



New Hampshire Planners Association

March 6, 2015 Meeting @ 9:15 a.m.

Meeting Location: NHMA, Triangle Park Drive, Concord, NH

Members present: Shanna Saunders, Sara Carbonneau, Ben Frost, Scott Osgood, Mary Friedman and Pierce Rigrod (arriving at 10 a.m.) and participating by phone Donna Pohli, Mark Connors and Elizabeth Wood. Meeting commenced at 9:15 a.m. Jodie Levandowski also participated by phone.

1. Minutes -

Minutes from December 5, 2014. Motion by Friedman to approve. Seconded by Pohli. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes (Record of Vote) from December 10, 2014. Motion by Frost to approve. Seconded by Friedman. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes (Record of Vote) from January 5, 2015. Motion by Pohli to approve. Seconded by Friedman. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes from January 16, 2015. Motion by Osgood to approve. Seconded by Friedman. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes from February 6, 2015. Motion by Frost to approve. Seconded by Osgood. Vote: All in favor.

Minutes (Record of Vote) from February 23, 2015. Noted that Connors name was listed twice. Motion by Osgood to approve with correction. Seconded by Frost. Vote: All in favor.

2. Spring Conference -

Pohli stated that COG needs assistance from the Executive Committee in reaching out to sponsors. Frost reminded the Ex. Comm. members that they can sign up on the sponsor list - Google doc (Connors has this link). Connors and Pohli will get the updated sponsor letter out. Suggested reaching out to potential sponsors via email (initial contact), but to follow-up with personal contact. Pricing was discussed. Settled on \$70.00 NHPA member, \$85.00 non-NHPA member; \$35.00 Student.

After conference networking – Executive Committee liked the idea of attending a Fisher Cats’ game and networking at the Sam Adams Bar & Grill. The proposed cost for the after conference networking is \$21.00 per person, which includes the picnic buffet, the admission to the game and free parking.

Hotel accommodations were discussed – decided on the Hilton Garden. Cost is slightly higher than the Radisson, but the Hilton Garden includes free parking and complimentary breakfast. Also, it is located adjacent to the Fisher Cats’ stadium.

Pohli discussed the proposed contract for the A/V equipment at NH Institute of Art (\$700.00). Executive Committee decided that it would be appropriate to enter into this contract – total cost of the venue (room and A/V) totals \$1,500.00.

Keynote and Sessions – Jack Ahern from UMASS Amherst will deliver the keynote (“Safe to Fail”). Plenary session will be coordinated by Nancy Clark (Drive Brand Studio) – a talk show format on branding. Afternoon sessions: GIS/Social Media; Amherst workforce housing; permaculture; marijuana dispensaries; walking tour of Manchester.

Theme of conference: In development. Thoughts are a take-off on Bob Ross’s “Happy Little Trees” or #Planning#What’s Trending – themes on social media.

Awards – have their own budget line (not out of the conference line). Also, suggested presenting the Citizen Planner Award at the OEP Conference on May 2nd. Frost will contact Chris Northrop. Frost also contacted the Executive Directors of the RPCs to encourage them to submit nominees for citizen planners. No applications to date – will extend deadline one more week. Various members knew of applications that were in the works or would be completed within a week.

3. **Wild Apricot** – Pohli provided an update regarding the transition to Wild Apricot. She noted that there is limited storage and that we need more. Suggested Amazon Cloud or some other type of storage – noted that we can get 4GB of storage on Amazon Cloud for free; 20GB for \$50.00. Will do further research and present for vote via email.
4. **New Ruralism** - Peg Elmer joined the meeting by teleconference at 10:00 a.m. Described the history of the project and the grant project. Goals are to examine what is new ruralism, to better define it and to provide successful examples of new ruralism. Additional funding is needed – the Vermont Planners Association has pledged \$1,500.00 if other NNECAPA chapters would fund the same amount. We currently have \$1,000.00 available. Noted that we should have further money available from NNECAPA for planning project. The Phase II work (which this money would fund) is to review and edit the case studies, develop the web portal and webinar. In addition, the project will work with STAR APA division and present at the APA conference next year. Elmer said the financial ask if \$1,500.00 (currently lacking \$5,400.00 of the budget). Motion by Friedman to immediately allocate \$1,000.00 to the project and will consider at a later date whether to allocate additional dollars. Seconded by Frost. Vote: All in favor.
5. **Lighting round planning event** – Connors stated that the planning for this event was under control. Only 20 registered at this time, but planners tend to register at the last minute. Saunders will take care of ordering the appetizers – Connors will send menu options to Saunders. Carbonneau and Pohli will assist with registrations. Osgood also available to assist.
6. **List Serve for Planners** – Carbonneau asked to defer discussion of this item for a while. The Executive Committee has many irons in the fire at this time.
7. **NHQBS.org** – Osgood will look into obtaining more information. Will revisit in April.
8. **NHPA Logo** – Consensus was that the logo needs to be updated. Suggested a competition with (non-binding) voting taking place 2 weeks prior to the June 5th conference. Connors will develop guidelines for submission. [Frost reminded members that he had prepared a “history” of the NHPA logos that was presented at the annual conference in Keene. May be able to run this during the lunch hour again at the June 5th conference. Frost’s logo presentation may also be a good tool for Nancy Clark to use during the branding presentation...]
9. **Strategic Plan** – Saunders stated that that she, Marchant, Pohli and Carbonneau met to review the Strategic Plan. Saunders noted that some items included in the plan were deleted, as they have already been accomplished. Noted that items aimed at young and emerging planners were integrated into action items. Also, included more items geared to social media presence. Briefly discussed sustainability section – questioned whether this should be included in the updated

plan. Will discuss further at the next meeting. In the meantime, comments should be forwarded to Saunders.

10. **Potable Water Document** – Rigrod informed members that this was published as a DES document. Queried whether it would be included on NHPA’s website. Carbonneau stated that it would be on the website when rolled-out on Wild Apricot.

11. **Newsletter** – articles should be sent to Osgood by March 20th. Final product generally 4 to 6 pages. Corwin to do piece on legislative activity. Pohli/Levandowski will write article on the June 5th conference. Rigrod to highlight the potable water guidance document. Elizabeth’s grapevine and book club info. Other submissions are encouraged!

12. **Officer updates** –

Legislative Subcommittee: Legislative Policy Committee is meeting immediately following the Ex. Committee meeting. HB 2 impacts on planning are huge.

Professional Development: Really Fast Planning Talks scheduled for March 26th. Suggested that an environmental topic brown bag could be coordinated to discuss topics such as protecting surface water sources. Rigrod stated that he has already spoken with Marchant about regulations in Nashua.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau, Secretary