



American Planning Association
New Jersey Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

Annual Report

November 2007-October 2008

The New Jersey Chapter of the
American Planning Association
Annual Report
November 2007-October 2008

Edited by:

Rebecca M. Hersh, PP/AICP & Courtenay D Mercer, PP/AICP

November 2008

President's Message

Dear Members,

This, my first year as President of the APA-NJ, was also full of firsts for the organization. The first of which is this Annual Report. As dues paying members of this organization, you should know exactly what the Executive Committee is doing to advance the professional and provide services to our members (and not in a long-winded speech during the Annual Conference luncheon). Throughout this report, you will learn about the many activities the APA-NJ advanced this year, including AICP Certificate Maintenance programming, participation in National Community Planning Month, and the creation of a Pro Bono Planning Assistance Program.

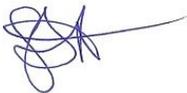
With much publicity put on being “green” as of late, the APA-NJ is doing its part in reducing carbon emissions. We began by transmitting our bi-monthly newsletter electronically, and now conduct voting electronically as well. Just these two efforts saved tens of thousands of sheets of paper, not to mention that it saved the organization about \$15,000 in printing and postage.

I would also like to recognize some outstanding members of the organization. The AICP inducted Phil Caton into the Fellowship of the American Institute of Certified Planners. It is a tribute to his accomplishments, and a wonderful reflection on the good work we do here in NJ. Several members of the APA-NJ Executive Committee resigned or did not seek reelection this year, and I would like to thank Carrie McCarthy, Tara Paxton, Jeffrey Perlman, Michael Powell, Jennifer Senick, Thomas Thatcher and Linda Wills for their hard work. I would also like to recognize Katharine Otto, Andrew Levecchia, Eric Powers, John Szabo, Angela Clerico, Eric Snyder and Michele Alonso for filling the slots (respectively). We created a Southern Shore Area Representative position, which Louis Joyce holds and an ad hoc Transportation Committee that Ray Tomczak chairs. I would also like to recognize David Kutner for taking up the chairmanship of the Pro Bono Program subcommittee.

Finally, there are a few members continuing with the Executive Committee that have given extra of themselves this year. Rebecca Hersch, as usual, does a tremendous job with her thankless newsletter duty; and additionally took on the conference committee and the editing of this newsletter. She is truly a dedicated volunteer and valued member of this organization. Chuck Latini is doing a great job keeping up with the rigors of CM, and Amy Sarrinikolaou stepped up to take over and revamp the PP exam review course. Linda Wills, Maura McManimon, Tara Paxton and Eric Snyder pulled together some great CM programming this year, and Vito Gallo organized a terrific COAH seminar. Lastly, John Reiser worked with our webmaster Brian Carson to enable online registration for the conference and other up-grades to our website.

As you can see, we have a lot going on. We are always looking for volunteers that have the time and energy to help us fulfill our mission of promoting planning and providing educational/informational services to our members. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact me at pres@njapa.org. I look forward to two more years of exciting firsts for this organization.

Sincerely,



Courtenay D. Mercer, PP, AICP

Introduction: About APA-NJ

The mission of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association is to promote sound planning as a process and a body of knowledge essential to improving the quality of life of the citizens of New Jersey and all stakeholders with an interest in the state. The Chapter does this by:

- Helping professional planners, the general public, lay planners, interested stakeholders, non-profits, the media, legislators, regulators, homeowners, businesses, students, educators and local and state officials become more aware of planning values, methods, knowledge, processes, practice, issues, and techniques; and
- Providing opportunities for increasing the awareness, resources, knowledge, skills, and commitment of those in the planning practice, as well as anyone who may influence planning practice.

For membership information and other APA-NJ information, please visit our website: www.njapa.org or contact the Chapter Administrator at:

APA-NJ Chapter, PO Box 200402, 1 Riverfront Plaza Newark, NJ 07102, P:973-286-4708, F:973-504-7097.

Executive Committee (November 2007-October 2008)

President

Courtenay Mercer, AICP/PP

Past President

Carlos Rodrigues, AICP/PP

First Vice-President

Deborah Lawlor, AICP/PP

Second Vice-President

Jeffrey Perlman, AICP/PP

Treasurer

John Reiser

Secretary and AICP/NJ Professional Planner Examination Review

Amy Sarrinikolaou, AICP/PP

Professional Development Officer

Charles Latini Jr., AICP/PP

Legislative Committee Chair

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Redevelopment Committee Chair

Robert Cotter, AICP/PP

Sustainable Design Committee Chair

Angela S. Clerico, LEED-AP

Housing Committee Chair

Vito A. Gallo, PP.

Ad Hoc Transportation Committee

Raymond S. Tomczak, AICP /PP

Northeast Area Representative

Linda E. Wills, AICP/PP

Northwest Area Representative

Eric Snyder, AICP/PP

Central Area Representative

Maura McManimon Fennessy, AICP/PP

Southern Area Representative.

Tara B. Paxton, AICP/PP

Ad Hoc Southern Shore Representative

Louis C. Joyce, AICP/PP

Bulletin Editor

Rebecca Hersh, AICP/PP

1st Year Student Representative

Katharine Otto

2nd Year Student Representative

Carrie McCarthy

Chapter Administrator

Michael E. Levine, AICP

Webmaster

Brian Carson

Inaugural Pro Bono Planning Assistance Program

By Courtenay Mercer, AICP/PP, APA-NJ Chapter President

Last year, the APA-NJ received a \$5,000 grant from the APA to implement a Pro-Bono Planning Assistance Program. A subcommittee of the Sustainable Design Committee was tasked with creating and running this program. Through the hard work of a handful of dedicated APA-NJ members, the APA-NJ held its inaugural Planning Assistance Program in October, providing invaluable advice on a redevelopment project in the Town of Newton, Sussex County.

The subcommittee began its efforts by defining what type of projects it would like to work on. It was decided that we would request proposals from municipalities for design projects that had been prioritized through a community visioning, and for which the community sought to include sustainable design components. With the assistance of the NJ League of Municipalities, we advertised a request for proposals in the spring. We received seven very interesting and diverse applications, and in the summer chose the Town of Newton's "Moose Lodge" Redevelopment project for this year's program. The project included all of the aspects we were looking for in a proposal. The community had identified the need for action on the site through a community visioning effort. The project had transferability and relevance to other communities throughout the state. The town demonstrated their commitment to the project through the dedication of in-kind services and the adoption of a municipal resolution agreeing to implement the recommendations of the Planning Assistance Program.

Once the project was selected, we put our intern to work pulling together a fact book to be distributed to the design team. Meanwhile, the subcommittee got to work selecting said design team members. The team included three designers, an environmental planner, a transportation planner, an economist, a sustainability expert and the project manager. Members of the original subcommittee were also on hand to help with logistics throughout the workshop. With a team pulled together, background information distributed, municipal stakeholders identified and scheduled to interview, the team descended on Newton on October 29th and 30th to come up with a tangible plan for the Moose Lodge redevelopment project. The team not only looked at the project site, but properties within the block and the relationship of the entire block to another important economic development project happening nearby. In the end, the town came away with design concepts, a recommendation for making the development sustainable and a plan of action to realize the design team's vision. A power-point slide of the design team's recommendations can be found on the APA-NJ website at www.njapa.org.

Our inaugural Planning Assistance Program was a great success due largely to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers.

