



**Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association Executive Committee**  
**Critical Area Commission Meeting Room 1804 West Street, Annapolis, MD**  
**10:00 am – 12:20 pm Friday 21 September 2007**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Officers attending:**

Jenny Plummer-Welker  
Christine Finamore  
Jim Potter  
Shannon Grevious  
Jeff Jackman  
Shiva Shrestha  
Alex Chen

Kyle Nembhard  
Joyce Ann Pressly  
Tim Bourcier  
Rich Hall  
Helen M. Spinelli

Chuck Kines

**Guest:**

Shelly Wasserman, MDP council

**Officers via conference call:**

Alan Feinberg  
Sharon Suarez

- 1. Meeting Called to Order** – 10:05 am, Jenny called meeting to order - Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Introduction of Appointed Eastern Shore At-Large Member, Timothy Bourcier**
- 3. Action on Proposed Agenda** – remove June minutes to be approved
- 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes** – July 20<sup>th</sup>
  - a) Motion – Alan to approve the July 2007 minutes as presented
  - b) 2<sup>nd</sup> – Joyce-Ann
  - c) Discussion  
in favor – all  
opposed - none
- 5. Treasurer’s Report** - Helen Spinelli
  - a) Current balance \$45,155.88 (as of 9/21/07)
  - b) Paid Network Solutions (\$42.00 – for 2 years)
  - c) AICP Study Manuals paid for
  - d) APA Reception at Phili Conference Center
  - e) \$2,500 – to go to Smart Growth at 10, Helen sent check
  - f) \$26.10 – Postage for newsletter – Jenny
  - g) \$72.75 - Postage for bylaws
  - h) \$13.00 – Bagels
  - i) \$30.24 –
  - j) \$36.72 – Office Supplies
- 6. Old Business**
  - a) Bylaw Amendments – Jim Potter  
-Sending out to everyone (update as approved at Annual Meeting) to post on the website, listserve and mail to those without email, that there is a special meeting at 6:30 pm on October 24, 2007 to review and approve or not approve the Bylaws.  
-Update Bylaws – Per APA and other chapters, every six years is a good idea.
- 7. New Business**
  - a. Terrapin Run Amicus Curiae Case
    - i. Shelly Wasserman - Council to MDP (for 17 years) – status of Amicus brief to Exec. Committee – The plan “Terrapin Run”, located off Route 40 (scenic byway) near 15 mile creek road in Allegheny County, MD is inconsistent with the County’s Comprehensive Plan and Smart Growth in general. The cur-

- rent zoning is Agricultural Conservation; this area is not zoned for growth. By Special Exception with Board of Appeals, a Planned Development (PUD) is allowed by the County's Zoning Ordinance.
- ii. Mr. Bill Wants, Attorney for the citizens' group David Trail, et. al. (office is in Hagerstown) asking for permission for an amicus to Court (along with Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and others).
  - iii. Brief from APA to include background on plan, zoning, etc. and that it is incompatible with the County's 2002 comprehensive plan, zoning, environmental, Maryland Smart Growth Act.
  - iv. National APA – Stu Meck, Esq., Dan Mandle
  - v. Brief due by October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (from APA and MD Chapter)
  - vi. December – for oral argument in court
  - vii. Lora Lucero (APA) to file amicus brief, MD Chapter to be on same brief with National APA.
  - viii. 66B Section 4.09 adopted with 1992 Act – States that growth is supposed to be consistent with Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, etc. The court has only looked at Special Exception conformance, not all aspects of Zoning Ordinance and consistency with Comprehensive Plan.
  - ix. Water Allocations are a biggie (from MDE) and a timeframe setback to the Developer
  - x. Joyce-Ann question – 4,300 units for ownership? Why no sewer up front, how can they provide septic systems for this number of units and then revert to sewer system?
  - xi. Chris Finamore question - Status of developer's plans? – Water & Sewer plan amendment, 4,900 units – sent to MDE and MDP for comment, not approved. Special Exception is approved (and being appealed).
  - xii. Suggested that a sub-committee form, to review and keep tabs on the Court case – Tim, Jeff volunteered
  - xiii. Endorsement of National APA brief needs to happen today, we have 2 weeks before the Brief is due
  - xiv. **Motion** – Chris, to endorse the National APA Brief *Amicus Curiae* to be filed with the Court
    1. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jim
    2. Discussion –
      - a. Helen – This needs to go to membership for review, keep in mind with short time frame.
      - b. Tim Bourcier – would like to sign on, but we don't know the whole story or anything about the APA brief and what it includes.
      - c. Rich – MD APA to get message to Nationals on our thoughts to be included on this brief.
      - d. Jim – Is this timeframe normal? How do other Chapters do/handle this?
      - e. Chris – How can the Zoning Ordinance allow SE in this Zone if the Comprehensive Plan does not? This is inconsistency between 2 documents within Allegany County, can't really blame the Developer here.
      - f. Shelley Wasserman update after phone call: National APA brief *Amicus Curiae* – to focus on planning policy, Maryland legislation issues, Smart Growth.
    - xv. All in favor – 14
    - xvi. Opposed – 0
    - xvii. Abstain – (1) Tim
    - xviii. Motion to endorse the National APA *Amicus Curiae* Brief – Passed
- b. Digital Signs
- i. Discussion on digital signage - question on specificity of zoning code pertaining to signage.
  - ii. Scenic America President contacted by National APA on this issue.
  - iii. What is MD APA's role?
  - iv. Education of Planners on this issue – Is there any work shop planned?
  - v. Shiva – Is this a planner situation, or highly specialized?
  - vi. Alex – Suggests that we do workshop training on signage.
  - vii. Send message to listserve – ideas on workshops for signage – in general, issues, etc. Get input from membership.
- c. FAICP – Nominations Due October 23, 2007
- i. Are there nominations for this year? Any ideas on individuals for next year?

