



DRAFT Commission Development Committee Minutes from February 5, 2026

This was a virtual meeting as allowed by An Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency, extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A sec.20 until June 30, 2027.

I. Call to Order

Doug McNally called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present:

Douglas McNally, Windsor, Committee Chair

Buck Donovan, Lee

Pedro Pachano, Great Barrington

Malcolm Fick, Great Barrington (ex-officio Commission Chair)

Not Present: Kyle Hanlon, North Adams

BRPC Staff present: Thomas Matuszko, Laura Brennan

III. Approval of Minutes from November 12, 2025

Buck D. moved to approve the minutes from the November 12th meeting. Pedro P. seconded the motion, which passed by roll call vote. Pedro P. abstained.

IV. Discussion and Action re: Proposed BRPC Bylaw amendments

Tom M. explained that the bulk of the adjustments were for the purposes of cleanup and clarification. The group reviewed the proposed changes in the order in which they appear within the draft document, using a redline version which was shared on the screen.

Much of the discussion addressed the appointment processes for standing and special committees, as well as continuity and succession on committees, including the temporary chairing of committees in the absence of the appointed chair or during vacancies. Affected sections include C.2., C.3., D.1., D.8., D.8.1, D.8.2, D.9, D.10.1, D.10.2, D.10.4, E.1.1, and F.4.

The group discussed next steps, to include sharing the proposed changes with the Executive Committee at its next meeting for informational purposes, prior to review by the full commission in late March. Pedro P. made a motion that the proposed fourteenth revision be recommended to the full Commission for their consideration and approval. Buck D. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

V. Discussion of 5th Thursday Event on April 30th, 2026

The group discussed the next potential 5th Thursday event, which would occur on April 30th. Group members considered a few potential topics, including Seasonal Communities as well as the consolidated permitting procedure and potential bylaw changes related to energy siting. Consolidated permitting was the preferred topic, and Tom mentioned that the invitation list for such a discussion should include all boards that would be affected by the upcoming changes. Tom will reach out to a contact at DOER as the potential guest speaker.

Given the strong interest in this topic, the group also discussed potential venues to accommodate a larger group. Potential locations include the Venue at Skyline, the Country Club of Pittsfield, and Berkshire Hills. BRPC staff will do site visits and determine the best option, ensuring that there is ample parking at the Venue at Skyline.

VI. Discussion of the Formation of a Nominating Subcommittee

The need to form a nominating subcommittee was identified, at least until such a time as the revised bylaws are adopted. Pedro P. made a motion that the members of the Commission Development Committee be appointed to the Nominating Subcommittee. Buck D. seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Next Meeting Dates

The group identified March 5th as the next meeting date for both the Commission Development Committee and the Nominating Subcommittee.

VIII. Adjournment

Pedro P. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Buck D. seconded. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Documents and Exhibits Used:

DRAFT Minutes of November 12th Commission Development Committee meeting

DRAFT proposed Fourteenth Revision of the BRPC Bylaws