American Planning Association Idaho Chapter

APA Idaho Executive Board

Minutes for February 13, 2014

Daren Fluke, President

Joel Plaskon, Vice President

Mary Huff, Secretary

Renee Magee, Treasurer

Lisa Ailport, Region 1

Mike Ray, Region 2

Don Matson, Region 3

Charles Hutchinson, Region 4

Mathew Lewis, Region 5

Brad Cramer, Region 6

Brad Clark, L&PA

Maureen Gresham, E&O

Diane Kushlan, PDO

Bob Arleth, P&Z Representative

Aaron Mondada, Student Rep

Daren called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

The minutes from January 9, 2014 were tabled.

Renee previously sent the Treasurer’s report and bills to be ratified via email for the Board to review. Mary moved to approve the Treasure’s report. Don seconded; the motion carried.

Don and Diane provided an update about the 2014 Idaho APA Annual Conference. A kick off meeting was held with several volunteers. Seven ideas for conference themes were submitted. The theme “Building Partnerships” was selected. The BSU downtown space is being considered for the opening reception as well as for holding a few presentations. They would like to have a student poster event in a more visible place. Aaron will try to find out if the downtown space will work for our needs for an opening reception.

The previous year’s awards Committee has been working on improving the Idaho APA award program. A survey was sent out to the membership. The results of that survey indicated that the members like the more general award categories. Implementation and Best Practice were consistently on the top of the list as desired award categories. They have decided to limit the awards to about six categories.

Daren asked for the Board’s approval of the conference theme and the additional tracts. The Board was in agreement. The conference committee will begin looking at possible keynote speakers.

Maureen provided an update on the 2014 Spring Mini Conference. A save the date notice was sent out to the membership. The date of May 2nd has been selected at the Boise State Downtown location. The ethics session is lined up, but they are still waiting on confirmation for the law session. They hope to have everything confirmed in the next couple of weeks. We are still working on getting them approved for AICP credits.

Lisa discussed holding a 2015 mini conference in North Idaho. She is trying to gage interest and support for this sort of event. The Board is supportive of this effort. Lisa will work on the details and get in touch with some of the Board member’s for their input and advice.

Maureen explained the Idaho Rural Partnership, and their efforts to the Board. She suggested that Idaho APA become a formal partner with them. We would send a planner to participate in community reviews in different parts of the state. Idaho APA would be responsible for financing that planner’s expenses to participate in the reviews. There are three or four community reviews a year. Each review would cost us approximately $750.00, for a total of $1,500 to $2,000 annually. Some of the review teams have historically lacked expertise of local planners. The Board was supportive of our chapter becoming a partner. Maureen will draft a written proposal for consideration at our next meeting.

Aaron explained an idea that he and Maureen came up with to survey practitioners concerning a variety of important issues. The first survey would be to determine the walkability and bikeability in communities. The concept would be an ongoing series where we work to gather information from practicing planners. This item will be put on the March agenda for further discussion.

A letter was sent concerning Idaho APA’s opposition to HB480 concerning design review. We have confirmed quite a few people that will be testifying in opposition.

Another bill that they are keeping an eye on is a Bill concerning airport planning, specifically a possibility requirement to require a portion of county plan to be about airports.

A letter was sent in support of the legislation concerning right of way vacations.

There have been some emails circulating about legislation proposing penalties and fees for planning and building violations. The legislative committee has been working very well on the 2014 issues.

Joel gave an update on the progress being made on the work plan implementation. He has not received updates from any other Board members. Joel has continued to solicit input concerning higher education planning programs.

Diane informed the Board that there are two candidates interested in taking the AICP exam in May.

Brad Cramer discussed Tom Wuerzer’s project concerning wild land urban interface. Tom is seeking Chapter support. One of their responsibilities is to review Grant proposals, and then vote on whether to support them or not. It is important that someone from APA be there to give our input. Lisa volunteered to attend the Idaho Land Resource Coordinating Council meeting. February 25th. Lisa will report back what she learns.

Aaron commented that the strategic plan indicates that Idaho APA will try to support getting students to the National Conference. He will contact Daren to discuss this further.

Matt said that they have three new planning commissioners and asked if the Idaho APA CD is still viable. Idaho APA previously purchased the CD series. Diane has some information that she can send him. Daren will track down the CD’s and get them to Matt.

Don reminded the Board about the upcoming APA webinar about Planning Commissions.

Lisa made a motion to adjourn. Joel seconded; the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Mary Huff, Secretary.*