



NHPA

NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 28, 2011

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by President Sarah Marchant.

2. Approval of Minutes – 2010 NHPA Annual Meeting

The membership reviewed the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting. Tim Thompson offered a correction under Item 6 stating that the minutes should refer to Tim “Corwin” not Tim “Thompson”. Tim Thompson moved to approve the minutes as corrected; Kenn Ortmann seconded. The vote was unanimous.

3. Treasurer's Report and FY 2011 Budget (attached)

Ben Frost presented the 2012 budget. The NHPA is sound condition financially. NHPA broke even on the Annual Conference in Keene, with approximately 90 attendees and record sponsorships. Ben Frost noted that NNECAPA is now covering the cost of CM credits for AICP and the RPCs are covering 1/2 cost of APA webinars. Ben Frost stated that NHPA plans to seek 501(c)(3) non-profit status in 2012. Shane O’Keefe asked if NHPA will still be able to lobby as a non-profit and Ben Frost confirmed that NHPA will be able to. Ben Frost noted that the 2012 budget does not include a \$10,000 grant from Healthy New Hampshire foundation, which is being managed through the Nashua RPC. Tim Thompson moved to approve the 2012 budget; Shane O’Keefe seconded. The vote was unanimous.

4. Announcement of Election Results

Sarah Marchant presented the results of the NHPA annual election for Executive Committee. Tara Germond from Southwest RPC and Meena Gywali from Manchester were elected to three year terms. Pierce Rigrod from NHDES was re-elected for a 3rd three-year term. Sarah Marchant also noted that Mikaela (Engert) Stroop is stepping down from NHPA and Jen Czys has accepted the position of NH State Director for NNECAPA. Sarah Marchant introduced the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

5. Executive Committee Report

Sarah Marchant reported that the Executive Committee will be seeking to expand professional partnerships in 2012, including organizations such as Healthy New Hampshire, GASB, NH Public Works Association, and Creative Communities Network. Sarah Marchant also noted that the NHPA had outstanding annual awards nominations in 2011 and hopes to duplicate the success in the coming year. Jen Czys stated that the NHPA is creating a mentorship program to assist professional planners around the state to share knowledge and experience. Roger Hawke, Gerry Coogan and Jack Mettee have agreed to serve on a mentorship administration

NHPA MISSION STATEMENT: THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNERS ASSOCIATION PROMOTES, ASSISTS, AND SUPPORTS THE PROFESSIONAL PLANNER IN THE GOAL OF ACHIEVING PLANNING EXCELLENCE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE TODAY AND TOMORROW IN NEW HAMPSHIRE’S COMMUNITIES.

committee. Ben Frost mentioned that the 2012 NHPA Annual Conference will be held in Concord with tentative dates of May 10-11.

6. Sustainability Report

Sarah Marchant reported, in Mikeala Stroop's absence, that the Executive Committee's carbon footprint was less than 0.5 tons. The NHPA Annual Conference's carbon footprint was approximately 7 tons or one-half of the amount from 2010. The Executive Committee has made a payment to purchase offset credits.

7. Legislative Policy Updates

Tim Corwin reported that the Legislative Committee monitored more than 49 legislative bills in 2011 and specifically supported 4 priority bills and opposed 11 priority bills. Legislative updates are available on the NHPA website. Tim Corwin noted that several bills opposed by the Legislative Committee were passed this year, including changes to the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act and laws allowing local communities to require fire sprinklers in 1- and 2-family dwellings. Tim Corwin stated that approximately 24 bills have already been identified as priority bills for 2012. Tim Corwin thanked the Legislative Committee and lobbyist Nancy Johnson.

8. Professional Development Report

Camille Pattison reported that the NHPA has organized three quarterly brown bag lunches and has a fourth event on the use of keypad polling upcoming in December. NHPA is also considering purchase of keypad polling equipment for use by local communities. The NHPA maintains a list of webinars and other training events on its website and is always looking for new ideas and suggestions.

9. NNECAPA Updates

David Brooks reported that the Vermont Planners Association hosted the NNECAPA Annual Conference in Burlington, VT in 2011, which included a keynote speech from APA President Mitch Silver. The 2012 NNECAPA Annual Conference will be hosted by the Maine Association of Planners in Brunswick, ME. David Brooks noted that a primary focus of APA for the coming year is to communicate the value of planning and APA will be presenting a series of webinars and preparing toolkits/fact sheets/etc. in the coming months. NNECAPA awarded a \$2000 grant for NHPAs nomination of UNH Stormwater Center and NH Citizen Planner Collaborative to create a training tool about the benefits of LID technologies. Jen Czysz reported, in Julie LaBranche's absence, that NNECAPA was creating a photo resource library for planners to access and/or submit photographs of good and bad examples of planning and development.

10. Other Business

Ben Frost announced that the Executive Committee wanted to start a discussion about how NHPA should evolve to best support planners and planning in the state. Kerry Diers stated that Executive Committee is doing a great job with the budget, finding grants, and professional partnerships. Kenn Ortmann said the proposed legislation to eliminate RPCs should be a call for planners to be more proactive in getting positive stories and pictures out to the public. Bob Ward said the NHPA should use the proposed legislation as way to make RPCs better. Chris Northrup suggested the NHPA should work with the APA Great Spaces program and noted that October is National Planning Month and that NHPA should be prepared to advocate for better planning. Brian Rose suggested that the NHPA promote greater outreach, particularly to students, about

planning and careers in planning. Jen Czysz suggested that AIA-NH has a program that they already take into the schools. Tim Thompson suggested working with Civics classes and also that, in the past, NHPA had hosted receptions for new legislators to promote the value of planning within the state. Kenn Ortmann stated that RPCs had also previously hosted events with legislators. Brian Rose suggested that NHPA could consider a scholarship program for high school students. Roger Hawke mentioned that PlanNH already has a scholarship program. George Sioras mentioned that NHPA should continue to build coordination with other professional organizations, such as the firefighters on the sprinkler issue. Sarah Marchant noted that the NHPA would like to continue the discussion with membership, perhaps through a survey through the website.

Adjournment

David Brooks moved to adjourn the meeting, Tim Thompson seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Shanna B. Saunders, Secretary