



Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association

Executive Committee Quarterly Meeting Annual Meeting/Fall Conference

August 26, 2014

Minutes

Board & TAPA Members Present: Valerie Birch, Buz Johnson, Andrea Barbour, Meridith Krebs, Rick Gregory, Ambre Torbett, Doug Demosi, Karen Hundt, William Veazy (for Thomas Skehan), Jessica Harmon and Bill Terry. A quorum was present.

Members Absent: – Tim Roach, Brett Roller, Lisa Milligan, Karen Rennich, Sam Edwards, Kathryn Baldwin, Steve Neilson, Thomas Skehan.

Approval of Minutes: Doug Demosi made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2014 regular meeting held at the Winter Retreat. Buz Johnson seconded the motion and the vote in favor passed unanimously. Minutes were approved as published with correction of Doug's name (via email).

New Business:

- A) TAPA Student Scholarship Applications** – Ambre stated that she had only received one application for consideration. The nomination, letters of recommendation, application and resume were forwarded to all Executive Committee members for review. Ambre made a motion to approve Ines Nizeye's application. Karen Hundt seconded the motion and the vote in favor passed unanimously.
- B) Annual Conference 2014** – Doug provided a conference update regarding registrants. He stated that the conference planning committee really struggled with finding a venue that would accommodate all and be downtown that was affordable. He suggested that the Middle TN section find a new location next time they are in charge of hosting. He stated that the next year's conference will be in Chattanooga and they will be sending out a Call for Theme Topics. This year, they expected 20 graduate students, 165 full time registrants and 20 elected officials. He will provide the summary of costs/budget post conference.
- C) Winter Retreat 2015** – The upcoming Winter Retreat will be held at Fall Creek Falls State Park and Lodge.
- D) Professional Development Officer** – Valerie reported that the new AICP study guide was on-line. She also briefed the committee on the Presidents Council call in which she participated regarding funding and sourcing PDO resource materials. Discussion ensued regarding the intent of the study of a web-based resource that would expire and cannot be duplicated or shared. It appears to be a way for APA to make money but may not be affordable for planners seeking their AICP. Members agreed that it seems the study material produced by University of Memphis was more affordable and cost effective.
- E) Treasurer's Report/Budget** – Meridith stated that she will send out the Section Grant funds soon however APA shorted TAPA dues. So once that is cleared up and membership gets reported correctly, she will award the section their portion of the state chapter dues. She will send out the budget updates via email.

F) Section Reports

West TN Section (Tom Skehan)

- William reported that on September 4th they would host a 4D Competition ceremony reception. On September 24th they were hosting a Recreational Planning Workshop at the SW Development District office. They had hosted a session on Property Rights led by Christie Ranson.

Knox Section (Buz Johnson)

- Buzz reported that they hosted a quarterly luncheon meeting with TDEC as speaker. John Lamb led a session on the detailed Census Information available. Both sessions had great turn out.

Middle TN Section (Doug Demosi)

- Doug reported that their section mostly just met to help plan the conference but was happy with the participation

State of Franklin Section (Jessica Harmon)

- Jessica reported that they hosted two sessions: one being led by Stan Harrison on the BW12, NFIP updates and one led by Josh Jones on Private Property Rights. They also had a huge turn-out celebrating the retirements for Stan Harrison and Forrest Koder.

G) TAPA Elections – Valerie stated that the TAPA Elections will be conducted by APA in line with their schedule. Discussion followed. Members agreed to hold the TAPA elections this fall with the slate of candidates/nominations of officers be sent via email. Rick will send out a Call for Nominations but he suggested having assistance from a committee. Members agreed to ask Bill Terry, Meridith Krebs and/or Andrea Barbour to serve with Rick on the Elections Committee to ensure accountability. The officers would then be installed during the Winter Retreat.

H) ByLaws – Rick Gregory stated that the ByLaws Committee members were still reviewing the updates and they will provide final draft at the next Executive Committee Meeting. The committee will plug in the Membership Chair to the ByLaws and reflect the APA policy on Election Schedule. Rick hopes to have the final draft ready for a chapter vote during the Winter Retreat in February of 2015.

I) Chapter Strategic Plan – Valerie will provide examples of other states’ plans for our review; however APA is encouraging all chapters to develop a Work Plan and Strategic Plan. Members agreed to have a representative from each section on the Strategic Plan in order to ensure input from across the state. Valerie will call upon each section to provide a section member on her committee.

J) Membership Chair Report – deferred

- K) Newsletter Report** – members reported that they were not receiving the electronic version of the TAPA newsletter. Andrea Barbour stated that she was not receiving any errors from the mail chimp service so she will look into the issue further.
- L) Legislative Update** – Karen Hundt motioned to renew agreement of Bill Terry as the Chapter Lobbyist. Doug Demosi seconded the motion and the vote in favor passed unanimously. Bill reported that there were several key changes to the State Legislature regarding Private Property Rights, Vesting Rights and Land Use Regulations for all to pay close attention to regarding effective dates and changes.
- M) 2015 Annual Conference** – The Fall Conference will be held in Chattanooga next time.
- N) Tennessee Geographic Alliance Resolution** – Valerie distributed copies of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Tennessee Geographic Alliance (TGA) and TAPA to support and promote the TGA’s Resolution Supporting the K-12 Geography Education initiative. Members discussed the resolution details. Buz motioned to accept the MOA as recommended by Dan Hawk. The motion was seconded by Ambre and the vote in favor passed unanimously.
- O) Event Request from Virginia Chapter** – Valerie encouraged all to coordinate future training events with SW Virginia planners if possible. Joseph Curtis from Abingdon area (VAPA) is proposing a ½ day symposium. More information to follow.
- P) Young Planners Group** – Andrea suggested looking into a subgroup of TAPA focusing on engaging emerging planners or New Generation planners through a common project or interest group. Discussion followed. Members suggested that she look into this concept further and report back on the purpose and vision of this group. She will work towards having more feedback during the November conference call.
- Q) TAPA Conference Committee WorkBook** – deferred
- R) TN Planning Leadership Council Nominations (2015 Class)** – Members discussed what the purpose and vision would be for the existing TN PLC members approved so far. Ambre will send out call for nominations this winter to be voted on at the Winter Retreat in 2015. Up to 2 candidates will be selected each year.
- S) Adjournment:** Members adjourned at 3:50PM (Central Time)

Respectfully submitted by Chapter Secretary: Ambre M. Torbett, AICP