

## APA-MA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Friday, November 3, 2006

9:30 a.m.

Northboro Town Offices

Attending: Glenn Garber, Jef Fasser, Jenny Raitt, Kathy Joubert, Steve Sadwick, Peter Lowitt, Sabine Prather, Joe Cosgrove, Lynn Duncan, Sean Bender, Rick Werbiskis, Chris Eaton, Joyce Moss, Angus Jennings, Tom Bott, Tom Broadrick and Lyn Billman-Golemme.

### 9:30 New Business

- a). The board discussed a “pass-the-hat” or similar fundraising type effort to contribute to recovery efforts in New Orleans at or prior to our Holiday meeting, with proceeds benefiting the Ujaama Community Development Corporation in the Treme neighborhood of New Orleans. Sean Bender and Wentworth Institute have a relationship with this CDC and offer chapter members the opportunity to travel with and assist Wentworth students on their next visit, March 3-10, 2007. Chapter volunteers will be responsible for their own air fare and housing costs, contact Sean for more information. Wentworth has been working with Tulane to assist with soil testing, landscaping and remediation of housing in this Lower ninth ward neighborhood. On a motion by Kathy Joubert, seconded by Chris Eaton it was unanimously voted to authorize a pass the hat at our annual awards luncheon.
- b). Vote to authorize use of chapter mailing list by CHAPA to publicize the upcoming Small Cities Conference, motion Glenn Garber, second Lynn Duncan voted unanimously
- c). Accessory units as affordable units – discussion of reforms needed. Steve Sadwick circulated his written comments on this and other Pioneer Institute, ZRWG discussion items for the board to review. Loosening variances based on the NY State model which is more realistic will be proposed. Also lengthening the lifespan of special permits and offering communities the option to reduce special permit supermajority voting requirements are being proposed in the spirit of compromise so that we can advance CPA II. The Board discussed earmarking \$10,000 to support the Zoning Reform effort. \$5,000 from the budget and another \$5,000 from the special projects fund to serve as a match. On a motion by Steve Sadwick, seconded by Lynn Duncan the board voted unanimously to allocate these funds for lobbying for zoning

reform and to ascertain if Mass Audubon will handle the funds in a fashion similar to last year.

- d). Request to Co-Sponsor Sustainability Leadership Conference, handle registration for 30 attendees, and consider \$1850 scholarship. June 2007. On a motion by Sean Bender, seconded by Joe Cosgrove the board voted unanimously to co-sponsor the Sustainability Leadership conference, to not fund the scholarship, and to authorize Chris Skelly to handle the registration if he is not overburdened by it. Mr. Lowitt to check with Mr. Skelly (he did and its okay).
- e). National APA Communications and Branding Plan update: Mr. Lowitt passed out a handout explaining APA's new branding plan and how it might fit into the chapter's revisions its website and newsletter. Mr. Lowitt was directed to investigate opportunities to have national assist with our web and newsletter updates.

#### 10:15 Updates

- a). Reconsideration of Board position on *Middleborough v. Housing Appeals Committee* – The board held a rational and intelligent discussion of the pros and cons of changing its position with regard to intervening and filing (signing on to CHAPA's) Amicus Brief in the case. The board weighed the importance of maintaining the closer relations we have sought to establish with the housing community versus the facts of the case and its importance to our municipal members and decided to maintain our neutral posture. A vote to reconsider the board position failed with Steve Sadwick, Sabine Prather, Kathy Joubert, Jef Fasser, Richard Werbiskis, Chris Eaton, Tom Broadrick and Tom Bott voting against reconsideration and Lynn Duncan, Jenny Raitt, Peter Lowitt and Joe Cosgrove voting for reconsideration.
- b). 2007 Conference Planning – Tom Bott and Tom Broadrick reported that the deal has been inked for the 2007 venue in Hyannis. Thanks to Deene Alongi of National APA for reviewing the contracts and making suggestions to the committee.
- c). Web Site – Sean Bender reports that Jordan Greenberg and the WIT crew are hard at working redesigning the web site. Jordan is our new webmaster. Thanks to Christine for all of her good work in the past. The current site is being maintained while the WIT crew design a new web site incorporating the input we received from our members and the board. Mr. Lowitt spoke with national and requested their assistance incorporating our new branding program into the redesign.
- d). UMASS Reaccreditation – Mr. Lowitt handed out a report to the board.

#### 10:45 Reports

- a). Legislative – Mr. Sadwick addressed this above.
- b). Treasurer – Ms. Eaton provided handouts to the board and reported that she and Mr. Skelly are coordinating around the State Smart Growth Conference December 1. We should conduct a budgeting retreat again in January, 2007.
- c). PDO – Ms. Duncan reported that she had held workshops on ethics and AICP exam preparation at the regional conference last month and that she was working with Tufts on the exam prep course. There was discussion about MAPD conference sessions being rejected for AICP credit because they were listed just by title, without a sentence course description. In the future, MAPD conferences should include a sentence description to avoid this issue. Mr. Lowitt will speak with AICP and see if it can be remedied. Also, we are having competition for our AICP exam scholarships, a good sign of interest.
- d). CPTC – Sean Bender will send a written report to Ms. Samokar for inclusion in the minutes. Mr. Lowitt discovered that the chapter was awarded a Chapter President’s Council Grant of \$1000 to assist CPC with its evaluation of the effectiveness of its citizen training. Congrats to Diana Krall and Michael DiPasquale on their efforts.
- e). MAPD – Mr. Lowitt to ask Mr. Costello to appoint a representative.
- f). Student Representatives – nothing to report
- g). Committees – Mr. Lowitt welcomed Jef Fasser our new Economic Development Committee chair who reported that he has been in contact with Mr. Suhoski and will be working to revitalize the committee. Ms. Raitt reported that she had prepared a briefing on the Middleboro case which is on the web site, reviewed the Pioneer Institute’s recommendations against the APA Housing Policy (to be distributed to the board) and is working on a housing institute for next June.
- h). Regional Representatives – Central, Southeast and Cape and Islands will conduct a joint session on the Middleboro case in Middleboro. Mr. Bott is spearheading this “hot topic” session. Mr. Werbiskis announced a successful student/professional reception at a local brew pub in the western region and his participation in the UMASS reaccreditation.

11:15 Other Announcements – Mr. Lowitt reported on recent talks with the Federation around merging/affiliation. He provided a handout he had prepared for a meeting later this afternoon with Ms. Feinan of the Federation.

- Mr. Sadwick reported on the Mass Association of Realtors Meeting on 10/31/06 which focuses on a post election strategy to produce more housing in the Commonwealth.

11:20 Approval of minutes from September 8, 2006 Meeting and September 29, 2006 Chapter Meeting. On a motion by Tom Bott, seconded by Jenny Raitt the minutes were unanimously approved.

11:25 Next Meeting Planning

- a). December 15 prior to Holiday Luncheon at MAPC, 60 Temple Place, Boston in the fifth floor conference room.