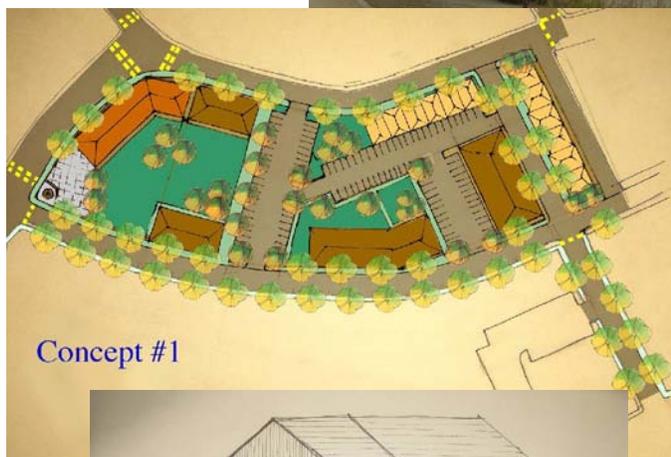
Planning Assistance Program Coordinating Subcommittee

David Kutner, Chair
Brent Barnes
Mirah Becker
Angela Clerico
Chuck Latini
Debbie Lawlor
Courtenay Mercer
Tara Paxton
John Reiser
Jennifer Senick
Jamie Sunyak
John Szabo
Bill Valocchi

Design Team

David Kutner, Project Manager
Dilip Chittajallu, Design
Robert Kull, Design
Chuck Latini, Design
Tara Paxton, Environment
John Reiser, Design
Jeff Vernick, Transportation
Rob Wiesniewski, Sustainability
Pinky Samat, Intern

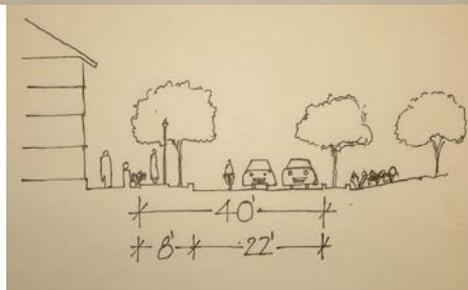
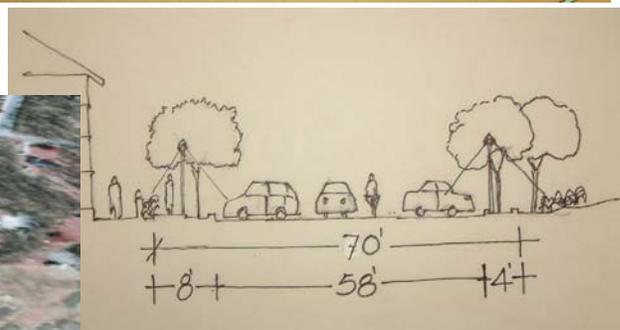
Images from
the Newton
Workshop



Concept #1



Concept #2



APA-NJ Participates in National Community Planning Month

By Courtenay Mercer, AICP/PP



[GREEN COMMUNITIES]

In an effort to promote and publicize the important role of planners and planning, the APA has designated October as National Community Planning Month. This year, the APA aptly chose “Green Communities” as the month’s theme, which dovetails nicely with all the publicity “green” has received in the past year. The APA created a

opportunities to promote planning (<http://www.planning.org/ncpm/index.htm>). They suggested ways to engage students, elected officials, planning boards and the general public. The APA also produced a number of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) that were distributed to radio stations across the country. In addition, the APA announced the 10 “Great Places in America” during National Community Planning Month.

The APA-NJ also participated in activities to promote National Community Planning Month. We held our inaugural pro bono Planning Assistance Program in October, garnering local publicity for planning and APA-NJ. In addition, we worked with the League of Municipalities to request that NJ communities adopt proclamations in support of planning. We thank the following communities that adopted proclamations:

- Township of Egg Harbor, Atlantic County
- Borough of Franklin, Sussex County
- Township of Fredon, Sussex County
- Township of Galloway, Atlantic County
- Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, Bergen County
- Borough of Lodi, Bergen County
- Borough of Middlesex, Middlesex County
- Township of Montclair, Essex County
- Borough of Oakland, Bergen County
- County of Salem

The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission also adopted a resolution in support of community planning, and held a very successful Sustainable Communities Planning Seminar in line with this year’s “Green Communities” theme.

We are extremely happy with the amount of participation in APA-NJ’s first year promoting National Community Planning Month. It is a great opportunity to promote our profession and show that we really do have an impact on quality of life. We hope to expand our activities and have even greater success in 2009.

Treasurer’s Report

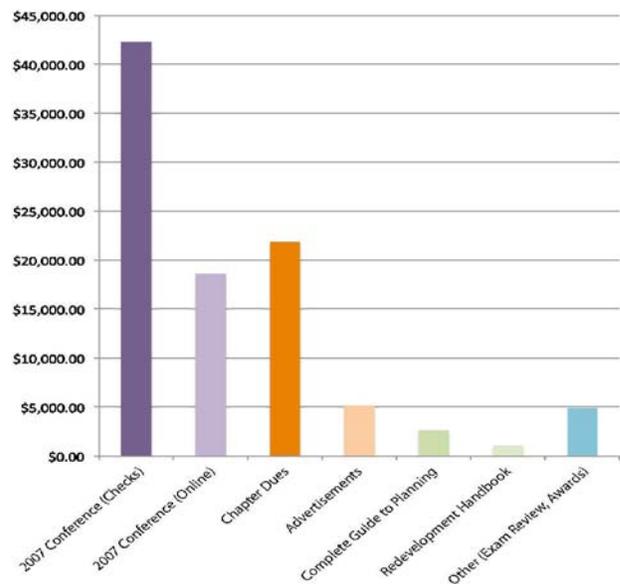
By John Reiser, Treasurer

Fiscal Year 2008 has been another prosperous and positive year for the American Planning Association, New Jersey Chapter. The success of the 2007 Annual Planning Conference and increased APA membership have contributed greatly to the financial stability of our organization. Advertisements within the Jersey Planner have been another considerable source of income. We have also made several changes to reduce operational costs, such as online elections and conference registration, saving on printing costs and staff time.

We invested in new computer equipment this year for our Chapter Administrator; our previous office computer diligently served its purpose for approximately 7 years until we retired it this February. In addition to hosting our own conference, we had a booth at the NJ League of Municipalities Conference in November 2007. We held a holiday party at the Elks Lodge in New Brunswick and contributed to the hosting of the COAH Forum held at the Bloustein School. APA-NJ has also made several contributions to scholarship funds and other planning-related charity causes.

In October of 2007, at the beginning of the fiscal year, APA-NJ introduced online registration for its annual conference. Over 100 people had registered using the online form last year, and we are well on our way to surpassing that mark this year. We are looking to incorporate online purchasing of our books and materials as well as online payment for walking tours and exam prep sessions.

Sources of Income for Fiscal Year 2008



Complete Guide to Planning in New Jersey: Third Edition Coming Soon

By Deborah Lawlor, AICP/PP, First Vice President

APA-NJ is pleased to announce that we are initiating the third edition of the *Complete Guide to Planning in New Jersey*. This book, which is a compendium of state planning law and policy, was originally compiled and written in 1997 under the skillful pen of Brent Barnes, AICP/PP, and a number of other highly regarded planning colleagues from the State of New Jersey. It is regarded by many as the "Planner's Bible". It was updated in 2004 by Editor Jennifer Zorn, AICP/PP and another team of talented planning and environmental specialists.

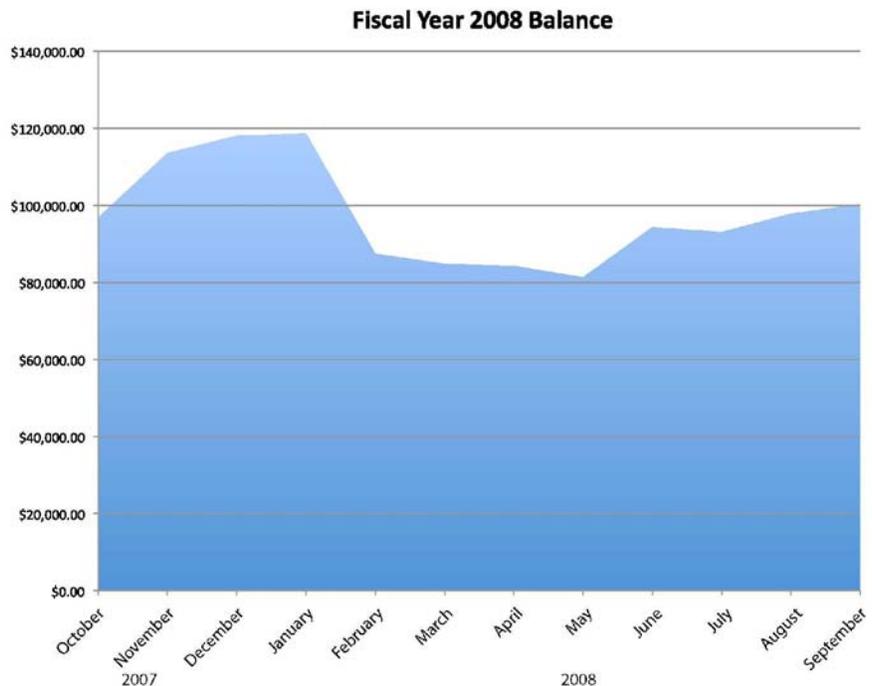
The *Guide* is often used as a reference material by practicing planners, engineers, land use attorneys and environmental specialists for projects in New Jersey. It is also credited as an easy to read, consolidated study guide used to prepare for the New Jersey Professional Planners licensing exam. A number of planning professors in New Jersey have incorporated the *Complete Guide to Planning in New Jersey* as a text for their classes.

