



March 15, 2013

March Meeting Minutes

APA-MD Chapter: 3/15/13 Meeting

Parsons Brinckerhoff Offices
100 S. Charles Street, 10th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland

Meeting was called to order at 10:05am.

Roll Call:

Jim Noonan, Chris Wells, Jacqui Seneschal, Jackie Rouse, David Whitaker, Holly Storck, Monique Ellis and Kyle Nembhard (In Room)

Sharon Suarez, Rick Brace, Andrew Giraldi, Lauren Good, Parag Agrawal (Call-ins)

Discussion of Synchronized Election Cycle and Consolidated Ballot Process

Draft Resolution – APA Chapter Resolution

Sharon Suarez discussed extension of election cycle to September 2015, which will apply to the next set of officers for the chapter.

Minutes:

A motion to approve the September 2012 Minutes was made by Chris Wells, seconded by Sharon Suarez and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the January 2013 Minutes was made by Jackie Seneschal, seconded by Sharon Suarez and was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Jim Noonan and seconded by Sharon Suarez to defer a decision on the February 2013 Minutes until the next chapter meeting to review notes on the meeting.
Discussion: Rick Brace noted that he had attempted to attend the February meeting by telephone but was unsuccessful. Chris Wells noted that members should be given credit for trying to phone in to the February meeting. Jeff Jackman also noted that he had difficulty phoning into this meeting. This motion was unanimously approved.

Chris Wells – The Metro event on Transportation will be postponed. Plans now are to assemble a group of transportation professionals for the June 28th meeting at Morgan State to discuss “Policy and funding Initiatives on the Changing Aspects of Transportation.” Will finalize the third speaker. This should not be a “charged event” at the annual meeting.

Action Items:



Motion to approve the Metro transportation event

A motion was made by Jackie Seneschal and seconded by Chris Wells to schedule the Metro Transportation Event at no charge in the afternoon at the Annual Meeting on June 28, 2013 at Morgan State University. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Jackie Seneschal discussed an upcoming Maryland Economic Development Association conference event scheduled for June 12, 2013. Additional information can be obtained at <http://www.medamd.com/>.

Rick Brace provided the Western Maryland Report. May 10, 2013 will be the Western Maryland Local Government Exchange at the Hagerstown Ramada Plaza Hotel.

Parag Agrawal stated that the Maryland Planner Newsletter will be out the first week of April and will include the slate of new officer nominees.

Dr. Sidney Wong came on the telephone at 10:38am.

Sidney Wong mentioned that the Morgan State University students essay submissions did not make it into the most recent chapter newsletter. Jackie Rouse noted that the essays can be posted on the chapter website.

Jim Potter joined the telephone at 10:40am.

Sharon Suarez asked Jeff Jackman about the 2013 Southern Maryland Local Government Exchange. Chris Well noted that this will occur on Friday, June 7th.

Jim Potter discussed “Synchronized Elections” where the days are synchronized but the years are not. Sharon Suarez mentioned bylaws change and that the earliest the chapter can do this is in 2015. Chris Wells asked if we are proposing to link the chapter elections with the National APA. There was additional discussion on this topic. Jim Noonan noted that we are agreeing by resolution to synchronize the chapter’s election cycle and adopt a consolidated ballot process.

A Motion was made by Jim Noonan and Seconded by Chris Wells to synchronize the chapter election cycle and use a consolidated ballot process. The following language is added:

“Provided that members are not required to vote on every question to have their vote recorded.”

This Resolution was adopted unanimously and will be included in the chapter bylaws.

Sharon Suarez gave a brief status report on the work of the Bylaws Committee that is chaired by Jenny Plummer-Welker. The Bylaws Committee will have a set of bylaws revisions available for the Chapter Annual Meeting.

Jim Potter asked that this language be added to the bylaws:



“One of the duties of the President is to educate the President Elect.”

Discussion of the National APA conference in Chicago: Sharon Suarez noted that the Maryland Chapter Reception will be held on Sunday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at O’Doul’s Irish Pub at the Hyatt. Jackie Rouse noted that the conference reception by the host committee will be held at the Museum of History at 7:00pm.