**8. Communications**

- a. Website –
  - i. forwarding service paid to keep URL
  - ii. Baltimore Metro Council taking lead on website upkeep
- b. Listserve
- c. Newsletter –
  - i. Digital issue going out in next couple of weeks, to include calendar.
  - ii. Editorship – MSU taking on? Kyle is to get back to us
  - iii. Discussion of joint effort with NCAC to pay someone to do layout
  - iv. Chuck – advertise to Chapter for someone to do newsletter and also website.
- d. Public Service Announcements – Helen and Shiva
  - i. MD APA is to sponsor (see handout)
  - ii. Members are to review announcements, and get back to Helen by 9/28/07 with any input. Helen/Shiva/Keote to contact radio stations.

**9. Chapter Only/Associate Membership**

- a. Membership – 636 as of 9/10/07, 604 with email addresses
- b. National will regulate their membership and dues updates, bills, etc. for \$9 per person annually. Do we want to have National take care of this?
  - i. **Motion** – Chris to have National APA handle Associate Membership status, dues, and paperwork
    1. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Chuck
    2. Discussion
    3. In favor –14
    4. Opposed – 0
    5. Motion passed to have National APA handle MD Chapter-Only Memberships.

**10. Chapter Activities**

- a. “Smart Growth at 10” – October 3, 4 & 5, 2007 – Gerri Knapp
  - i. Jenny – Discussing with APA the CEU’s for APA 16 hours ± to qualify for CEU’s, Now through December 2007, January is when the new maintenance requirements take effect.
  - ii. APA registration free to “Smart Growth 10”
  - iii. Chapter to pay for what National Center for Smart Growth won’t pay for?
  - iv. \$95.00 – Sponsor fee, \$25.00 x 14 hours = \$450± for both fees
  - v. **Motion** – Jim – To Continue arguing with APA over CEU requirement issues, but authorizes the \$450.00, if needed.
  - vi. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Helen
  - vii. Discussion
  - viii. In favor – all
  - ix. Opposed – 0
  - x. Motion passed
- b. Special Chapter Membership Meeting / Chapter Awards Ceremony – October 24, 2007 at 6:30pm
  - i. Bylaws update to be voted on by membership at Special Meeting
  - ii. Chapter Awards & Awards Ceremony, 7:30 pm
- c. NCAC - 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Awards Gala/World Town Planning Day, November 8, 2007
- d. Regional Conference Fall 2008 – nothing really to report at this time, except that inner Harbor Baltimore hotels are booking up for October weddings and are pricey! Jim to email updates

**11. Professional Development**

- a. Sharon to email her update

**12. Coordination with Other Organizations**

- a. National Capital Area Chapter
- b. University of Maryland Planning Programs: Morgan State University and University of Maryland College Park

**13. MD APA Calendar for 2007-2008**

- a. Upcoming Executive Committee meeting dates: November 16<sup>th</sup>, December 21<sup>st</sup>

- b. October 24 – Awards Ceremony and Special Chapter Meeting for Bylaws update

**14. Member Matters**

**15. Other information for the Good of the Chapter**

**16. Adjourn Meeting**

- a. Motion to adjourn meeting
- b. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted:

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Christine K. Finamore  
Chapter Secretary