Due to the ever changing nature of the information contained in the *Guide* and the many ways the *Guide* is used, APA-NJ recognizes the need to keep the document current. Since the last publication update in 2004 there have been several significant changes in the New Jersey planning world including the Council on Affordable Housing's third round rules, the creation of the New Jersey Highlands

Council, the release of the draft state Energy Master Plan, and the rise of sustainable planning practices in the field. The *Guide* will incorporate new sections addressing these topics, as well as new sections on transfer of development rights, agriculture and farmland planning, conservation planning, open space and recreation, environmental resource inventories, airport safety zoning, solid waste/landfill/recycling, utilities planning, regional planning efforts in New Jersey and the Open Public Records Act. All existing sections will be updated to reflect changes that have occurred since the last revision in 2004.

The third edition of the *Complete Guide to Planning in New Jersey* is being co-edited by the team of Jennifer Zorn, AICP/PP, Debbie Alaimo Lawlor, AICP/PP, and Thomas Dallesio, AICP/PP with the assistance of another stellar team of experts for each key topic area in the document. APA-NJ Chapter President Courtenay Mercer has assisted with scoping the revision of the document and recruiting section writers and editors. The volunteers are all highly regarded in the field and we appreciate their participation in bringing the *Guide* up to date. The acknowledgment that we provide in the book is not merely enough to thank you all of our section writers and editors for giving so willingly of their time. APA-NJ is grateful to all involved in keeping the *Guide* current.

Treasurer's Report (Continued)



Certification Maintenance & Area Representative Reports

By Linda E. Wills AICP/PPP, Northeast Area Representative; Eric Snyder, Northwest Area Representative; Maura McManimon Fennessy AICP/PPP, Central Area Representative; Tara B. Paxton AICP/PPP, Southern Area Representative; and Louis C. Joyce, AICP/PPP, Southern Shore Representative

Since the AICP instituted its Certification Maintenance (CM) requirements in 2007, APA-NJ's Executive Committee has been hard at work to provide as many CM credit opportunities for New Jersey planners as possible. This includes securing credits for the annual APA-NJ conference, partnering with other organizations to offer credits at their conferences, expanding the role of the Professional Development Committee, and redefining the role of the APA-NJ Area Representatives who serve on the Executive Committee.

In addition to the vital role that the Area Reps have played at the Chapter, APA-NJ has worked with several organizations over the past year to ensure a diversity of programming is available to New Jersey's planning community. To date, we have partnered with the New Jersey County Planners Association, the New Jersey Council On Special Transportation, and New Jersey Future to provide a wide and varied curriculum. Programs have included case studies on redevelopment planning practice, changes in New Jersey's affordable housing regulations, and programs focusing on the integration between land use and transportation. As CM is new to the planning community, APA-NJ will continue to explore and expand upon these opportunities.

Area Representatives

The Area Representatives are responsible for holding one social/educational event per year in their respective regions, either free of charge, or at a minimal cost to our members. Once AICP started requiring CM credits, it seemed to be an obvious decision for these regional events to be the APA-NJ's opportunity to provide CM events to its members. The Area Representatives have taken two approaches to sponsoring these CM events – holding tours and policy discussions in some major redevelopment areas of the state; and coordinating with APA's training programs to host webinar locations. Below is an overview of the events that have been held to date.

Asbury Park Walking Tour

APA-NJ's first CM-eligible event, organized by Area Representative Maura Fennessy, was the Asbury Park Walking Tour and Redevelopment Discussion, held on Friday, September 28, 2007. About 55 APA-NJ members had the opportunity to see a sidewalk- and boardwalk-view of the redevelopment underway in Asbury Park. The event was eligible for 2.5 CM credits. Thanks to the tour guides – Don Sammet, Asbury Park's dedicated Director of Planning, and the ever-animated Fred Huyer, a principle at Huyer Gruel – the participants were treated to local perspectives of Cookman Avenue, with now-thriving restaurants and home decorating shops, and the plans in progress for the oceanfront area.

Following the walking tour, the participants gathered back at City Hall to hear about recent NJ court decisions regarding redevelopment area designations. The distinguished panel of Bob Cotter, the Planning Director for Jersey City; Tom Hastie, with McManimon and Scotland; and the tour guides Don and Fred, provided an update on the implications of the array of redevelopment decisions, including Paulsboro and Newark. They also talked about the effect of these decisions on the planning profession, namely the added scrutiny and need for substantial evidence when using the "d" and "e" criteria in designating areas in need of redevelopment.



This is clearly an important time for the planning profession, and New Jersey's planners need to be informed and prepared to respond to this increased scrutiny with the type of thorough research and analysis that planners can bring to the table.

Harrison Walking Tour: Getting There from Here

On May 16, 2008, Area Representative Linda Wills, with Professional Development Officer Chuck Latini, organized a tour and panel in the Town of Harrison. Approximately 50 Chapter members joined with the Hudson County Brownfield Stakeholders group to witness how brownfield revitalization is transforming the Town of Harrison, with almost 300 acres of abandoned or underutilized industrial sites, into a New Urbanist community. The afternoon event started with an hour-long bus tour of the redevelopment areas. The plans for Harrison call for an array of land uses that capitalize on the presence of the Harrison PATH Station and the Passaic River. The Town's bold, new identity includes a soccer stadium and mixed-use development that may double the current population of approximately 14,000 residents.

We were fortunate to have Peter B. Higgins, III, Chairman of the Harrison Redevelopment Agency; Charles Latini, AICP/PP, from Heyer, Gruel & Associates; and Gregory Kowalski, Esq., also with the Harrison Redevelopment Agency guide us on the tour. Following the tour was a panel presentation from leading brownfield practitioners. Joining our tour guides on the panel were: Elizabeth Spinelli, Executive Director of the Hudson County Economic Development Corp.; James Mack, Brownfields Director, with the York Center for Environmental Engineering and Science at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; Stephen Kehayes, Environmental Scientist, Office of Brownfield Reuse, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and Richard Miller, Chief Executive Officer of The Pegasus Group.



Participants were eligible to receive 3 CM credits.

Southern Shore Area Report

Traditionally, the Executive Committee of APA-NJ included representative for four areas of the State. Shortly after the 2007 Annual conference, members from the Southern area which included the Counties of Ocean, Mercer, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Salem, Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties suggested that the area was overly large, and that redistricting to create an additional area should be considered.

The Executive Committee was receptive to dividing the southern area into two areas, and adding an additional area rep to the committee. A by-laws change was necessary, however, to formalize the committee's goal. In the interim the Executive Committee did create an additional area, and decided upon the name for the new area. The newly created area is named the Southern Shore Area and consists of the Counties of Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem.

The Executive Committee appointed Louis Joyce, PP, AICP, from Salem County as the area representative on an interim basis. The formal creation of the new region and election of the area representative were included on the 2008 ballot, which concluded recently.

