeholders
- No Per Diem
- The Board administers the Downtown Development Act. The Board supports the preservation and enhancement of Vermont's distinctive landscape of compact centers surrounded by rural land with policies and programs including the state designation programs, rehabilitation tax credits and grants.
- Yes, purpose is still needed
- If no longer fulfilled purpose: No town designations, no funding awards
- Evidence of boards performance: The board functions well and receives regular notes of thanks from the public and towns about its professionalism
- This board has no overlap with other state/federal boards or state agencies
- Enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose of Commission: Yes
- Fiscal Year Cost = less than \$1000, the board is served by existing DHCD staff.
- The Board has no reporting obligations

Vermont Housing Finance Agency: ACCD has no statutory oversight

Vermont State Housing Authority: ACCD has no statutory oversight

Municipal Planning Commissions: ACCD has no statutory oversight