The meeting was called to order at 4:40 PM.

ATTENDANCE
Lew Sorenson   Susan Clark (by phone)   Kendall Gifford (staff)
Fred Bullock (by phone) Gary Fox   Matt Mann (staff)
Mary Habig (CRT) Reg Maynard  Nicolas Wallaert
Gail MacArthur Barb Walsh   Dora Bouboulis

Fred Bullock joined by speaker phone, and chaired the meeting

MINUTES APPROVAL
Committee approved the minutes as submitted.

BUSINESS

Transportation Planning Initiative FY 12 Work Program
The Committee discussed the previous changes and new comments to the most recent Work Program draft. Discussion included:

- New language adding potential for exploring Route 30 corridor as Scenic Byway.
- VTrans expansion of the familiar Rail Siding Study to include language on potential trans-loading facilities feasibility study for Rockingham and Brattleboro. This would document the potential truck volume reduction on highway system. Sue Clark explained that this language better meets federal TPI funding eligibility requirements.
- Committee recommended further language addition to the rail study task in order to enable the work to include other Towns with rail sidings, such as Putney Station (actually in Dummerston,) Westminster, and Vernon.
- Discussed a new task on this recent draft: to work with towns that have already identified pedestrian and bicycle projects and provide a brief report to VTrans by March of 2012. This would give an overview of the type of project, project cost and status of plans. Sue Clark explained that this item came onto the list as a result of the new administration’s commitment to increasing Bike and pedestrian funding. The
implication is that project funding will be available for towns that have demonstrated readiness.

- Discussed how the addition of projects to TPI without increases in funding might be “diluting” WRC transportation work overall. Sue explained that some items do come off the list, for example there is only one more year of the road surface sufficiency studies. Matt pointed out that many of the activities are only engaged in when there is specific interest and need. In this sense the program has flexibility to appropriately adapt to the most relevant and appropriate activities.

Lew moved to submit the TPI work program as revised, including the language extending the towns that might be included in the Rail Siding Study. Nicolas seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed with neither dissent nor abstention.

“Way to Go Week”
Matt reported that participation statewide increased from last year, and that Brattleboro showed significantly higher numbers – this in spite of wet cold weather. The WRC will be working with area businesses to get something going in the fall as well. We do not yet know if other RPCs will join this effort, but the state wide Way-to-Go website will work with us.

Public Transit Policy Plan - VTrans
This update draft is 60% complete. There is an emphasis on serving the elderly, youth, and handicapped. Mary Habig of CT River Transit has been outspoken in support of this emphasis. Full details of the update may be found on VTrans website.

Next meeting is scheduled for 11 July. Details will be announced by e-mail.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30