

Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the COUNTY PLANNING DIVISION of APA

Conference Call on August 21, 2008

Call of Order: Charlie Compton called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the County Planning Division of APA to order at 2:50 p.m. EST.

Roll Call: The roll call verified the following attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present: Charlie Compton, Dennis Sandquist, Angela Harper, Joe Scorcio, Mike Harper

Other Division Members Present: Keith Cubic, Mike Kayes, Frank Miles, James Davenport, Judy Francis, Robert Hill, and Julio Iturreria

Minutes: Joe Scorcio moved for approval of the minutes of March 12, 2008. Keith Cubic seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Membership: Charlie Compton stated that the August 18th APA report showed the Division membership had reached 175. He noted that Virginia still leads the way with 21 members with Illinois, South Carolina, and Florida each having 12.

Finance Report: Mike Harper reported the balance in the account as \$2,327.16 with the biggest expenditure being the annual meeting in Las Vegas. He stated that the reporting process has been simplified and that we would be getting one more rebate check towards the end of the fiscal year.

Mike reported that when he questioned the Chase monthly service fee, there was a comment from APA that we should not have a large balance, which he considered a curious response to the question. Charlie stated that there are divisions with huge balances, but that we should certainly strive to obtain a \$4000 balance to eliminate the Chase charges. Dennis Sandquist found that the maximum balance suggested for Divisions is two year's dues, which in our case would be \$8750 with our current membership.

Robert Hill moved to accept the Finance Report as submitted by the Treasurer. Joe Scorcio seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APA Web Site Update: Charlie stated that the APA website is undergoing a major renovation and that tomorrow is the last day to submit updates to our Division site until after the new site is launched. He said that he would take care of the updates if that was alright with everyone.

Selection of "By-right" Sessions for 2009 APA Conference: Dennis reviewed the four proposals that were in the agenda packet. The following three were submitted by James Davenport through NACo:

"Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance"

"How to Implement Local Green Policies – Innovative Codes and Ordinances"

"Don't Get Burned, Tools Your Locality Can Use to Reduce Wildfire Risk"

The following was submitted by Joshua Busard, Planner with Johnson County, Iowa:

“Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation through Fringe Area Agreements”

Dennis explained that we must submit our selections for “by-right” sessions by Tuesday of next week. He also added that a media “boot camp” session is also a possibility along the lines of the one done in Kansas City at the NACo conference. There was a discussion about the type media sessions that APA schedules for every conference and whether such a session might be redundant. Dennis felt that properly constructed such a toolbox type session might still be helpful to attendees.

Next there was a review of the speakers and moderators proposed for each session so far. Additional participants were suggested for each. Dennis reminded everyone that last year we were successful with all the sessions being selected that went into the APA pool. He asked that we consider which sessions might compete the best there.

Everyone liked the multi-jurisdictional session, but felt it needed additional case studies. Judy suggested that because of its topic it might be possible to combine it with the green policy session. Dennis stated that because of the topic and APA’s green initiative, that one might get picked from the pool.

There was support for the wildfire session and Angela suggested that we make sure that the focus covers the country. Joe stated that they earlier had a wildfire crew working in North Carolina for two weeks. Joe and Keith both had other speakers in mind to cover their part of the session from different angles and Judy could help add some eastern flavor to it.

It was verified that there would also be a federal planner and a local county planner from Virginia on the pipeline session which would have three focal points. Angela Harper moved that we submit the pipeline and wildfire sessions as our “by-right” submissions. James seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

It was suggested that the media boot camp idea be explored if possible by Tuesday. Dennis stated that he would communicate with Joshua Busard from Johnson County, Iowa, about combining with the green policy session. Charlie also stated that he and Deanna Glosser with the Economics Division had collaborated on a technology-related session that would be credited to the two divisions if selected.

Joe Scorcio reported that the 2008 Session on “Applying Technology to Prioritize Redevelopment” resulted in an article in the July issue of *Planning* magazine called “More than Mapping.”

Annual Meeting at the 2009 Planning Conference: Charlie Compton explained the times that are available for division business meetings and receptions. It was suggested that Sunday be eliminated as a bad day and they we not conflict with the Tuesday joint divisions reception. Monday was considered a better option for a morning meeting since we would be able to go until 8:00 a.m. instead of having to stop at 7:30 a.m. Joe Scorcio moved that the annual meeting of the County Planning Division be held on the morning of Monday, April 27, 2009. Keith Cubic seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Annual Meeting at the 2008 APA Planning Conference in Las Vegas: Charlie Compton stated that we had already discussed the excellent attendance at the joint annual meeting with the National Association of County Planners. He reminded everyone that we needed to approve the minutes. Joe Scorcio moved for approval of the April 29, 2008, minutes of the Annual Meeting

of the County Planning Division of APA in Las Vegas, Nevada. Robert Hill seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

APA Leadership Meetings in Washington, D.C. – October 18-20, 2008: Charlie Compton reported that at these meetings there would be much discussion of the financial situation with Divisions and the Divisions Council. He noted that the good news is that it will prompt a hard look at division membership and organization which will include a look at universal division memberships. Charlie also commented that there could be financial ramifications for our division but that there would also be consideration for merging some divisions and creating sections within the divisions, as well as creating smaller groups called networks

Next Steering Committee Meeting: It was suggested that the next meeting be held after the APA Leadership meetings in Washington. Avoiding conflicts where possible it was decided to hold the next conference call meeting on Wednesday, November 5th, at 2:00 p.m. EST.

Charlie Compton thanked the members for the fabulous attendance at this meeting of the Executive Committee of the County Planning Division, which was adjourned at 3:48 p.m. EST.