Although no formal activities were implemented during 2008, the Cumberland County Planning Board hosted several APA webcast seminars that were attended by members from Salem, Cumberland and Atlantic Counties.

A similar program is planned for 2009. Also in the upcoming year, we will propose workshops and walking tours that will focus on the activities that are occurring in the "real" south Jersey to give APA-NJ members an opportunity to experience that region of the State.

APA Audio Web Conference – Planning Law

On June 25, 2008, Area Representatives Eric Snyder and Tara Paxton partnered to bring the chapter's first Audio Web Conference to planners in the Northwest and Southern regions of the state. APA-NJ was able to subscribe to APA's webinar on Planning Law and provide locations for planners to gather for the presentations. The material covered in the web conference included topics such as environmental issues, affordable housing, sustainable design, energy alternatives, discriminatory zoning practices and eminent domain. Participants were eligible to receive 1.5 CM credits.

In the Southern region, approximately 25 APA-NJ members attended the web conference at the Brick Township Municipal Building. In the Northwest region, 24 members gathered at Sussex County Community College in Newton. The response from participants was overwhelmingly positive. They thought the presentation was clear, concise and facilitated very professionally. They were pleased to be able to meet at a convenient location at a minimal price (\$5.00) and secure the required credits in planning law. And, they all requested more opportunities for such CM programs. That is definitely the goal for 2009!

Housing Committee Report

By Vito A. Gallo, PP, Housing Committee Chair

APA/NJ established a Housing Committee in 2007 to implement the National APA "Policy Guide on Housing" – and to keep our membership informed in a rapidly evolving housing environment.

Among the events that motivated thirteen APA-NJ members to volunteer to serve on the Chapter's newly-established Housing Committee" were:

- The N. J. Appellate Court decision on COAH's Third Round methodology and regulations, the subsequent appeals and the uncertain outcomes;
- Governor Corzine's 100,000 affordable housing production and preservation goal; and
- The growing legislative interest in housing concerns and issues as varied as the recent spike in sub-prime mortgage loan foreclosures, state funding as an alternative to Regional Contribution Agreements, and issues related to the displacement of homeowners and tenants by governmentally-sanctioned redevelopment."

Housing Committee Mandate

The Chapter's Executive Committee charged the Housing Committee with a mandate to:

- Advocate for housing and planning policies, programs, practices and regulations that address the evolving needs of New Jersey's increasingly diverse and growing population
- Monitor legislative and regulatory proposals in order to inform the Chapter's membership on a timely basis
- Serve as a resource to the New Jersey Legislature, public agencies and the Chapter by providing information, professional guidance and, when appropriate, public testimony, and
- Assist the Chapter with educational forums, articles and professional development offerings.

COAH Housing Forum

The Committee's initial effort was to convene a COAH Housing Forum at the E. J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey on February 1st in New Brunswick to inform the membership about COAH's initial proposed revisions to their Third Round Rules. More than 200 planners attended the jointly sponsored informational Forum that was hosted by the Rutgers Center for Government Services and which included a distinguished panel of the Chapter's affordable housing experts and the COAH Ex-

Housing Sessions at the 2008 Annual Conference

The Housing Committee has cooperated with our annual conference planning committee and with key housing professionals to present five timely housing sessions:

1. Managing Neighborhood Change: A Framework for Planners
2. Smart Housing Zones: Old Problem, Innovative Solution
3. Mortgage Foreclosures in NJ and Essex County
4. Zoning in a Post-RCA New Jersey
5. The Greenest Building is Already Built: Improving Sustainability & Efficiency of Affordable Housing Through Preservation & Rehabilitation

Monitoring A-500

It became clear in the spring of 2008 that key players in the New Jersey Legislature's majority were advancing legislative proposals to revise COAH's regulations – and the Fair Housing Act of 1985 that had established COAH. Assembly Speaker Roberts pledged to eliminate "Regional Contribution Agreements." It soon became clear that the mayors of the State's largest cities were seeking an alternative housing funding source. The Legislature responded by approving a uniform state-wide nonresidential development fee and by establishing the New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund to assist both urban and suburban communities. Significantly, the adopted bill established a State Housing Commission "to develop a strategic housing plan for New Jersey, as well as to prepare an annual housing performance report..." The legislative leadership has pledged to make further revisions to the State's housing laws in the current Fall legislative session.

Smart Housing for Economic Prosperity

Based upon the Housing Committee's review and favorable recommendation, the Chapter's Executive Committee has recently unanimously voted to cooperate with New Jersey Future and its Smart Housing for Economic Prosperity (SHEP) Task Force to advance an initiative to establish a program of financial incentive to encourage NJ municipalities to study and to implement higher density housing development in appropriate locations, such as near mass transit and commercial centers. That effort is expected to result in an effort to seek legislative enactment of a "smart housing zone" program in New Jersey.

Ad Hoc Transportation Committee Report

By Raymond S. Tomczak, AICP, PP, Ad Hoc Transportation Committee Chair

The Executive Committee approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Transportation Committee, which upon demonstrated success, will be forth in a by-law amendment proposal to become a standing committee of the APA-NJ. The first task of the Ad Hoc Committee was to create a mission statement:

“The Transportation Committee provides a forum for professionals, students and any other interested groups and/or individuals whom have an active interest in advancing the transportation planning policies, programs, practices and regulations as they affect the State of New Jersey. This committee will serve the members of the Chapter by discussing, evaluating and monitoring all things related to transit mobility, such as: commuter rail; light rail; intercity rail (Amtrak); monorail; freight rail; local, regional and interstate bus; paratransit; ferry; airplane; automobile; trucking; maritime shipping; bicycling; pedestrian access; intermodal facilities; train and bus stations; transit oriented development; alternative fuels, etc.

The Transportation Committee will remain at the forefront of the latest legislative or regulatory proposals that may affect the work being done by those whom have an interest in all things related to transit mobility. This Committee will act as a clearinghouse of the latest transportation information, and where necessary, will provide professional guidance and public testimony deemed important to the New Jersey Legislature, public agencies and members of this Chapter. The Transportation Committee will also assist the Chapter by providing educational forums, articles and professional development offerings.”

The Ad Hoc Transportation Committee has held three meetings since its formation in mid-2008. Among other things, we are actively engaged in the 2035 North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority Long Range Plan, we are keeping track of SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization, we are looking to find innovative funding solutions to help keep New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund. In general, we are open to any topics of interest related to transportation and hoping to put together some Continuing Education events for the membership.

Redevelopment Committee Report

By Robert D. Cotter, AICP/PP, Redevelopment Committee Chair

The past year has seen much change in the way the courts are looking at the redevelopment process, but still no change from the New Jersey Legislature. Much has been made of the Gallenthin decision of 2007, wherein the New Jersey Supreme Court narrowed the use of the “not fully productive” clause in criterion “e.” Since then, the most important cases for planners were: Harrison, Belmar, Mount Holly and Long Branch, just where we thought they would be.

Harrison established a new standard of notice, which serves to set the “45 days clock” running on a property owner’s right to appeal an area in need of redevelopment designation. Belmar and Mount Holly set the bar at “substantial credible evidence” that the conditions existing in the delineated area are “detrimental to the public safety, health, morals or welfare of the community.” In Long Branch, the Appellate Division sent the 12 year old blight determination back to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing to see if the conditions in 1996 meet the 2007 criteria established in Gallenthin. Meanwhile, Long Branch has petitioned the NJ Supreme Court to clarify whether Gallenthin was meant to look back at redevelopment designations entered years ago and which are well advanced in the process of renewal and reinvestment.

As this is written, we expect legislation to begin moving in Trenton. The Redevelopment Committee has weighed in on the two bills – one by Senator Rice and another from Senator Sweeney. Committee members have testified before the Urban Affairs Committee on our position on these bills. We believe there are needed reforms as to transparency and fairness, but that the criteria for blight are well settled in New Jersey. Setting up new criteria would throw out 50 years of established jurisprudence and opens redevelopment decisions to judicial review for years to come – not a good thing.

