



November 22, 2013

November Meeting Minutes

APA-MD Chapter: 11/22/13 Meeting
Anne Arundel County Department of Planning

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

Roll Call:

(In Room)

Jackie Seneschal – President
David Whitaker – Secretary
Rafey Subhani – Member-at-Large
Kyle Nembhard – Member-at-Large Metro Area
Lauren Good – Host & Young Planners’ representative
Dr. Siddhartha Sen – Faculty Representative Morgan State University
Megan Griffith – Student Representative Morgan State University
Aviva Brown - Student Representative UMD College Park
Holly A. Tompkins – Queen Anne’s County

(Call In)

Parag Agrawal – President Elect
Jacqui Rouse – Professional Development Officer

Dr. Sen reminded all that there is still time to submit comments on the proposed Strategic Plan for the Department of City and Regional Planning at Morgan State University. Comments from members of the MD Chapter APA are appreciated as it regards the Strategic Plan for Morgan State’s professional planning curriculum and program.

Jackie Seneschal introduced Holly Arnold Tompkins as the representative to the Executive Committee for the Maryland APA Newsletter Editorial Board. Holly is a Senior Planner in Queen Anne’s County. She is in charge of APFO duties along with development review and a host of other functions for Queen Anne’s County’s planning department.

Jackie also announced that Kui Zhao and Shubha Adhikari are filling the other two positions on the Newsletter Editorial Board. Kiu Zhao is a Senior Planner for Baltimore County and Shubha works for Baltimore City and is currently involved in the planning for Baltimore’s Red Line light rail system.

Holly Tompkins requested that articles for the Winter edition of Maryland Planner be forwarded to the members of the Editorial Board by the middle of December. The next newsletter is planned to be published by February 2014.

Jackie Seneschal suggested that the Editorial Board consider articles on the recently completed Maryland Chapter Member Survey, the site visit and discussion at Boordy's Vineyards, the upcoming Local Government Exchanges, the City of Baltimore's new zoning ordinance, and perhaps an article on Morgan State's new student organization, among others.

Old Business

October 20 2013 Minutes: It was requested that Jacqui Rouse and David Dahlstrom be added as "call-ins" for the October minutes. With this addition, there was a Motion by Dr, Sen seconded by Kyle Nembhard to approve these minutes. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Western Maryland Representative

Jackie Seneschal announced that Rick Brace has submitted Beth Pasierb, AICP as the new Member-at-Large for Western Maryland. Beth is a past Principal Planner for Frederick County Department of Planning and she drafted the county's first APFO while being in charge of the Capital Improvement Program, among other planning functions. Beth is currently a Senior Facilities Planner for Frederick County Public Schools and due to her extensive planning experience she is a state leader in planning for walkable community-oriented schools and in innovative public school site selection and programming in Maryland. Additionally, Beth knows the thinking of elected officials in the municipalities and counties that comprise the Western Maryland region and is an excellent choice for this member-at-large position. David Whitaker endorsed Beth as a highly qualified professional planner and a worthy candidate for this position.

A Motion to approve Beth Pasierb, AICP as Member-at-Large for Western Maryland was made by Dr. Sen and seconded by David Whitaker. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chapter Member Survey

Parag Agrawal and Jackie Seneschal discussed the findings from the recently conducted APA MD Chapter 2013 Membership Survey. Key points made by membership were a "access to chapter programs" and "networking opportunities" were high reasons for membership in the chapter. While job hunting is a primary reason for visiting the Chapter website, it is not a significant reason for membership. A high number of members indicated more than 15 years of planning experience. Other findings: 59% indicated that they are "public sector planners"; predominate membership is in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

Also, the strength of our Annual Meetings are clearly shown. The membership seeks additional planning law and discussion of legal issues inn continuing education. We should address meetings, networking events, and how far to travel to meetings. Also, there seems to be agreement on the use of small fees for chapter events. the preferred price range is \$10 to \$25.

Jackie Seneschal asked how should we take these survey results and provide more analytical detail. Parag Agrawal and Jacqui Rouse agreed to look further into the data so it can inform the Chapter Strategic Plan.

New Business

Website

Aviva Brown offered that it might be helpful if we link everything on the chapter list serve to the website.

We want to send more members to the "satisfied" category.

We also should get more members in committees who express interest.

Kyle Nembhard asked that we include the National Capital Area Chapter link on the Maryland chapter website.

Jackie Seneschal asked that all information that is sent out by the chapter should state: "For more information contact the Maryland Chapter website."

President's Report

History of Planning in Maryland

At the recent Leadership Conference, the Virginia Chapter distributed copies of a history of planning in that state. The format focused on key projects implemented over the years using project records, published sources and interviews with key players. A similar history of planning in Maryland would be interesting to prepare. Many of the key players in 20th century planning are still around and could participate in interviews.

Jackie Seneschal mentioned that Carol Deibel is a retired planning director, published author and experienced oral history interviewer. . She is willing to prepare historical summaries on past Maryland planning officials, including Connie Leider and Ron Kreitner among others. Recommend that the Chapter seek a small grant to assist in this endeavor. One suggestion is that we pursue a Maryland Humanities Council grant for this.

David Whitaker agreed to contact Carol Deibel and to apply for a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council to support this activity.

