

**TOWN OF ESSEX
APPOINTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR
BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

LOCAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

TRAILS COMMITTEE

The Town of Essex Trails Committee is composed of five residents of the Town and is appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The mission of the Trails Committee is to preserve, develop and maintain a multi-use trail, sidewalk and greenway system in the Town of Essex which will link residential neighborhoods to natural areas, schools, parks, businesses, recreational facilities, community centers and neighboring towns.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town of Essex Conservation Committee is composed of five residents of the Town and is appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The mission of the Conservation Committee is to inventory and study the natural, historic, educational, cultural, scientific, architectural, or archaeological resources of the town in which the public has an interest. The Committee also advises the Selectboard and Planning Commission on matters relating to the public understanding of local natural resources and conservation needs, development applications and acquisition of lands involving the above resources.

MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

The Memorial Hall Committee is composed of seven residents appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The purpose of the Memorial Hall Committee is to act on behalf of the Selectboard in the oversight and operation of Memorial Hall located on Towers Road in Essex Center. The Committee is charged with maintaining the hall for the benefit of the entire community, planning and facilitating the use of the hall to include building improvements, exploring grant availability and executing fundraising efforts and providing annual recommendations to the Selectboard on usage fees for Memorial Hall.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Energy Committee is composed of seven individuals appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The Energy Committee is to provide leadership to the citizens and is charged with tracking municipal energy use, recommending targets and actions for decreasing use, researching and recommending opportunities to utilize renewable energy sources and the efficient use of energy within town operations, developing and managing

energy efficiency educational programs and creating annual reports on energy projects and opportunities. The committee shall not be a formal party or representative of the municipality in any venue without prior approval of the Town Manager.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Economic Development Commission is composed of five residents of the Town and is appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The Economic Development Commission is responsible for promoting the quality of life in Essex. The mission of the Commission is to assist with the retention, expansion and development of existing business; assist with the location and development of new industrial and commercial firms to Essex; plan for development to assure economic diversification and to provide the Selectboard with advice to enhance our commercial and industrial base.

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is composed of seven residents of the Town appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The Board of Trustees plays a significant role in developing long-range plans, evaluating library service and promoting library use throughout the town. The Trustees also assist the Town Manager in the selection of a head librarian and report to the Manager and Selectboard on the status of the library and expenditure of monies that have come into their hands.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission is composed of seven members, the majority of which are residents of the town, who are appointed by the Selectboard for four-year terms. The Commission is responsible for preparing, maintaining and amending the municipal plan, zoning regulations and subdivision regulations; undertaking reviews under these regulations; participating in the review of applications under Act 250; and conducting studies and making recommendations on land development and redevelopment, transportation, design, historic and scenic preservation, energy conservation and natural resource protection.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is composed of five members who are appointed by the Selectboard for three-year terms. The purpose of the Zoning Board of Adjustment is to provide a degree of flexibility to an otherwise rigid system of regulation, to safeguard the rights of property owners and to alleviate the need for minor amendments to the ordinance through the exercise of a degree of administrative discretion as specifically authorized by state statutes.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is composed of three or five members who are appointed by the Town Manager with the approval of the Selectboard for three-year terms. The commissioners are responsible for the care and management of the town's burial grounds, establish fees, determining rules and regulation for the use of the cemetery and overseeing the income from the cemetery trust expendable fund with assistance from the town administration.

TOWN SERVICE OFFICER

The Town Service Officer is appointed by the Selectboard each year for a one-year term. The Town Service Officer is charged with assisting individuals within the town who require emergency food, fuel or shelter assistance. Normally, this official is only called upon during evenings and weekends when the Vermont Department of Social Welfare is closed.

TREE WARDEN

The Tree Warden is appointed by the Selectboard and has the responsibility of caring for the shade and ornamental trees in public ways and places according to state statute (24 VSA Section 2502).

REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT

A union of nine municipalities whose purpose is to provide water to its members. The commissioners make policy on the water district's operations and water rates. The representative is an elected position, but the alternate is appointed by the Selectboard.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is a 24-member board consisting of appointed delegates from Chittenden County's 19 municipalities and five elected at-large members representing the interests of agriculture, industrial/business, natural resources, conservation/environmental, socio-economic/housing and transportation. The mission of the Commission is to educate, forge and strengthen community partnerships to achieve a vision for the County through a strong regional planning process. The Commission is also responsible for preparation and implementation of a regional plan and providing technical assistance to communities on a variety of planning issues.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

The Chittenden County Transportation Authority was created in 1973 by the Vermont General Assembly and four founding communities: Burlington, Essex, South Burlington and Winooski, with the town of Shelburne becoming a CCTA member in 1997. The CCTA operates with a member board appointed by their respective municipalities. CCTA is a full service public transportation provider, offering multi-modal transportation services including: fixed bus route service; parking lot, supermarket and school shuttles, a county-wide ridesharing program, transportation for Medicaid recipients and contracted ADA service for people who cannot use the bus.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization is the transportation policy and planning agency for Chittenden County, and is responsible under federal law for developing the region's 20 year Metropolitan Transportation Plan and annually-updated three year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The CCMPO includes representation from each of the County's 18 municipalities (appointed by the Selectboard) as well as the State Agency of Transportation, the Chittenden County Transportation Authority, the Regional Planning Commission, Burlington International Airport, the railroad industry, and the US Department of Transportation.

CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

The Chittenden Solid Waste District owns and oversees 12 solid waste or recycling facilities in Chittenden County for its 17 member municipalities. A Board of Commissioners, who sets policy and oversees financial matters, governs CSWD. One Commissioner is appointed by each member community.

WINOOSKI VALLEY PARK DISTRICT

The Winooski Valley Park District is a regional land trust whose mission is to preserve natural areas that are a short walk or bike from where people live and work. The District oversees 16 parks offering 28 miles of trails, picnic and gardening sports, canoe and fishing accesses and over 12 miles of shoreline. The Selectboard appoints one Trustee from Essex.

CHANNEL 17 GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL

A cable television service for area municipalities for the purpose of televising public meetings and activities of the public boards and bodies.