

American Planning Association Idaho Chapter  
Minutes for March 10, 2011  
APA Idaho Executive Board

<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Also in attendance were Katy Schneider and Jason Jordon from APA National

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes for February 10 and 17, 2011: Jon Cecil moved to approve both minutes as written. Seconded by Clare. Unanimous approval.**
2. **Legislative Update:** Jon Norstog said four urban renewal bills have moved on to the Senate. The worst of the bills seem to be dead. The bills that remain focus on transparency. He suggested the board review the APA policy on urban renewal and send a letter to the Senate. He believes the four bills will be consolidated into one bill and sent back to the House for reconciliation. He summarized the bills and asked for input from the national chapter. Jason Jordon asked if the bills will consolidate the four bills and if they need to move quickly in order to be finished by the end of the session. Jon Norstog believes they will need to move quickly and expects some sort of consolidation. Renee referred to an email from Gary Reidner of the Redevelopment Association of Idaho which suggests there will likely be two bills instead of one. She forwarded the email to the Board. She believes there will be amendments to HB 95 and modified HB 96 and HB 97 into HB 95. HB 110 may come forward as a separate bill. Jason asked if there is a coalition of groups or other specific action involved with the bills. Renee said there has been involvement from Redevelopment Association of Idaho and the Association of Idaho Cities. The Association of Commerce and Industry may have been involved as well. Jason said that is consistent with who is involved in other states. Often the planning community supports other coalition efforts and also helps point out potential impacts of urban renewal to help policy makers understand the issues. National APA can provide help with drafting a letter referencing adopted positions and policies. Jon Norstog said he would work with Jason if the board agrees. Renee believes it is a good idea. Daren agreed and asked Jon to begin working on a letter and send it to the board for comment. Jon Norstog will also run it by Jason for comment.

The board discussed HO 166 Right to Farm Act. Jon Norstog believes it has passed the House and is before the Senate. Idaho already has a right to farm act and these proposed amendments further define agricultural operations to include feed lots and CAFOs and any installation involved in the producing of agricultural products which would include slaughter and rendering houses, agricultural chemical plants. It primarily addresses nuisance suits and makes it difficult for landowners and communities to file lawsuit against nuisances from agricultural uses. Case law already protects existing uses. Daren agrees that it is not a good bill and would like the board to draft a letter of opposition. Anna and Renee agreed. Anna said the City of Meridian already sent a letter on the bill. The letter focused on protecting the property rights of adjoining property owners rather than attacking agricultural uses. Jon Norstog also feels lack of regulation will have a negative effect on property values. It will also make it difficult for developers who develop on the agricultural fringe of an urban community. Anna suggested if we draft a letter to avoid

suggesting more regulation, but focus on property rights and values. Jon Norstog said he sent a letter to the editor of the Pocatello newspaper and suggested others on the board should consider doing the same. He would also suggest a letter be sent to the Senate. There was discussion on whether or not the bill has actually passed the House. Daren asked Jon Norstog to draft a letter and send it to the board for comment.

Clare brought up HB 137A regarding stream channel alterations. The wording of the bill may affect how cities and counties can regulate flood plains. It removes the ability to interfere with canals or stream alterations. The Association of Counties has been working with FEMA to adjust the wording to maintain authority for flood plain regulation. She also mentioned the bill the board discussed regarding adding agriculture to comprehensive plans. The bill has passed the House and Senate. She suggested the board not send a letter. The bill also requires zoning ordinances must be in accordance with the comprehensive plan. Joel asked how the language changes things. Clare believes the language regarding ordinances and comprehensive plans is a benefit. Joel still feels it will negatively affect cities especially as they deal with areas of impact and counties will use it as a tool to prevent urban style development. Renee pointed out the bill has been passed on all three readings. Joel asked about HB 199 regarding rights-of-way. He is concerned it doesn't set forth a process for abandonment of undeveloped rights-of-way. Jon Norstog believes they are amending an existing section of code to add a section which confirms property owners rights to continue to use abandoned right-of-way and prevent their property from becoming landlocked. Daren agrees that it helps prevent properties from becoming landlocked. Clare also did not have concerns. Clare said two members have contacted her to ask if our website can include legislative information.

3. **Conference Updates:** Charles said he is working on identifying members for conference committees. Michelle Vaschon will handle volunteers for on-site registration. He will contact Mark Riverston at University of Idaho for the speaker committee. For audio visual, Beth Hull at Best Western will be the contact person. She will send the menu to review as well. Melanie Zemmer is the director of sales for the hotel and will handle accommodations. The rate will be \$89 per night. For transportation, Deb Smith at Clearwater Economic Development Agency agreed to help. She is providing information on van lines and getting people to the conference from other cities. Amy Shipman with the Latah Economic Development Council agreed to help with the marketing committee. This committee will need to focus on doing a better job of overall marketing of the conference. Deb Smith will also help. Amy suggested to Charles that food planning might be appropriate for the theme of the conference. 2011 is designated as the year of Idaho food so the theme would be timely and also broad based. He said the date is set for October 12-14. Daren said he likes the theme but that we should put together a list of options for the board to decide on. Jon Cecil complimented the list of committees and asked it be sent to the board. He also likes the theme idea because it is applicable to both urban and rural communities. Anna also agrees it is a good theme. Charles said it is also a unique theme that could be a good attraction. Daren asked about a logo and said it should be worked on along with the theme. Clare suggested working with University of Idaho art students. Joel also likes the theme and Moscow is a good place to do it. There would be some good field trip opportunities. Anna gave a brief update on the spring mini-conference which be held April 1<sup>st</sup>. Paul Fitzer will do the legal session and Diane and others will do the ethics session. She is still working on getting credits approved. Clare asked about how to get credits. University of Idaho agreed to be a partner and is taking care of registration for credits.
4. **Chapter Website:** Kurt gave an overview of the website plan he emailed. The goal of the plan is to establish basic goals. He asked about previous discussions to monetize the site. Daren clarified the idea was to sell advertising on the site. Kurt believes that is a good idea. There has

also been discussion about adding reference materials and a discussion board. All of these things can be done once we make a decision to do it. There has also been discussion about the current provider being difficult to work with. The board needs to make a decision on whether to find a different provider. Kurt pointed out a questionnaire at the end of the plan and asked the board to fill it out. The issues focus on content rather than provider. Daren pointed out it is currently difficult to modify the content. If the site could pay for itself it might help resolve some of those issues. Kurt asked if the board could make that decision to sell advertising at today's meeting. Daren prefers to wait until we have a clear plan that everyone is okay with before we make a decision. He asked everyone to look at the plan and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting so we can move forward.

5. **Open Discussion:** Clare asked about the protocol for spending regional education money. Daren thinks that since the money has been budgeted, the regional representatives should have the authority to spend it and send receipts to Brad. Clare just wanted to clarify what the process is for spending the money and what would qualify for the money. Daren said there has really not been a process and thinks sending an overview to Brad of what is happening is sufficient. Brad agrees that giving him a heads up on what is happening before the receipts are sent in is a good idea.

**Jon Cecil moved to adjourn. Seconded by Joel.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.