To help deal with all of this uncertainty and change, we are revisiting the Redevelopment Handbook and will produce a Second Edition. Senate President Codey has said redevelopment legislation will be adopted this session. We hope the legislation makes it clear what municipal planners need to do to establish redevelopment areas, clarifies the procedure for noticing and creates fair and reasonable compensation for affected property owners. We are involved in the process in Trenton and will work to inform any legislative decisions on behalf of all of us who work to make our communities better places to live, work and play.

Newsletter Editor's Report

By Rebecca M. Hersh, AICP/PPP, Newsletter Editor

APA-NJ's bi-monthly newsletter, *The Jersey Planner* (formerly called *Plan This*), is sent to all of APA-NJ's membership via email. The newsletter covers a wide range of topics, from APA-NJ's activities to state government policy to event coverage to general topics of interest to planners from around the world. Following are some of the covers of newsletters that have been published in 2008:



PRESIDENT'S CORNER: THE STATE OF THE STATE TDR ACT

By Courtney Mewor, NAIAPA Chapter President
On March 29th, 2004, Governor McGreevey signed the long over 40 State Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Act into law (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-137 et seq.). The law was the result of a collaboration between planners and policy wonks, as well as environmental, farmer and developer advocates. Its passage was lauded by many as the savior of NJ's rural landscape. To mark the four-year anniversary of this momentous law, this issue of *Plan This!* is dedicated to the success, failure and promise of TDR in New Jersey.

As planners, we could not help but be excited by the promise of the State TDR Act, which gives communities control over the pattern and design of development. TDR is a sustainable planning technique that balances growth and development, and provides private dollars for preservation. TDR is the antithesis of the sprawl system so prevalent in NJ.

Highlands TDR: Creating Voluntary Receiving Zones

By Eileen Swan
Executive Director, Highlands Water Protection & Planning Council
In the Highlands Region, undeveloped lands are a finite resource and provide drinking water for Highlands residents and nearly half the State's population. Protecting and enhancing these undeveloped lands, and the resources on and within them, is the primary objective of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act). To achieve this objective, the Highlands Act empowers the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) with establishing a regional transfer of development rights (TDR) program for the 860,000-acre Highlands Region.

TDR is a land use tool that permits a community to utilize



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Congratulations to FAICP Recipient Philip Caton

Philip B. Caton AICP/PPP, Senior Partner at Clarke Caton Hintz in Trenton, recently became a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners, one of the highest honors that the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) bestows upon a member. This honor is a recognition of the achievements of the planner as an individual, earning the Fellow before the public and the profession as a model planner who has made significant contributions to planning and society. Phil, whose career spans over 30 years, directs Clarke Caton Hintz's professional planning staff in providing planning, zoning, affordable housing and land development services. He has testified as a planning expert before over half of the Superior Courts in New Jersey as well as municipal planning and zoning boards of adjustment throughout the state. Phil is a highly regarded authority on affordable housing and a court appointed mediator in the State of New Jersey. Phil has directed land use programming, site planning and redevelopment initiatives for public agencies and as a private consultant. He has prepared Redevelopment Plans, Master Plans and zoning ordinances as a planning consultant to various municipal agencies in the state, including Trenton, Camden, Jersey City and Elizabeth. His public experience includes serving four years as Director of the Division of Housing and Urban Renewal at the NJ Department of Community Affairs, an experience that included administration of the Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Act, the Uniform Relocation Act and staffing the NJ Redevelopment Authority, a statewide housing and redevelopment planning agency which operates through NJEDA. Prior to his state appointment, Phil served as Director of Redevelopment for the City of Trenton and as Director of the New Trenton Corporation, a public/private partnership which was pivotal in transforming the city's Central Business District.

From all of your friends and colleagues at NAIAPA, congratulations, Phil!



Haddonfield Amends Zoning to Add Form-Based Code to Downtown District

By Bob Katz, PP/AICP, CPMP

Bob Katz, who was part of the consulting team for the Town of Haddonfield, has over 30 years of public, private and academic planning experience. Bob earned a certificate from the charter class of the Form Based Codes Institute in 2006. He can be contacted at rkatz@plgny.com. All images in this article are courtesy of Brown & Keener Urban Design.

On June 10, the Haddonfield Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted amendments to their Land Development Ordinance to implement their 2007 master plan for their downtown district. Three aspects of this event were remarkable:

- The downtown districts will be regulated using a "form-based code".
- The form-based code was adopted under conventional zoning authority, not under redevelopment law, historic districts, cluster development or planned development authority.

The code was adopted with little community opposition; the primary opposition was that the code did not do enough to regulate density.

This article will describe the concepts of "form-based codes" how the Borough of Haddonfield came to select this approach, the essentials of Haddonfield's innovative ordinance, and lessons that can be learned from Haddonfield's experience.

What is a Form-based Code?

The concept of "form-based codes" has been advanced as magical and mystical, a concept favored by planners and lawyers, embraced by architects and characterized by loose formats: cease full of strange acronyms and unusual nomenclature.

(Continued on page 6)

The Harrison Approach: Getting There from Here

By Charles Lottig, AICP/PPP

The Harrison Waterfront Redevelopment Plan represents one of New Jersey's great opportunities for redevelopment. While many former industrial areas in the state and the nation have undergone revitalization, the Harrison Redevelopment Plan is making it possible for the Harrison to realize its potential on a world-class scale.

On May 16, APA-NJ led a bus tour and panel presentation of the nearly 300-acre redevelopment area. Tour guides and panelists shared lessons learned with approximately 50 Chapter members. The panel discussion was moderated by Elizabeth Spinell, Executive Director of the Hudson County Economic Development Corporation. Panelists included leading brownfield practitioners Peter Higgins, the Chairman of the Harrison Redevelopment Agency; myself, Charles Lottig, Town Planner with Hayer, Grual & Associates and the Plan's author; Stephen Kalyvas, the Brownfield Development Area Manager assigned to Harrison by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; James Mack,



In spite of driving rain, over 50 intrapod planners turned out to tour Harrison's redevelopment areas.

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Paving the Way for the Second Industrial Revolution: The Silk City Makes a Comeback

By Michael Pinsky
Director of Policy & Planning, New Jersey Community Development Corporation

Paterson: A Short and Glorious History

Paterson, New Jersey, originally founded by Alexander Hamilton as the first step in implementing his plans for a hub of industry, has become one of the most economically distressed cities in the United States, despite its premier location just 15 miles west of Manhattan. For Paterson, the nation's first Treasury Secretary, the City of Paterson would become the spark igniting a new form of industrial production — adding wealth, independence, and economic security to a fledgling democratic nation. Not unlike other industrial models to follow, the roaring waterfalls called the Great Falls and the potential power it could generate made Paterson an ideal location for what Hamilton envisioned as his "national manufactory." Hamilton's vision to create an urban center that channeled the power of the Great Falls into an industrial powerhouse is what

turned Paterson into the nation's first planned industrial city.

Over the years, Paterson became a major center for industrial first:

the first water-powered cotton spinning mill (1793), the first continuous roll paper (1812), the Colt Revolver (1836), the Rogers Locomotive Works which helped fuel western expansion through the transcontinental railroad (1837), and the Holland Submarine — making underwater navigation possible (1878).



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New APA-NJ Transportation Committee

At its April meeting, Raymond Tomczak, AICP (Senior Transportation Planner at HNTB) addressed the APA-NJ Executive Committee to discuss the need to establish a forum within the APA-NJ for transportation professionals to gather and discuss the merits of all things related to transportation in New Jersey.

Given the historic role transportation has played in the development of this state, and the current state of debate about how best to improve the operation, infrastructure, and financing, it is important that the APA-NJ provide a venue to inform and advocate for transportation issues. Accordingly, the Executive Committee approved the formation of an ad hoc Transportation Committee.

A successful Transportation Committee depends on dedicated volunteers to help sustain its ongoing activities. Should there be enough interest and action by APA-NJ members over the course of the next year, the Executive Committee will propose a formal amendment to make a standing Committee in 2009. If interested in joining the ad hoc Transportation Committee, please contact Raymond at rtomczak@hntb.com.



