



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 19
Room 556, Bloustein School
2:00 PM

In attendance: Bob Cotter, Vito Gallo, Rebecca Hersh, Michael Levine, Courtenay Mercer, Amy Sarrinikolaou

Speakerphone: Debbie Lawlor, Maura McManimon Fennessy, Carlos Rodrigues, Eric Snyder, Ray Tomczak,

Absent: Angela Clerico, Louis Joyce, Chuck Latini, Tara Paxton, Jeff Perlman, John Reiser, John Szabo, Katie White, Linda Wills

Approval of September 19, 2008 agenda

Mercer requested that we add the APA-NJ conference and League of Municipalities Conference as issue reports. Rodrigues so moved; Snyder seconded; all in favor.

Approval of August 15, 2008 minutes

Lawlor and Rodrigues emailed Sarrinikolaou some changes. Sarrinikolaou confirmed that those changes were made. With those changes, the minutes were approved.

Issue reports:

- Preparation of the APA-NJ Annual Report

Hersh indicated that she has only received three (3) Executive Committee member summaries, and still needs summaries from the rest of the members. The Annual Report will be distributed at both conferences. (Vito Gallo entered). Maura indicated that she prepared a page write up for all of the Area Reps.

- League of Municipalities Conference

Levine reported the following: He has made arrangements for the hotel room from 11-17 through 11-20. He will bring the booth down then and set up Monday. Below is the volunteer schedule for the LOM Conference:

Monday – Levine

Tuesday-Levine and Hersh until the afternoon

Wednesday – Hersh and Mercer until the afternoon

Levine indicated that we still need volunteers for five shifts. Gallo said he would take one shift.

Levine said he would send the schedule out to the members. He needs to get back to the LOM by Oct 1 with the names of exhibitors. APA-NJ is allowed up to 5 badges.

- APA-NJ Conference

Levine reported on the following: As of today, we have 38 people who have registered for the conference so far, and are estimating 10 times that amount plus the students. 21 are registered for the whole conference out of the 38. We are projecting 280 for the sessions, 260 for the tour. The number of people for the tour may have to be limited. We should cap the tour- Maura indicated that she has at least 4 guides- who could handle up to 75 people. 100 people may be too much. Rodrigues indicated that-DEVCO could provide meeting space. Levine said that won't

be necessary because the meeting rooms at the hotel are free. The Executive Committee agreed that the walking tour should be capped at 100 people, and that is should be noted on the registration form (i.e. "space is limited to 100"). Hersh will have to revise the form, and it will be posted on the web ASAP.

Mercer indicated that the website should note to our members that they have until Jan 2009 to fulfill their CM Credits, and that the Chapter will be offering other ethics and law courses.

Latini is in the process of logging the conference sessions in with APA for CM credits.

(Eric Snyder hung up)

Levine indicated that White will be recruiting volunteers for the Conference. White is the second year student rep now. Levine needs 4 people on Thursday. Hersh said she may be able to help out.

Levine sent a letter out for sponsors on Sept 3. Last year we collected \$2,000 in sponsor funds. A reminder email will go out Oct 1 and on Oct 27.

Levine needs help from Hersh with the re-design of the brochure. If it can be done for the conference and LOM conference that would be great. Final artwork has to go to the printer Oct 27. Levine will ask Rutgers to see if they want to add any materials about the school in the brochure.

Committee/Office reports:

President	Courtenay Mercer
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Community Planning Month - Oakland, Meadowlands, Middlesex, Egg Harbor passed the resolution declaring it Community Planning month. Mercer did a Press Release too. There should be more towns to follow. The resolution is on the chapter website.

Awards-Mercer extended the deadline to this Friday for the APA-NJ Conference awards, She ended up getting nearly 20 recommendations for awards. Only 2 were recommended for individuals were submitted. She is still looking for nominations for individual planning awards.

Action Item: The \$5,000 grant from APA to do the pro-bono program is going smoothly. She asked the Executive Committee's approval to book rooms for one night during the event because it last 2 days and located in Newton. It would be at a Holiday Inn, and she would just need to reserve for one night. Gallo so moved, and Maura seconded it; all in favor.

Past President	Carlos Rodrigues
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Rodrigues testified before the Land Use Realignment Commission on behalf of RPA. The LURAC is proposing consolidation of municipalities. They invited planning groups, however not APA-NJ. NJPO was there. This was a missed opportunity for the chapter to participate. There may be other opportunities for the chapter to participate. The invitation came from DCA. Mercer will email DCA.

(Bob Cotter entered)

Gallo asked Carlos and Bob about the article he saw in the Star Ledger about Codey expecting a redevelopment bill to come out in the Fall.

Cotter doesn't know. He knows that Rice's committee released a bill without recommendation. He has no information. Rodrigues knows of Sweeney's bill. They released the bill and said that the committee would not endorse either of the versions. There is no unified bill out there.

First Vice President	Deborah Lawlor
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Lawlor is working on the Meadowlands Sustainability conference. The Meadowlands applied for CMs as the CM provider. Over 100 people signed up for the conference.