Chapter Annual Meeting

Jackie Seneschal noted that we should beef up attendance at the Annual Meeting.

Parag Agrawal mentioned we will come back at the next meeting to discuss the strategy plan.

General Announcements

Jackie Seneschal noted that Paul Farmer announced his upcoming resignation as CEO of National APA. He will be leaving July 1, 2014 and will serve as an advisor for 12 months. Recruitment begins in early 2014 for the next CEA of APA.

David Whitaker mentioned the recent passing of Ron Kirby, Transportation Director at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. He described Ron's amazing professional

career leading the transportation planning function for over two decades in one of the leading metropolitan areas in the U.S. Besides being an extraordinary transportation planner, Ron was a true gentleman and highly respected by planning and MPO professionals across the U.S.

Jackie Seneschal discussed the recent Maryland Citizen Planners Association meeting at Ripken Park in Aberdeen, MD. We need to look for opportunities of additional activities with the citizen planners.

The Delaware Chapter has scheduled the 2014 Regional Conference for Oct. 29 & 30, 2014 at the Embassy Suites in Newark, DE. The conference is titled "Creating Healthy & Sustainable Places" and the Delaware Chapter has issued a call for presentations. More information can be found at: <http://delawareapa.org/>

Treasurer's Report

In Jim Noonan's absence, Jackie Seneschal gave the Treasurer's Report: Our previous balance was \$69,909.22. Our current balance is \$62,509.55. We paid \$220.00 to Boordy's vineyard for the recent social event. Our income was \$270.00 for that event.

We are in need of an Assistant Treasurer position and are seeking nominations for this. Contact Jackie Seneschal during December with nomination recommendations.

Activities Report

The chapter had a successful tour at Boordy's Vineyard with 12 participants.

Rafey Subhani is working on a Port of Baltimore tour with Sean Kiernan. It would start at Dundalk and then visit the Seagirt facility. We are planning for two vans and can accommodate 15 to 20 participants. We are also seeking CM credits for this event.

There is also an opportunity for a Capital Bikeshare and sustainability tour in College Park in 2014. This is being coordinated with Aviva Brown and we will report on this at an upcoming meeting.

Jackie Seneschal asked if we can organize an event with the Baltimore Office of Sustainability, involving Beth Strommen and Alice Kennedy. This could also include a social event.

We need to develop a "Calendar of Activities" for 2014.

Professional Development Officer Report

Jacqui Rouse has sent an email on the Webinar Series. There will be a webinar in January on "Form Based Codes." The Baltimore Metropolitan Council is organizing an ethics webinar and we can be a co-sponsor. Can Kyle Nembhard assist with the coordination of this event? We need additional webinars for 2014. We particularly need a Law & Ethics webinar in early 2014.

Jackie Seneschal said that we need to get CM application well in advance of events. Holly Stork at PB is our CM guru and can coordinate these credits with the planning committees. The chapter has paid a fee for this.

Young Planners Report

Lauren Good is working on the "Mentor Match" program with the Delaware Chapter and setting up a place to meet at the upcoming regional conference. APA National will host the website for this program with will connect mentors and mentees. These matches are to happen three months before the regional conference. Also, we are working with Andrew Bernish to update the chapter Facebook page.

Jackie Seneschal asked that we get the Mentor Match application up on the website and ListServe four months before the conference as an advertisement to potential mentors & mentees.

Area Representatives Reports

Eastern Shore Report

The committee organizing the Eastern Shore local Government Exchange (LGE) is up and running according to David Dahlstrom. Rick Brace is helping them coordinate planning activities for the LGE.

We are considering three date between April and June for the Eastern Shore Local Government Exchange.

Metro Area Report

Kyle Nembhard reported that planning for the first Metro Area Local Government Exchange is progressing. Those working the committee include Uri Avin, Peter Conrad, Todd Lang, Jon Arason, Arden McCLune and Paul Desjardin. More on this later.

Southern Maryland Report

Pat Haddon is planning for the Southern Maryland Local Government Exchange. One issue is still outstanding from the previous LGE involving completion of the CM credit application for sessions. Rick Brace is assisting Pat Haddon to resolve this.

University Reports

Dr. Sen noted that a Super Jury will be held on Monday, December 16, 2014 to assess student planning and studio projects at Morgan State University. This will begin at 4:00pm and run no later than 8:00pm. We are seeking planning professionals to assist in this endeavor.

Dr. Siddhartha Sen stated that would like some help from the MD Chapter to become a national leader in planning education. This is an important step for Morgan State University's Department of City and Regional Planning. Jackie Seneschal indicated that she would like to sit down and discuss ideas with MD Chapter members as regards the planning program at MSU.



Aviva Brown noted that the Planning Program at the University of Maryland College will host "Career Week" March 3-6, 2014. There will be three professionals each night and on Friday night there will be a social event close to campus.

Megan Griffith stated that the Morgan State University Planning Program is planning a career event for the spring semester. There will also be guest speakers, resume building, portfolio review and discussion of AICP certification.

Jackie Seneschal noted that the next meeting will be January 9, 2014 beginning at 3:00pm. She will need Action Items and asked for recommendations for a location for an after happy hour event.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Sen and seconded by David Whitaker. Motion approved and the meeting adjourned promptly at 12:00 am.