First Ever Two-Day NJ Planning Conference: November 6th & 7th, 2008

By Rebecca Hersh, AICP/PPP

For the first time, the Annual Planning Conference is a two-day affair, with more planning education and networking opportunities than ever. The conference, which will be held at New Brunswick's Hyatt Resener Hotel, is sponsored by the American Planning Association NJ Chapter and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers.

Thursday November 6: Walking Tour & Workshops

The program begins at 11:30am on Thursday November 6 with a walking tour of downtown New Brunswick's redevelopment, followed by a panel discussion that will delve into how some of the city's major mixed-use projects came to fruition — from planning and zoning to financing and senior. Ab-

(Continued on page 6)

The Candidates Speak: Obama & McCain on the Issues

This interview appeared in the September 2008 issue of REALTOR magazine. Portions of it have been reprinted here with permission from the National Association of REALTORS. Copyright 2008. All Rights Reserved.

The interview was conducted by Robert Freedman, a senior editor at REALTOR Magazine. He can be contacted at rfreedman@realtor.com. For more information, visit <http://realtor.com>.

The Republican and Democratic candidates for president share a belief in the private sector's ability to lift the economy back into growth mode. But their paths diverge on how the federal government should contribute to this goal.

For example, both Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barack Obama embrace the need to close the health insurance gap. Sen.

(Continued on page 12)

Cotters Way to be Cast in Aluminum

Jersey City's lone time Planning Director (and APA-NJ's longtime Redevelopment Committee Chair) Bob Cotter, was recognized by Jersey City Mayor Jeramiah Healy at a ceremony in City Hall naming a new street in Liberty Harbor Redevelopment Area in Bob's honor. Developer Peter Pizzo, agreed to name the street "Cotters Way" upon suggestion from the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency's Executive Director, Bob Antonello.

The APA-NJ Award winning "Liberty Harbor" redevelopment plan was the work of the city's planning staff and the New Urbanist design firm of Duany Plater-Zeberk. The first residents moved this past spring. The Liberty Harbor Redevelopment Plan is located just north of Liberty State Park. The 70 acre site contains two light rail stations and is just 500 yards from the Grove Street PATH Station. When complete, it will contain more than 5,000 dwellings in mixed use structures ranging from four to 32 stories high.



Pictured from left to right are the Jersey City planners: Kristin Russell, Jose Ann Morales, Tanya Marione-Stanton, Claire Davis, Sandra Sung, Gur Castillo, Mayor Jeramiah Healy, Maryann Buccieri-Carr, Jed Goldstein, Bob Cotter, Jeff Weaver, and Jeannine Zanolis.

Secretary's Report

By Amy Sarrinikolaou, AICP/PP, Secretary

I was elected Secretary of the APA-NJ in November 2007 for a two-year term. Since my first meeting, I have been keeping up with my duties as Secretary. I maintain a current Roster of the Executive Committee. I am responsible for the meeting minutes and monthly meeting agendas. As my involvement with the Chapter has developed, in addition to my secretarial duties, I have agreed to help our Professional Development Officer, Chuck Latini, with the organization of the review course for the Professional Planners Law Exam, and fielding of questions/requests from our members and non-members in pursuit of their State and National planning licenses. I hope to maintain the quality of the PP Exam Review Course as Chuck has done in the past, and to continually improve the program for our existing and prospective members.

Sustainable Design Committee

By Angela S. Clerico, LEED-AP, Sustainable Design Committee Chair

Sustainability is described as the “capability to equitably meet the vital human needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by preserving and protecting the area’s ecosystems and natural resources. The concept of sustainability describes a condition in which human use of natural resources, required for the continuation of life, is in balance with Nature’s ability to replenish them.”

In its second year, the Sustainability Committee grew to include a number of non-profit associations, environmental consultants, attorneys, planners, and state and local officials. Our committee received support and fuel for its work through an amendment to the Municipal Land Use Law, and this was our main focus for the year. Assembly Bill A-1559 authorizes municipal planning boards to adopt green buildings and environmental sustainability municipal master plan element. The Sustainability Committee took on the task of creating a model plan element to address the language of the law and to guide municipalities in creating a green building and environmental sustainability plan element.

Working in concert with the Mayors Committee for a Green Future, the Sustainability Committee anticipates the draft of the model plan element to be released at the League of Municipalities along with the Green Future Roadmap.

Conference Committee Report

By Rebecca M. Hersh, AICP/PP, Conference Committee Chair & Courtenay D. Mercer, AICP/PP

APA-NJ saw a record turnout of 450 conference attendees in 2007. Due to that success, we have expanded the Annual Planning Conference to two days, with more planning education and networking opportunities than ever. The conference, which will be held at New Brunswick’s Hyatt Regency Hotel, is sponsored by the American Planning Association NJ Chapter and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers.

The program begins at 11:30am on Thursday November 6 with two walking tours:

1. New Brunswick/Devco – Downtown New Brunswick’s Redevelopment

You can’t help but notice that downtown New Brunswick has been a hub of construction activity in recent years. Join us for a panel discussion and walking tour that will delve into how some of the major mixed-use projects came to fruition – from planning and zoning to financing and tenancy. Hear from the planners and redevelopers who helped make it happen and from the City and community organizers about how New Brunswick’s residential neighborhoods can benefit from it, and see first hand the new and planned mixed-use projects.

2. New Brunswick/Rutgers University – Bus Rapid Transit & the College Avenue Greening

Take a walking and transit tour to learn how Rutgers University has begun to implement a bus rapid transit system (BRT) and how transit fits into the new College Avenue Greening project. During this tour you will ride the transit system, tour the College Avenue Campus, and see the bus dispatch area. This tour will highlight how to start up a BRT system and how best to connect it with appropriate land uses.

Starting at 3:45pm, two workshops will be offered: New Jersey Planning Law and Planning Ethics. Planning Law will focus on state Supreme Court and lower state appeals court cases on planning and zoning decided during 2007-2008. The Planning Ethics class will review the Standards and Procedures under the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, including hypothetical and actual case studies and scenarios. Participants will have an opportunity to debate ethical conduct. Thursday evening also includes dinner. APA-NJ is seeking Certification Maintenance credits for the walking tours and the two sessions.

Conference (Continued)

Friday's all-day program includes 18 sessions, breakfast, lunch, a keynote address, and an afternoon cocktail reception and networking hour. APA-NJ is seeking Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for all workshop sessions, including the keynote address. This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Ken Reardon, who will be giving a talk entitled, "Natural Disasters and Rebuilding Communities: Planning Lessons from New Orleans." Dr. Reardon is Director of the Graduate Program in City & Regional Planning at the University of Memphis and is a nationally renowned expert in community organizing, community-based neighborhood planning, and university-community partnerships.

The 18 workshops offered on Friday:

- Smart Housing Zones: Old Problem, Innovative Solution?
- Smart Growth & Mega Projects: Perfect Together?
- Regional Planning & Plan Conformance in New Jersey's Highlands
- Mortgage Foreclosure in NJ and Essex County
- Form-Based Codes, NJ Style
- Using the New Web Soil Survey for Community Planning
- Reconnecting Jobs & Transit
- Zoning in a Post-RCA New Jersey
- Managing Neighborhood Change: A Framework for Planners
- Global Climate Change at the Local Level: What Planners Can Do
- Infrastructure Bones, Market Muscle, and Other Plan Implementation Body Parts
- Transfer of Development Rights: Lessons from Around New Jersey
- Low-Carbon Towns: How & When?
- Public Participatory GIS (PPGIS): Using Technology to Enhance the Planning Process
- The Greenest Building is Already Built: Improving Sustainability and Efficiency of Affordable Housing
- What's Next for TOD?
- Design, Landscape Architecture, and Regenerative Land Use

Annual Planning Awards

Awarded each year at APA-NJ's annual conference in November, these awards honor plans, planning and design initiatives, reports, built projects, individuals and organizations that are in the forefront of planning in New Jersey. They also recognize professional planners, citizens, and elected and appointed officials for their contributions to the planning field.

