

APA-MA  
Meeting Notes  
February 24, 2006  
Northboro Town Hall  
Approved May 5, 2006

Present: Kathy Joubert, Peter Lowitt, Don Benjamin, Bob Mitchell, Sabine Prather, Lyn Billman-Golemme, Tom Bott, Chris Eaton

9:30 AM New Business

1. Tufts Reaccreditation: Our March board meeting will be at Tufts and combined with the visit from the PAB to reaccredit Tuft's planning program. We meet at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room at 72 Professors Row. Mr. Lowitt will send the relevant sections of the self certification review once he receives them.
2. Fundraising/Sponsorship Request for "Becoming an Eco-Municipality" training seminar. Mr. Lowitt passed the request to Mr. Mitchell for the Sustainable Development Committee's input and recommendation at the next board meeting.
3. CPC Grant and Planning Commission Training Grant: Mr. Lowitt will encourage Ms. Krauth to apply for the Planning Commissioner Training Grant. Mr. Lowitt will draft an application for funds to develop a Planner and Zoning Case book for the Chapter. Mr. Sadwick will contact Ms. Rolfe to see if she is willing to write it.

10:00AM Updates

1. Board Responsibilities Update: Mr. Lowitt reviewed the changes made to the statement and asked those present to review and sign it.
2. Electronic Newsletter: Ms. Prather discussed the need for updating email addresses and will put information regarding that in the newsletter. A pdf format was agreed to be the best approach for delivering the product. Mr. Lowitt has contacted the web master for more information and price quotes for any needed changes to the site.
3. MIT reaccreditation: Mr. Lowitt presented the letter sent on behalf of the chapter, and reviewed his and Ms. Eaton's experience at the meeting. MIT has been very responsive to the suggestions for collaboration with the chapter and the idea of a distinguished alumnae who will act as a liaison between the chapter and the university planning school and its planning student organization which was raised by one of the visiting reaccreditation team members will be followed up on.
4. The Chapter has applied for the AICP Continuing Education Grant to conduct a Massachusetts form based zoning code workshop at the MAPD conference in June and in Fall 2006 at VHB's office in Watertown. George Proakis, AICP and Angus Jennings along with Bob Ritchie and Stephanie Pollack will conduct the workshop. We will need to promote this in our next newsletters.

10:30 Reports:

1. Legislative: Planners Day on the Hill is scheduled for April 12, 2006 at 10AM. Jim O'Connell is heading this up. Our new part time administrator will be

coordinating the legislative meetings to the extent possible. Ms. Billmen-Golemme was asked by the President to take an active role in supporting this effort. Other legislative efforts need to be supported as well. Ms. Billmen-Golemme reported on the upcoming Public Health Meeting in Boston with MHD and Action for Regional Equity's efforts as well. The need to visit Candidates for Governor, perhaps during planners day on the hill or at another time was noted. The current Lt. Governor's connections to municipalities was noted as a point of entry for discussions.

2. Chris Eaton presented her treasurers report. The board thanked her and looks forward to continued updates. See attached. (Chris please send email attachment to Heidi for inclusion in the minutes).
3. PDO report. Ms. Duncan was unable to attend but reported she is still working with Tufts to launch the AICP training program for this spring. Her request for funding for her registration to attend the national conference has been approved. UMASS will be appointing a new chair of the Planning Department over the summer and the chapter should make every effort to contact them and integrate them into our programming.
4. CPTC: Mr. Bender reports that he will be back participating in full in March. Mr. Lowitt will attend their conference in March and staff a booth offering free chapter only membership with electronic newsletter (pdf) delivery.
5. MAPD: Mr. Lowitt will attend the MAPD luncheon in Worcester this afternoon. Mr. Sadwick is on holiday.
6. Regional Liaison: Mr. Bott reported that he has been in communication with planners in the Southeast Region regarding another regional meeting and will keep us up to date on his efforts.
7. Committees: Mr. Mitchell reported that Mr. Foy has resigned from Office of Commonwealth Development. Building Energy 06, which the chapter is sponsoring is in two weeks and the chapter has a table at the conference.

Other Announcements:

1. Discussion ensued around the potential Shutesbury density amicus curae case. Mr. Lowitt distributed a summary of the proposed zoning districts and asked people to think carefully about the issues raised by it, especially in light of the recent Glaesser report on regulations and housing costs. There is definitely more need for discussion on this issue and the chapter should take the lead. We will discuss this in more detail at our next board meeting.
2. Don Benjamin introduced himself and expressed an interest in volunteering to lead a membership development committee. Don currently works for the census bureau. There was discussion about targeting citizen planners, new planners and students and APA's efforts in those areas. Mr. Lowitt will be in communication with Mr. Benjamin on these issues.