

American Planning Association Idaho Chapter  
Minutes for April 14, 2011  
APA Idaho Executive Board

<input type="checkbox"/>	Daren Fluke, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles Hutchinson, Region 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renee Magee, Vice-President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melodie Halstead, Region 5
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brad Cramer, Secretary/Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Hibbert, Region 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clare Marley, Region 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jon Norstog, L&PA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joel Plaskon, Region 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anna Canning, E&O
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jon Cecil, Region 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Kushlan, PDO

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. (no quorum at that time)

- 1. Conference Update:** Charles said the Board needs to work on the menu for the Conference within the next couple of weeks so we can finalize the cost. He also believes the timing is perfect for having local food systems planning as the theme of the conference. 2011 has been designated as the Year of Idaho Food by the State. Each month the State will focus on a different food related theme. In October the theme is land use and the environment. Since the last update Charles sent out, he has also contacted some other people to see if they would be interested in giving the keynote address. He asked Carol Spurling of the Moscow Food Co-op who expressed interest. He also contacted Eric Newell, chief planner for the Moscow Community Garden program as recommended by Joel. Eric was also interested in either the opening address or doing a session. Charles will also talk with the Idaho Food Bank, the Idaho Department of Agriculture, and the University of Idaho College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to see if someone with a statewide perspective would be interested and available. He is also working with transportation providers on pricing and travel options. His next step is to put together a timeline for the conference planning schedule. He will then work on the budget. Anna suggested if the theme is going to be local food that some portion of the food be provided locally. Charles agreed and said the State is promoting Labor Day as a day for everyone to try and have at least part of the food they eat that day come from a local producer. The name of the conference should be something short and catchy. **(Jon Norstog joined the meeting to make a quorum).** "Plan vs. Food" was suggested as a conference title.

**Anna made a motion to accept the conference title of "Plan vs. Food" seconded by Jon Cecil. Approved unanimously**

- 2. Approval of minutes for March 10, 2011: Jon Cecil moved to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Jon Norstog. Approved unanimously.**
- 3. Legislative Update:** Jon Norstog felt the board did well for its first year of being involved, especially with the urban renewal bills. We were able to coordinate with the Association of Idaho Cities (AIC) and the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC). The result was a combination of the bills that will hopefully bring more regularity and transparency to setting up urban renewal districts. A Right to Farm bill passed easily. Jon Norstog has not seen the final bill but does not believe it will stand up in court. The Eminent Domain bill, a special interest bill sponsored by someone from eastern Idaho was focused on keeping the Pocatello Greenway and the City of Pocatello from using eminent domain to complete a section of a bike path, did not pass. The Board did not weigh in on that bill. Jon N. believes as we continue to work on these issues our process will improve and not be so time consuming. He suggested a breakout session at the Mini-Conference to talk about dealing with legislative issues.

4. **Chapter only memberships/Art Brown request:** Brad was not at the meeting to explain the status. The request is to increase the fee for chapter only memberships by \$10 so that APA National can administer those memberships. Anna clarified that the increase is just for chapter only dues. It costs \$7 for APA National to administer those memberships. Art Brown's request is related to his question about benefits of membership in the Idaho APA Chapter. He has asked Charles for a written response. Renee suggested Anna start the discussion as she was instrumental in moving towards creating an Idaho Chapter of APA. Anna believes the main benefit is the ability to be part of the APA organization, to run for certain offices, be part of chapter committees, communication from APA and the local chapter, and receive a discount for the annual conference. We are hoping to expand the benefits over time, but for now those are the main benefits. Kurt added that it is a powerful networking tool. Charles and Anna agreed. Anna asked if the Idaho Planning Association offered more than that. (Clare then joined the meeting.) Renee said as part of membership in that group you receive the *Western Planner* magazine. It also offered an annual conference and networking opportunities. One strength it had that is not strong in the APA chapter is participation by local planning commissioners. There was usually a planning commissioner on the board. There was a stronger tie between the professional planners and the layman planners. Anna said there is currently an unfilled position for a planning commissioner on the chapter board as well as one for a student representative. There were only two individuals who expressed interest at the last election and they never followed through. Kurt said one of the benefits is the discussion on the legislative issues and the opportunity to influence planning decisions and legislation; having a unified voice and presence. Jon Cecil agreed and said that is the major change from where we were. Charles also agreed. Kurt also said having the regional representatives with a specific budget for training is a specific benefit at the local level. Renee agreed that funding is a benefit. The IPA had money as well and spent some of it on Idaho publications on topics such as the Local Land Use Planning Act. Overall the Idaho APA Chapter provides more of the mini-conferences and has stronger ties with the Urban Land Institute (ULI). Anna also pointed out the grants that have been obtained for land use issues as a joint project with ULI. Kurt said the document published by the IPA was great and would like to have it updated. Anna agreed that it would be a good project for the board. Jon suggested putting together a committee to work on updating it. Renee and Anna expressed interest in helping. Anna said she should coordinate the effort as the Education and Outreach Officer.

**Kurt moved to approve a committee to coordinate updating publications previously done by the IPA.** Anna clarified she would like to focus on the comprehensive plan document first because it ties back to the recently completed Smart Growth Idaho Land Use Analysis. Then the board could work on the LLUPA publication for planning commissioners. **Kurt amended his motion to reflect Anna's suggestion. Seconded by Melodie. Approved unanimously.**

Renee summarized the discussion of the benefits of joining the Idaho chapter of the APA as the ability to be part of the national organization and to run for certain offices. Anna clarified there has been some confusion between the IPA and the Western Central Chapter. There were dues for both organizations. The Idaho APA Chapter eliminated the duplication. Renee summarized other benefits as networking opportunities, the legislative analysis, the lobbying presence, and the ability to secure grants from the APA to assist with local efforts. Anna and Charles added local training as a benefit.

Referring back to the conference update, Charles asked the Board to refer to the link he sent out for the menu before the next meeting and respond with comments. He would like to begin coordinating the menu with the hotel after our next meeting.

**Anna moved that the chapter president and conference chair make the decision on the menu. Seconded by Clare. Approved wholeheartedly!** Anna suggested local food be provided. Charles said one idea from Steve Lenhart was to contact some of the local Native American tribes and invite them to the conference. Anna said individuals who are not on the board can still be part of the conference planning committee and perhaps Steve should be invited. Jon Cecil agreed with inviting the tribes. He also said Daren asked him to ask the board to address both the theme and coming up with a logo. Charles reported he has not yet heard back from Mark Holverston at the College of Art and Architecture at University of Idaho on the logo. Now that the theme is set, he will contact the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences as well. Anna said there is a person in her office that would also be good and probably willing to help. Before the next conference call Charles will send another update on conference planning progress. The board discussed how the logo came together for past conferences and ideas for this year's logo.

- 5. Jerry Mason appointment as Legislative Contributor for Idaho to Planning and Environmental Law:** Renee explained Jerry is interested in filling the position. He is generally very involved in legislative issues and has a planning background. Jon Cecil agreed he would be a good candidate.

**Jon Cecil moved to appoint Jerry Mason as the legislative contributor for Idaho to Planning and Environmental Law. Seconded by Jon Norstog. Approved unanimously.**

- 6. Open discussion:** Jon Cecil, referring to the conference theme, said he sent a copy of the State of the Rockies report to the board which said their conference this year was devoted to agriculture. They would be a great resource for planning our conference. He will send out the link again. Anna updated the board on the mini-conference. The sessions are set and food needs to be ordered. There will be a networking opportunity following the conference. It will be May 6 on the BSU campus. She isn't sure how many people have signed up.

**Melodie moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:45.**