Complete Guide to Planning in NJ – Lawlor indicated that they have all the people signed up for writing and editing. The chapters have not been distributed yet. A junior editor will be helping out. New sections will be added: Highlands, Airport Planning, Stormwater Management, TDR, Wildlife Management, Open Space. Some writers are non-planners.

We want to coordinate the publishing of the book with the State Plan.

Secretary	Amy Sarrinikolaou
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The PP Exam Review Course will be held Oct 11.

Rodrigues asked about any follow up with the Board of PP. Mercer indicated that Latini and herself met with them in February. They said they would fix the website with more information. But they are under-staffed. They are supportive of legislation to requiring continuing ed for PPs. Szabo will take up in the legislative committee.

Mercer requested from the State for changes to the MLUL (coming from the APA-NJ), APA-NJ was asked, and the chapter should ask NJPO to help.

Housing Committee	Vito Gallo
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Gallo indicated that NJ Future has a bill drafted for Smart Housing and zoning incentives for affordable housing.

Gallo reminded the committee that the Governor's Housing Conference will be held next week.

FannieMae and FreddieMac-mortgage markets – Codey indicated that the legislature will step in again to revise the COAH regulations. LOM and litigation is unsettled-meanwhile we are all moving towards a deadline for reports for third round.

APA-NJ Conference - There are 5 sessions related to housing at the conference.

Legislative Conference – Gallo wanted to make sure that someone from the chapter would be attending. Mercer said that John Szabo will be going.

Redevelopment Committee	Robert Cotter
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Cotter indicated that no meeting was held last month on the handbook. There will be a meeting next Friday. The text is broken away from the artwork.

Cotter mentioned that there is great uncertainty what the notice requirements are for redevelopment area designations post-Harrison case. Bob indicated that Jersey City is doing overkill right now in terms of noticing due to the uncertainty. He thinks that there at least be a bill on noticing.

Transportation Committee (pending)	Raymond Tomczak
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He thanks the committee again for letting him form this committee. He has about 15 members, and expects that it will grow. They have had 2 meetings, and the next meeting is next Friday via teleconferencing.

He discussed the proposed toll increases by the NJ Turnpike authority. There will be 3 public meetings on this topic and he can't go to either. He asked if any chapter member wants to take a position and attend. The Committee wanted to know where the funding is going to go. A portion will fund the tunnel project, and widening of the turnpike or other roadways. Mercer asked if his committee would pull something together and then the chapter can submit it in writing. Rodrigues indicated that NJDOT and NJ Turnpike would appreciate any support to the tunnel project, and that it would be important to note that contribution, and that there is a proposed contribution to NJ Transit. Bottom line, the NJ Turnpike Authority has not committed to where the funds may go. Mercer suggested that due to the uncertainty of where the funding will go, that maybe the letter should not endorse that part of the proposal, and that the letter could just submit a blanket statement that the funds should go towards "smart growth initiatives" Gallo indicated that –isn't there a concern that there is a good chance that monies from the NJ Turnpike would go to highway-related projects. Ray indicated that state funding is -crucial for the tunnel project. If the tunnel project does not get state funding, they would lose funding from the federal government. Another source of funding would be the gasoline tax. The Highway Trust Fund is quickly running out of money.

Ray would like for his committee to host a transportation funding symposium that would have a panel of experts talk about transportation funding ideas either in place or proposed. Mercer suggests connecting with Voorhees Transportation. Gallo said that the actual logistics of the event, especially if you work with Voorhees, should be easy.

Ray also told the committee that he sits on the Technical Advisory Committee for the update of the long range plan for NJTPA and if the committee has any suggestions get them to Ray and he will forward on. NJTPA will be having 15 public hearings to get people engaged. This should be posted on our website.

He also noted that next years conference awards should give a transportation planning award. Mercer said that we rec'd a couple of nominations. Ray will sit on the awards jury for transportation planning award.

Also, Ray asked if Mercer can mention the newly formed Transportation Committee at the conference, to get the word out. Mercer agreed.

SAFETEALU – The committee suggested that Ray and his committee get involved.

Chapter Administrator	Michael Levine
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Renewals for advertisers-There were 19 in the past, and now only 9 renewed, 1 has canceled. There are 4 new advertisers, and he has 10 still to hear from.

Advertising for the conference and LOM. Levine should distribute this list of advertisers to the committee so the members could update.

We should give a stipend to getting the newsletter together because the chapter is saving a lot with the change to electronic.

Books - 2 handbooks were ordered and there are more orders for the Complete Guide to Planning in NJ coming in due to the Review Course.

Bulletin Editor's	Rebecca Hersh
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The deadline for the next newsletter is the end of October. The committee reports are overdue.

Area Representatives	Maura McManimon Fennessy
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Walking tour – Maura had a meeting with DEVCO. They will coordinate the route in New Brunswick. She is still working on getting the Mayor to come. Everything else is all set up.

Walking tour in Rahway – Maura wants to talk to the new area rep to follow through with the Rahway walking tour.

Adjourn; all in favor

Respectfully submitted: Amy Sarrinikolaou