Jim Noonan gave the Vice President’s Report: Jim Noonan provided a report on the status of the activities of the chapter Nominating Committee. There were a number of expressions of interest with two for the position of President, but there were not expressions of interest for all candidate positions. The Nominating Committee found that it had to do some recruiting for some of the At-Large positions due to a lack of candidates. The Nominating Committee considered the Chapter President’s request for two slates of candidates, although because of the limited number of expressions of interest for certain positions, the Nominating Committee chose to submit only one slate of candidates. At this point, three members want to continue: Parag Agrawal, Chris Wells and Rick Brace. There is still an open slot for a member-at-large. Jim noted that he still needs to confirm with follow-up phone conversations with nominees. The slate of nominees for 2013-2015 will be included in the spring 2013 chapter newsletter. Jim noted that, according to the bylaws, the Professional Development Officer (PDO) position is unclear. Fortunately, Jackie Rouse has agreed to stay on as the Chapter PDO, so it is a non-issue at this time. An announcement of the slate of candidates will be made on March 29th.

Jim Potter asked if whether candidates who had expressed interest will not be on the ballot.

Jim Noonan responded that Sharon Suarez requested that Nominating Committee put together multiple names for each position. The Nominating Committee will include only one slate of nominated candidates for chapter officers. He added that we will make available a petition process to any other interested candidates as provided in the bylaws. This could be done through the List Serve, although the List Serve includes some who are not chapter members.

Jackie Rouse stated that we need an “opt out list” from APA. Jim Potter stated that the roster from APA is complete and up to 30 members may not have an email address. Jim Noonan noted that we should determine these names by next week.

Jackie Rouse mentioned a short-notice map exhibit event to be held on Friday, March 22nd at St. Johns College in Annapolis. This is no cost event.

Motion to provide a \$50 donation from the chapter to support the St. Johns College map exhibit
Motion by Jackie Rouse Seconded by Jim Noonan to support this event was approved unanimously.

Lauren Good will send the announcement. The new title is “Chair of the Young Planners Subcommittee.” It was noted that we should coordinate Lauren’s report with that of Andrew Giraldi at MSU.



New Business:

The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Helen Spinelli.

Dr. Sidney Wong offered the Liaison Report for Morgan State University:

- One of the MSA students (???) received a national award and is now employed in South Carolina
- Spent \$66.80 on speaker expenses from the Brookings Institution.
- Will send a report on these activities to the chapter executive committee.

David Whitaker briefly discussed legislative activities by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP). This is a low activity legislative session by MDP. The department is primarily in a defensive mode in regard to legislation which attempts to roll back recent planning initiatives including the Septics Bill and PlanMaryland. There is also some speculation as to whether a transportation funding package will move forward this session. We will keep the chapter informed of pending planning legislation.

Andrew Giraldi provided a report on activities at Morgan State University (MSU):

- There is a possibility of an APA grant application with MSU involvement in regard to a proposed transit/land use accessibility project with the Baltimore Streetcar Campaign. This is currently being considered by MSU.
- Three MSU students will be going to the National APA Conference in Chicago.
- Would like to collaborate with the chapter executive committee at the APA Conference.

Jackie Rouse mentioned that we need to obtain an updated list of chapter members who are going to the APA National Conference. Jackie will send a message to all members regarding Chapter conference activities at the conference.

Jim Noonan asked who will be participating in the upcoming Resume Writing Event at the University of Maryland - College Park.

Jim Noonan also noted that Les Knaap of MACo recently sent an item about legislation where local governments can lose land use authority-standing. Jackie Rouse asked how this would be enforced.

Steve Allan from MDP noted (by telephone) that MDP will be hosting a Planning Directors Roundtable on March 28, 2013 in Crownsville, MD. This topic is on "Complete Streets" and will include a representative from the National Complete Streets Coalition along with Greg Slater from the Maryland State Highways Administration and George Cardwell from Anne Arundel County.

There was a request to forward Action Items for the next meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Jackie Rouse and Seconded by Jim Noonan: Approved unanimously.
Adjourned at 12:00 noon.