2007 Planning Award Winners

Doo Wop Motels – A Conservation Strategy

Outstanding Preservation Plan
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Woolwich TDR Plan

Outstanding Comprehensive Plan
Melvin | Kernan Development Strategies

Somerville Transit-Oriented Redevelopment Plans

Outstanding Smart Growth Plan
Borough of Somerville; Somerset County Planning Board; New Jersey Transit; New Jersey Office of Smart Growth; Regional Plan Association; Phillips Preiss Shapiro Associates

Homes for New Jersey Campaign

Planning Leadership Award

Roland Whitley, Jr.

Budd Chavooshian Award for an Outstanding Professional Planner
Community Technical Assistance, Inc

William S. Beetle

Distinguished Service Award
DMJM Harris

Joseph Maraziti, Jr Esq.

President's Award for Distinguished Leadership in Planning
Maraziti Falcon and Healey

Alan Mallach, FAICP

President's Award for Distinguished Leadership in Planning
National Housing Institute

Robert Goldsmith, Esq.

President's Award for Distinguished Leadership in Planning
Greenbaum Rowe

Gary Toth

President's Award for Distinguished Leadership in Transportation Planning
The Bio Engineering Group

Conference (Continued)

2007 Planning Award Winners

Don Krueckeberg, Ph.D., PP, AICP (Posthumously)
Budd Chavooshian Award for Outstanding Professional Planner

Heyer, Gruel & Associates
Distinguished Service Award

Mayor Giuseppe Chila
Distinguished Leadership Award for an Elected Official Township of Woolwich

Gary Novak, Planning Board Chair
Distinguished Leadership Award for a Citizen Planner Borough of West Cape May

Town of Newton
Commitment to Community Planning Award

New Jersey Planning Officials
President's Award for Leadership in Planning Advocacy

Fairview Village
Outstanding Implementation Award
NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency in partnership with the City of Camden, the Camden Redevelopment Authority, and RPM

Jersey City Bayfront Redevelopment Plan
Smart Growth Award
A. Nelessen Associates, Jersey City and Honeywell Co.

Main Street Atlantic City Downtown Revitalization Plan
Outstanding Comprehensive Plan Award
Karabashian Eddington Planning Group and Main Street Atlantic City

Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) Program and the County and Municipal Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Planning Process
Elwood "Woody" Jarmer Award for Outstanding Environmental Achievement
NJ State Agriculture Development Committee

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
Outstanding Sustainable Initiative Award
NJDOT Commuter and Mobility Strategies Bureau

Prudential Center Coordinated Transit, Traffic and Parking Management Plan
Outstanding Transportation Planning Award
Sam Schwartz Engineering

Technical Assistance Outreach Brochures for Municipal Planning
Outstanding Planning Education Award
Monmouth County Planning Board

2007 Planning Award Jury

- Awards Committee Chair: Gail O'Reilly, TownWorks
- Jon Carnegie, AICP/PP, Voorhees Transportation Center
- Angela Clerico, AICP/PP, Banisch Associates
- Joanne Harkins, AICP/PP, New Jersey Builders Association
- Peter Medina, PE/PP, Bernards Township
- Carlos Rodrigues AICP/PP, Regional Plan Association
- Joel Schwartz, Landmark Properties, LLC

2008 Planning Award Jury

- Karl Hartkopf, PP, AICP, NJ Office of Smart Growth
- Courtenay Mercer, PP, AICP, Mercer Planning Associates
- Gail O'Reilly, PP, AICP, TownWorks
- Creigh Rahenkamp, PP, AICP, Creigh Rahenkamp and Associates
- Judith Auer Shaw, Ph.D., PP, AICP, National Center for Neighborhood & Brownfields Redevelopment, and Rutgers Center for Green Building,
- Randall Solomon, NJ Sustainable State Institute

Election Report

By Courtenay Mercer, AICP/PP, & By Linda E. Wills AICP/PP

2007 Election

In 2007, the APA-NJ welcomed two new Executive Committee members, Amy Sarrinikolaou and John Reiser, as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. We were also happy that Debbie Lawlor stayed on for another term as First Vice President. The elected/re-elected Executive Committee member statements are below:

Debbie Alaimo Lawlor, P.P., AICP—First Vice President

I am a licensed planner practicing in the State of New Jersey with over 25 years of experience in the fields of land use and environmental planning. I have served for 5 years on the APA-NJ Executive Board in the capacity of Northeast Area representative (2 years), Second Vice President (1 year), and First Vice President (2 years). I also hold the position of Vice Chair of State Planning on the Executive Board for the Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division of National APA.

As Chief Planner of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission since 1984, I have had the privilege to promote many creative and far-reaching ideas due to my ability to plan regionally. Mid 2006-2007, I spent a year on loan to the New Jersey Highlands Council assisting with the preparation of their draft Master Plan. Recently returned to the Meadowlands, I am currently authoring the Bergen County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as working on State Plan endorsement, affordable housing, and other regional planning issues related to the Meadowlands District towns.

I have worked to promote new workshops and programs for our members during my tenure on the board, including the Planner's Walking Tours and educational programs set forth by myself and other regional representatives. I wish to expand these programs in the future, as well as engage our membership in local planning charrettes to assist municipalities with a variety of planning issues around the State.

John J. Reiser—Treasurer

I have previous organizational experience, having served on the Environmental Committee and Parks Committee in Buena Vista Township. I am detail-oriented, precise and exacting. I believe strongly in organizational transparency and improving efficiency wherever possible. As a planner, every project I become involved with I want to see implemented. As your Treasurer, I will work tirelessly to see the financial plans of our executive committee come to fruition. One such project is the development of a system to allow our organization to accept online and credit card payments for the APA-NJ Conference, books and exam materials. As Treasurer, I will see that a process will be in place that will provide more purchasing options to our members, as well as a reduction of our costs.

By-Laws Amendments (2007 & 2008)

The Executive Committee recommended, and Chapter members voted to adopt, a number of amendments to the Chapter bylaws to ensure that members have proper representation. Key changes are summarized as follows:

1. Voting by Chapter members may be conducted electronically, as well as by mail.
2. A Housing Committee Chairperson and a Sustainable Design Committee Chairperson are added as members of the Executive Committee
3. The Executive Committee is authorized to adopt ethical standards of conduct for members of the Executive Committee, members of other Chapter committees, and jurors selected by the Awards Committee.
4. A second Professional Development Officer (PDO) is added to the Executive Committee to accommodate the increased duties of the original PDO resulting from the recent Certification Maintenance requirements for AICP planners.
5. A fifth Member-at-Large is added as a Chapter officer to improve representation for the State's southern counties. The eight counties included in the previous "Southern Area" are now separated into two areas: a redefined "Southern Area" including four of the eight counties and a new "Southern Shore Area" that includes the remaining four counties.
6. The President's appointments of committee chairpersons are subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee. Each appointment shall require annual re-appointment, again, with confirmation by the Executive Committee.
7. The quorum requirement for all meetings is increased from five Committee members to a majority of members occupying filled positions.

2007 Election (Continued)

Amy Sarrinikolaou—Secretary

I ran for the position of Secretary of the New Jersey American Planning Association (APA-NJ) for the following reasons:

- Strengthen and enhance my role as a APA-NJ member in the planning community;
- Facilitate the receipt and dissemination of correspondence and records related to Chapter and Executive Committee meetings;
- Keep APA-NJ members and Executive Committee members informed of meetings; and
- Coordinate and transmit information to members and committees in a timely and organized manner.

Since becoming a member of the APA-NJ, I have taken part in various chapter activities – attending the Annual Planning Conference, casting my vote in the APA-NJ elections, and attending various forums on affordable housing, redevelopment, design, etc. I am now at a point in my career where I would like to increase my level of participation and serve the chapter. I am eager to contribute to the development of the chapter as Secretary. I am not only prepared to fulfill my duties as Secretary, but I am also interested in creating ways to:

- Expand the mission of the chapter and its activities;
- Address important topics such as eminent domain, state planning, innovative zoning techniques, and the new AICP Certification Maintenance Plan; and
- Make the chapter more visible among members, partner organizations and institutions, and planning students.

