The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

ATTENDANCE
Matt Mann (staff)        Dick Clark                      Paul Cameron
Lou Bruso                Rep. Mollie Burke              Michael Bosworth
George Mora              Prisilla Margola                Nicholas Wallaert

MINUTES APPROVAL
The minutes of April 11, 2016 were approved as written.

BUSINESS –
Bridge Assessment, Prioritization, Maintenance, Funding and Programming
Pam Thurber, Bridge Inspection and Budget Program Manager, VTrans, presented on the many facets of State and Town Highways bridges (structures). She discussed with the Committee the actual number of structures on the State highway system and noted there is not an exact number for short structures (span length between 6-20ft) on the Town Highway systems. The State does a bridge inspection, every two years, on long structures (greater than 20ft), on the State and Town Highway network. These inspection reports can be accessed on the VTrans web page: http://vtrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?appid=3c177f83094f4e0691b3db4b52622c79. Pam then discussed types of inspections (e.g. initial, routine, damage, underwater) and what is included in the prioritization of the long structures. The prioritization factors include: bridge condition, regional priority, functionality, load capacity, waterway adequacy, asset factor. She finished her presentation by stressing the importance of preventative maintenance. This includes: brush cutting, washing bridges annually, smooth wearing surfaces, keep over weight vehicles off the structures, repair bent or broken guardrails).
Passenger Rail Service
Michael Bosworth and Paul Cameron, Brattleboro Energy Committee, discussed their letter to VTrans, supporting an increase in passenger rail service; both north and south bound. Here’s an excerpt from the letter: *With half of Vermont’s carbon emissions coming from the transportation sector, it is essential for our town and state to encourage convenient, affordable mass transit options to address climate change.* Michael and Paul requested the Committee to write a support letter as well; in-line with supporting an increase in passenger rail service. The Committee voted to approve WRC staff to write this support letter and send it to VTrans.

Next Meeting: June 13th