

**APA-MA BOARD MEETING**  
**September 21, 2005**  
**9:30am**  
**Northboro Town Offices**  
**MEETING NOTES**

Approved 10-19-05

**Attendees:**

*Board Members:* Peter Lowitt, Lyn Billman-Golemme, Lynn Duncan, Kathy Joubert, Bob Mitchell, Steve Sadwick, and Heidi Samokar.

*Guests:* Sean Bender, Benny Lee, Carey Duques, and Angus Jennings.

**Update APA-MA/MAPD/CPTC Shared Staff**

Staff has been hired and will attend next month's Board meeting to meet the Board.

**Update on Land Use Reform Activities / Special Projects Grant**

*[Kathy Joubert arrived.]*

The Board discussed the need for research comparing cost of housing on ANR lots and non-ANR lots to refute the argument that housing on ANR lots are more affordable. A. Jennings and S. Sadwick will develop a scope of work and solicit information on the list serv. S. Bender offered database management assistance.

P. Lowitt noted that the six month Neil Pierce newspaper series will begin in October and this may be a chance to bolster land use reform press coverage. Also, staff from National APA is available to train planners on media strategies. The Board moved (Joubert/Samokar) to invite D. Johnson from National APA to train planners in media relations and cover his expenses. So voted.

*[Glenn Garber arrived]*

G. Garber, representing the Zoning Reform Working Group, requested the second half of their \$18,000 dollar grant. After discussion, the Board voted (Duncan/Mitchell) to authorize payment of ½ of the second amount (\$4,500) and requested that the Zoning Reform Working Group provide an update of activities at the October Board meeting, at which time they can request the final \$4,500. So voted. G. Garber will ask Jeff Lacy of the Working Group to attend the October meeting.

At its October meeting the Board will discuss replenishing the Special Projects fund.

**Legislative Updates**

L. Billman-Golemme discussed her activities with Action for Regional Equity. She testified in support of a bill that would require the state Department of Housing and Community Development to collect demographic data on beneficiaries of affordable housing.

### **State Transportation Plan Comment Letter / Reactivation of Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee has been reactivated with Simon van Leeuwen heading the committee. The committee met and will draft a comment letter on the state's Draft Transportation Plan. The letter will be circulated to the Board when it is ready. P. Lowitt is also serving on a Citizens Advisory Committee that the state established to provide input to the Executive Office of Transportation.

### **Commonwealth Housing Task Force Forums**

A. Jennings provided an update on the Task Force's activities related to Chapter 40R and noted that the school cost analysis is completed. The Task Force is now looking to find examples of the densities that 40R calls for. They will be holding discussion groups of planners, the building community, realtors and Chambers of Commerce to discuss 40R.

### **Sponsorships**

#### NEDA and MEDC

To Board moved (Duncan/Sadwick) to sponsor (in name) events on the Kelo decision that will be held by the Northeastern Economic Developers Association (NEDA) and Massachusetts Economic Development Council (MEDC). So voted.

#### New England Building Energy Conference

This event will be held in Boston next year.

#### Executive Order 418 Workshop

An announcement appeared in the recent Chapter newsletter that the Chapter was sponsoring a workshop on EO 418. The Board decided that because it had not been fully aware of the content of the workshop, since it was only two weeks away, and since there was concern at the state level about the contents in the newsletter, the workshop may need to be postponed. In the meantime, P. Lowitt will contact the state to discuss.

### **Regional Conference Update**

H. Samokar noted that as of the end of August, they reached their halfway mark for fundraising. The Conference Committee intends to honor Linda Petrella, possibly by creating a banner. There was concern that the conference did not receive mention in the newsletter – H. Samokar noted that the newsletter had been sent to the printers before they could get something in. There was also concern that the conference mailing had not been received by members yet.

P. Lowitt reviewed the 2004 conference financial situation. He is still reviewing hotel invoices.

### **Update on Chapter Brochure**

Work is still being done on the brochure.

### **Update on Election Process**

Election forms are in the newsletter and on the web site. Ballots are due October 21.

### **Update of FAICP Nomination Process**

No new updates.

### **Treasurer's Report**

There was no treasurer's report

### **Report from PDO**

L. Duncan requested funds to purchase CPC's 7th Edition Study Manual for the 2005-2006 AICP. The Board voted (Sadwick/Mitchell) to approve the purchase. The CDs will be sold at cost. The Board agreed that it will cover the costs for the PDO to mail the CDs to purchasers.

L. Duncan also noted that she is holding two sessions at the regional conference.

### **CPTC Updates**

The Board moved (Mitchell/Sadwick) to appoint S. Bender as the CPTC liaison. So voted. P. Lowitt noted that the brochures for fall workshops are out and that CPTC's annual report is available on its website.

### **Report from Committees**

K. Joubert announced that the Holiday lunch is set for December 9<sup>th</sup> at Parris in Boston. It will be announced in the newsletter.

S. Sadwick announced that the next MAPD lunch will be October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Student Representatives announced that Tufts has a Student Planning and Policy Association which meets once a month. They welcome guests to speak to them.

P. Lowitt also noted that he received an email that UMass students would like to plan a multi-school outing.

### **Other Announcements / New Business**

- Peter circulated materials on APA's Audio Web Conference Program.
- The National Charette Institute is on hold.
- The Board voted (Lowitt/Duncan) to reappoint Cyrus Field, to Boston Landmarks Commission and will solicit someone for the alternate slot.
- The MIT Planners Forum will be December 1, 2005 at Tufts, 6-8 p.m. with a reception from about 5-6. It will be held in the Asean Auditorium.
- The Board voted (Joubert/Mitchell) to endorse the Eco-Municipality initiative (see memorandum).

- H. Samokar explained that a group of interested individuals is organizing a pilot program to interview hurricane Katrina evacuees to collect their visions for rebuilding the affected areas. The Board supported the idea in concept. H Samokar will pass along additional information as this evolves. The Board requested that a canister is circulated to collect donations to support Boards in Mississippi and Louisiana.
- P. Lowitt noted that efforts are still underway to hold a meeting between interested Board members and the Department of Public Health to discuss common issues.

**Approval of 7/14/05 Meeting Notes**

The Board (Samokar/Sadwick) approved the notes from the July 14, 2005 Board meeting.

**Meeting Schedule**

- October 19
- November 10 at Conference
- Schedule Board Retreat for January

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Heidi Samokar, AICP  
Acting Secretary