I received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Rutgers University-New Brunswick in 2002, and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in 2004. During my second year of graduate school, I served as a student recruiter and enjoyed introducing potential students to the field of planning. I have been employed as a planning consultant for the past three years, specializing in municipal and regional planning. I received AICP certification in 2006, and have been licensed by the State of New Jersey as a professional planner since January 2007.

I am familiar with the types of records and correspondence that boards, committees and legislative bodies encounter, and have strong writing, organizational and interpersonal skills that I believe will serve APA-NJ well.

2008 Election

In 2008, the APA-NJ welcomed three new Executive Committee members, Eric Powers, Michele Alonso and Andre Levecchia, as Second Vice President, Northeast Area Representative and Southern Area Representative, respectively. We were also happy to welcome back the Northwest Central Area Representatives, Eric Snyder and Maura McManimon. Through approval of the proposed by-law amendment, Louis Joyce officially became our Southern Shore Area Representative. The newly elected/re-elected Executive Committee member statements are below:

Eric R. Powers, AICP, PP—Second Vice President

Ten years into a successful retail management career, I was introduced to the computer game Sim-City and got hooked. It became clear to me after checking books out from the library on city planning to do better in the game that retail was the wrong career. I went back to school to earn an M.C.R.P degree from the Bloustein School of Planning and public Policy. After graduation, I started working for the New Jersey Department of Transportation which has been my home for the past seven years. During that time, I received my P.P. and A.I.C.P.; became a father of two and a Certified Public Manager; and, started coaching K-3 soccer. Currently, I work for the Assistant Commissioner of Planning and Development at the NJDOT on an eclectic mix of planning projects, programs, and administrative fires. Truth be told—there are days when the game's pause button would come in handy.

Issues such as increasing energy costs, global warming, troubled housing markets, sprawl, and congestion are important to me and not new to planning. What is new is a growing public awareness that these issues are real and require action - but what and by who? The eye-opening price at the pump has made many people see more than just the cost of gas and they want a way out- but which way and how? As Second Vice-President, I will help the chapter communicate that planners have the skills necessary to assist communities in answering these important questions and others. Planning can move communities towards a more sustainable future while addressing what matters to people today. History will look back remember this as a time of great change—lets show people how planners (you) are part of the solution.

I welcome the opportunity to serve the Chapter as Second Vice-President and will bring an energy and enthusiasm to move the Chapter forward.

2008 Election (Continued)

Michele Alonso, AICP, PP—Northeast Area Representative

I have been a practicing planner for 11 years and a licensed professional planner for 8 years. Most of my practical planning experience has been in northern New Jersey and primarily urban. I previously was a planner for the City of Jersey City for 6 years and I have been employed for the last two years as a planner for the City of Newark. As a planner, I have worn many hats and thus have a wide range of experience in diverse subsectors of planning including historic preservation, urban design and industrial and redevelopment planning. I have experience in both the private sector and the public sector. I am dedicated to rebuilding our city centers, directing new growth to established centers, building healthy walkable communities, creating diverse communities and providing housing choices for various sectors of the population. I am also dedicated to promoting planning as a profession and educating elected officials and residents of the role of planning and its long-term benefits. As I am also married to a professional planner, I am always prepared for discussion and debate.

Maura McManimon Fennessy, AICP, PP—Central Area Representative

I have proudly served as the Central Jersey Area Representative for the APA-NJ Chapter since November 2006. I am seeking re-election for a second, two-year term to the Executive Board.

I currently serve as the Director of Policy and Planning at the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA), where I have worked since 2006. Prior to HMFA, I worked for the NJ Office of Smart Growth for three years, first as Policy Advisor and then as Executive Director.

Before moving back to New Jersey in 2003 (I grew up in Pennington, Mercer Co.), I lived in Washington, DC, for twelve years, studying at Georgetown University, and, later, working for the US Department of the Interior. In 2001, I relocated to London, UK, to study at the London School of Economics, where I earned my Masters degree in Regional and Urban Planning.

In addition, as of April 16th of this year, I became a new mother. This, of course, has given me a whole new focus to life – both on the immediate needs of caring for my little boy, but also the long term impacts of the housing policy, planning and land use decisions we make everyday here in the Garden State. The latter is why I wish to continue serving as the APA-NJ Central Jersey Area Representative for another term.

In my role on the Executive Committee, I have enjoyed being part of an organization that aims to, among other things, keep planners in NJ up to date on policy and legal developments that impact the profession, and to ensure that we have a unified and effective voice in land use policy discussions at the highest levels of state government.

When AICP announced they would be requiring all certified planners to meet on-going certification maintenance (CM) requirements, those of us on the Executive Committee were determined to offer the highest quality educational opportunities & CM credits to our APA-NJ members – for free or at a very low cost. I was responsible for launching the first program to be eligible for credits in New Jersey when I conceived, planned and managed the Asbury Park walking tour and panel discussion in September 2007. The event showcased redevelopment underway in Asbury Park and provided insights on the latest legal decisions pertaining to redevelopment in our state. It was a tremendous success and the format has been adopted by other area representatives to use in their regions.

I am looking forward to organizing similar events in the future, starting this fall with a tour of New Brunswick in conjunction with the 2008 APA-NJ annual conference.

Additionally, I have participated on the annual conference planning committee and the professional development committee, organized updates to the Chapter by-laws for the 2007 APA-NJ election, as well as helped to staff the APA-NJ booth at the State League of Municipalities conference.

I have enjoyed my first term as the Central Jersey Area Representative, and am happy that you allowed me to continue to serve our Chapter in that position.

2008 Election (Continued)

Andrew Levecchia—Southern Area Representative

I have been the Senior Planner with the Camden County Improvement Authority in Cherry Hill, NJ for the last 3 years. The Improvement Authority serves as Camden County's main economic development office as well as the County Planning Department, performing all regional and county planning functions. I am an Environmental Commissioner in Haddon Township and a faculty member at Gloucester County College in the Business and Technology Division, where I teach courses in Geographic Information Systems.

My background is in geography and Geographic Information Systems. For many years I worked as a GIS Analyst at the Federal and County government level. I received a Masters Degree from Rutgers University, in Public Administration, where I earned an assistantship from the Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs. With a diverse background, I came to the profession of planning with a desire to help provide solutions to complex public problems.

I am delighted by the opportunity to represent the interests and opinions of my colleagues and to express their concerns and objectives as the Southern Area Representative to the NJ chapter of the American Planning Association (NJ APA). As a representative, I will serve to continue the mission of the NJ APA, by helping to provide increased opportunities for public outreach and understanding of the planning process, apply critical thinking and analysis of current and future societal matters and promote more sustainable practices for the planning profession. I achieve personal satisfaction and a sense of giving back to the community and my colleagues when I avail myself and the skills that I have acquired to others. Thank you.

Louis C. Joyce, AICP, PP—Southern Shore Area Representative

I began my planning career as an environmental planner with the Cape May County Health Department working on the county's "208" plan. Subsequently I worked as a consultant on CAFRA permitting issues, solid waste facility site study and the countywide recycling program.

I have been licensed since 1983 and was admitted to the AICP in 1990. I have worked in both the public sector and private sector in various planning and professional levels since 1977. I have been accepted as a qualified expert to present planning and zoning testimony in numerous boards throughout the region.

My professional experience has included waterfront redevelopment planning in Bridgeton and Millville; port development in the City of Salem; landfill operations, management and construction in Gloucester County; redevelopment planning in Salem and Upper Deerfield Township; municipal planning in various southern NJ communities; and private development consulting throughout the region. I am a member of the Alloway Township Planning Board and served as chair for ten years. I have worked with COAH issues, TDR planning and center and plan endorsement activities.

I had the pleasure as serving as an ad-hoc member of the executive committee in 2008 and am happy to be serving a formal term now that the by-laws have been amended to create the Southern Shore Region.

November 2008