

# American Planning Association Idaho Chapter

## APA Idaho Executive Board

March 8, 2012

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daren Fluke, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connie Doerr, Region 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renee Magee, Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Brent McFadden, Region 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Cramer, Secretary/Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Norstog, L&PA
<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Bramblee, Region 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anna Canning, E&O
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joel Plaskon, Region 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Kushlan, PDO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Cecil, Region 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Arleth, P&Z Representative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Hutchinson, Region 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jillian Maroney, Student Representative

- 1. Call to Order.** Daren called the meeting to order at 12:01
- 2. Approval of Minutes for February 9, 2012. Renee moved to approve the minutes. Second by Anna. Approved unanimously.**
- 3. 2012 Mini-Conference.** The conference will be May 25 at BSU. Anna reported that Diane has been working with Joanne Butler as a speaker and Joanne is interested. Sumner Sharp will also be helping with the ethics portion.
- 4. 2012 Conference.** Jon Cecil reported he is working on a key note speaker. There is a possibility of getting Parris Glendenning, former Governor of Maryland and a Smart Growth proponent. It will take a \$2,500 speaker fee plus travel and accommodations. Daren asked the board for input since this is a new approach to the conference. Charles contact Tony Hiss and the Harry Walker Agency which manages keynote speakers. Neil Pierce, a journalist and author on economic development and planning issues, was a name that came up as an option as well. He costs \$5,000-\$10,000 so \$2,500 for Glendenning may be a bargain. Jon Cecil also mentioned Richard Jackson as a possibility. He is not available for the conference, but Idaho Smart Growth is checking to see if he can come for another event. Daren said Roger Milar with Smart Growth National was considered. Daren prefers Glendenning. Charles is in favor of having a bigger name keynote. Jon Cecil agreed and said Idaho Smart Growth will not be able to help with the cost, but can provide in-kind assistance. Having a good keynote is also a way to attract sponsors. Anna asked if other chapters have had experience inviting a keynote speaker. She is concerned about the cost. Renee said IPA used to bring in speakers and it worked. Brad supports the idea because Boise has been the best attended location in the past and because having a big name can generate an extra buzz to attract more attendees and sponsors. Anna said if we get Glendenning it would be good to organize some events around him. Charles brought up the issue of coordinating the conference theme and the theme of the keynote speaker's speech. The board felt the conference topic is broad enough that it won't be restrictive. Jon Cecil has contact hotels and space is filling up quickly. He has contacted the Owyhee Plaza and is waiting for response. For the reception he is looking at the Linen building. He has also been in contact with Rachel Winer and Bill Clark. Bill is a private developer and is willing to host the reception in his Jefferson building for free. Anna is concerned about the distance from the hotel to the reception building. Jon said he will look into a shuttle. Daren suggested turning it into a mobile tour. Jon is also looking into music options. He is also working to start a program committee. Brad Clark has agreed to chair the awards committee.

- 5. Legislative Affairs.** Jon Norstog summarized the board's position on the oil and gas bill and process for opposing the bill. He testified at the hearing and presented the board's letter to the committee. It passed the committee 16-0, then passed the full House. In the Senate Resources Committee it passed again and is now in front of the Senate. The Idaho Conservation League copied our letter as well. He said we also submitted a letter in support of the bicycle safety bill. It will be looked at by the transportation committee. HB 560 would eliminate urban renewal agencies and the board also submitted a letter opposing this legislation. Daren expressed appreciation for the work Jon has done on legislative issues. Renee asked if the board was comfortable with the bill which allows variances to be issued through conditional use permits. It will allow variances to be granted by boards and commissions other than the board of adjustment, it does not specify criteria for a variance and affects the local land use planning act. Joel does not support the legislation. It does not relate to the historical criteria for approving variances. He does not like that a variance would be reviewed against criteria for a special use permit. Renee believes it will allow local jurisdictions to provide criteria to vary certain requirements within existing standards for special use permits, for example if the special use permit requires a maximum height of two stories, that provision could be varied without going back to the board of adjustment. Joel is concerned that the city which lost the court case regarding this issue is seeking to change state statute to fit their needs rather than modifying their own code. Daren could see the logic if the same variance criteria still applied within the special use permit process. Anna pointed out the proposed code does not require a community to allow variances through special use permits. Daren will forward the bill to the board and we may develop a letter with suggestions on how to modify the text.
- 6. Open Discussion.** Joel suggested those who take the Smart Growth survey sent out earlier use the "other" option because of the wording of some of the questions.
- 7. Adjourn.** Anna moved to adjourn. Second by Charles. Meeting adjourned at 12:47.