



Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association

Executive Committee Quarterly Meeting – Conference Call

February 7, 2013

Minutes

Members Present: Valerie Birch, Meridith Krebs, Ambre Torbett, Sam Edwards, Bill Terry, Brett Roller, Buzz Johnson, Thomas Skehan, Jon Hartman (for Jessica), Doug Demosi, and Rick Gregory. A quorum was present.

Members Absent: – Karen Rennich, Tim Roach, Lisa Milligan, Jessica Harmon, Karen Hundt, and Steve Neilson.

New Business:

A) Proposed TN Bills: Bill Terry and Sam Edwards summarized the three bills that were emailed to Executive Committee members for review and consideration. See below. They are requesting TAPA endorsement prior to further consideration by the Legislature. Discussion followed. Buzz Johnson motioned to support all three proposed bills. The motion was seconded by Doug Demosi and the vote in favor passed unanimously.

SB 0053 by Yager / HB 0033 by Keisling

This bill establishes a vesting period of time for different types of plans (preliminary plats, site plans, etc.) of 1 to 3 years during which the requirements that the approvals were based upon cannot be changed. It is similar to the bill that we opposed last year but better in many respects. The bill was developed as a defensive action to prevent a worse bill from being filed. The Homebuilders' Association has filed the worse bill anyway.

SB 0613 by Yager / HB 0135 by Keisling

This bill amends PC 1101 to provide much more detail in the process to amend a growth plan. It provides for two types of amendments. A municipal mayor may request an amendment to her/his municipality's urban growth boundary or the county mayor may request an amendment to a planned growth or rural area boundary. Specific criteria are listed. Any other type amendment of the growth plan is considered to be a revision of the entire growth plan of the county and all municipalities. Again, specific criteria are listed.

SB 1008 by Gresham / HB 0444 by Keisling

This bill provides definition for what constitutes adequate public notice for a meeting or an official action. It stems from the law suit in Rutherford County against the site plan approval for a mosque where the chancellor decided against the county on the public notice for the planning commission meeting.

B) Synchronized Election Cycle between TAPA and APA – Valerie opened the discussion regarding the need to validate the idea of synchronizing the voting of officers from the State Chapter with the National Officers of APA – with voting to begin in late summer and take office in January. Currently TAPA holds elections every two years in the fall with members taking office at the Fall Conference. This means that if this is ratified the current officers of TAPA will need to extend their term by a few more months under this new scheme. The purpose of this is for APA to hold a consolidated ballot, which would relieve Rick Gregory of this lengthy task at the chapter level. This would not affect the Section Elections. However, the Chapter By-Laws of TAPA will need to be amended to reflect this change. Buzz suggested that the Sections amend their By-Laws as well to hold their elections to coincide with the Chapter

and APA. Meridith confirmed that chapter-only members will be able to vote. A motion was made by Thomas, and seconded by Buzz to approve this change and begin using the consolidated election ballot process through the APA. The motion in favor passed unanimously.

C: APA National Conference in Atlanta – Valerie suggested that since the National Conference which will be held in Atlanta for 2014 is so close to the proposed TAPA Fall Conference in Chattanooga, planners may be torn as to which conference to attend. Discussion followed regarding preferences and costs associated with the Chapter and National conferences. Valerie asked members to give this some more thought in the near future as this might affect the turn-out at the 2014 Fall Conference for TAPA.

D. Other Matters of Mutual Interest – Sam Edwards forwarded an update from the TAPA Newsletter Editor, Tim Roach stating that the TAPA newsletter editing will be taken over by Andrea Barbour in the near future. Andrea will be calling upon each Section to provide information for an upcoming edition of the TAPA Newsletter. Valerie updated members on her meeting with the reaccreditation for University of Memphis. She also asked members to email her with any additions to the agenda for Winter Retreat Executive Committee Board meeting.

E. Proposed Budget: Meridith led the discussion on the budget. She stated up until now, we have taken on more revenue than paying out from her study over her five year tenure as treasurer. However, for the first time since she has been treasurer, she has had to dip into savings in order to cover expenses. She went over each line item in the budget and proposed cuts wherever possible. A policy should be set by the board to set a time limit on when the seed money or advances from the Chapter to the Section should be returned. Discussion continued. Meridith stated the proposed expenditures as refined would be \$18,390.00 with anticipated revenue as \$16,510.00. So far we have about 50 people registered for the Winter Retreat. Doug stated that he feels the proposed budget is more manageable. Jon agreed this one-year budget is a good start for now and reminded members we should continue to review revenues and expenditures as they change. Motion made by Buzz to accept the proposed amended budget prepared by the treasurer and president. The motion was seconded by Jon (for Jessica) and the vote in favor passed unanimously. Buzz suggested we hold a thorough discussion at our next Executive Committee meeting on changing our format for future conferences. Members agreed to continue to search for ideas on this matter as a means for getting a handle on the budget.

F) Adjournment: Members adjourned at 3:15PM (Eastern Time)

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