

1. Roll Call- Present- Mike Krasner, Mike Long, Rocky Ferraro, Andy Labruzzo, Judy Breselor, Gary Black, Diane Carlton, Mike Kayes, Gary Palumbo, David Kay, Frank Evangelisti, Denise Moylan, Paul Younge

2. Approval of October 22, 2003 Meeting Minutes.

The minutes were approved unanimously on a motion from Mike Long with a second from Gary Black.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda

None

4. Old Business and Announcements

Meeting dates for 2004 and 2005 were passed out to all members. Our next meeting will be January 16, 2004 in Dewitt. Mike Krasner also passed out the calling tree which lists who calls who in case of bad weather or other reason for last minute cancellation. Mike introduced Gary Palumbo who is the new section director for Western NY. He also introduced Denise Moylan from OPPI and Paul Farmer from APA National.

A brief report was provided by Rocky Ferraro regarding the fall conference. We had 230 persons for the sessions. Thus far we had \$14,800 in expenditures and \$20,000 in receivables/revenues. This accounts for a profit of about \$5500, which is very successful. There is no specific venue yet for our 2004 conference.

5. Officers' Reports

A. President - Mike Krasner

Mike Krasner said that following today's meeting Cornell students have been invited to lunch with the Upstate APA to discuss planning issues and APA in general. Paul Farmer will then meet with the student planners at 2:30.

There was a discussion on the upcoming National APA elections and whether the Upstate APA should endorse candidates. Floyd Lapp wants the Upstate APA to endorse his candidacy. We can do so, but national APA reports that endorsement is not often done by a chapter. Our support would appear as an announcement in our newsletter. Mike Long said he believes we should support Floyd Lapp, as did Diane Carlton. It was agreed that a subcommittee would look at candidates and make a recommendation for our next newsletter. Motion made by Gary and seconded by Mike Long. Paul, Mike Long and Mike Krasner will be on the committee. They will communicate by e-mail and by Wed. after Thanksgiving will have something to send out to all Upstate APA Board. Subsequently to this the sub-committee reviewed positions and made suggestions to the Chapter. A vote was taken by all Board members. The results of that vote are as follows:

1. Should we offer chapter endorsements?: 17 Yes 1 No 4 No Reply

Mike Krasner also noted that we need to reimburse Judy and Gary Black for funds they expended out of their own pocket.

Mike Krasner told everyone to give any expense that they think are valid for next year to Mike Long. We currently have 718 Upstate APA members-- 283 are AICP, 92 are student members, 20 are new professional members and 41 are "life" members. Mike noted that we might be able to pay the full registration for some of the Board members this year who normally go to the national conference because of our \$23,000 budget.

It was agreed to reimburse Eric Gillert and Al Lewis for their \$50 fee for membership in FAICP. Motion was made by Mike and seconded by Gary. After discussion about what criteria should be used to pay for these types of things it was unanimously agreed to pay their fee.

Judy noted that we should let people know they can nominate themselves for FAICP. Someone else has to sign the application, but the person can do the legwork to get themselves nominated. FAICP is only considered every two years now. It was suggested we write a newsletter article about this, as few people understand how FAICP nominations are done.

Motion to accept Mike Long's financial report. Gary motioned and Rocky seconded. All approved.

C. Vice President - Rocky Ferraro

Rocky noted there is a summary of the awards program on the web site that Jean Waterbury wrote.

D. Professional Development Officer - Andy Labruzzo

Andy noted that next year's AICP exam would be conducted on line. There will be two time periods when one may take it: May 10-12th or Nov. 18-20th. It will be on the web at 200 testing centers across the US. There is a reduced cost to take the exam because it is now on the web. It costs \$325 to register

E. Director of Legislative Affairs - Judy Breselor

We are still waiting to hear if APA will fund our pilot project that we submitted to National. It appears we are still in the running.

F. Public Relations - Gary Black

Gary announced that 52 press releases were sent out regarding the awards in October. They were sent to the newspapers in the home territory of the award recipient. 75% of the papers would not accept a press release in the form of an e-mail. It was even hard to get a FAX number. Judy said she will FAX Gary the list of FAX and phone numbers she has for newspapers in the Hudson Valley area.

Next year all applications will require persons to provide their phone and FAX # of their local paper.

Gary said that an environmental lobbying group wants to link to our web site for a speaker's bureau. The group seemed to be a "smart growth" group. Gary talked with Mike about what the policy is for linking to our web site. We will talk about this issue further in January.

G. Member at Large - Diane Carlton

Diane said she has no names for people who want to serve on the upcoming vacant seats. She asked persons to get names to her if they knew of anyone who might be interested.

H. County Planning Directors Liaison - Mike Kayes

Mike Kayes is now the president of the National Association of Country Planning Directors. He announced that the NYS Association of County Planning Directors would be sponsoring a session on comprehensive planning at the NYSAC Conference this winter. Julie Sweet, Lori Heithoff and John Behan will be the speakers.

I. Section Directors Reports

Rocky Ferraro - Capital District

On December 1st there is a student reception with SUNY Albany scheduled from 4-6 pm. The section has audio conferences scheduled for Feb, May and June. On Dec. 11th Mike Breslin the Albany County Executive will speak at the Section's luncheon.

Paul Younge - Central New York.

They have a meeting on Dec. 11th. They are trying to re-establish interest in planning with ESF and have been having problems with the e-mail lists they received from national.

Frank Evangelisti- Southern Tier

Frank discussed the Courtroom Restoration project that the Southern Tier chapter visited. He also discussed the old Tioga jail, which has been turned into a restaurant and Bed and Breakfast. The motif and atmosphere in the restaurant is that of a "jail".

Gary Palumbo - Western.

They have completed a member survey. SUNY/Buffalo will provide an intern to the western section to assist with some of their work. They will be updating the e-mail lists for the section. Their audio conferences will be continuing.

George Homsy - Cornell Representative

If one goes to the APA Web site and goes under "publications" you can find work done by students at Cornell.

Chapter Plan- Mike Krasner

Mike had everyone look at the bullet points under the strategic plan update. We seem to be counting on our dues to pay for everything we need, yet there is no discussion about how to improve all of these services that we've talking about improving. How will this be accomplished?

There was discussion about the “A Sourcebook” referred to in the plan. Mike asked if Rocky or Mike Kayes or others had a copy of it. Marcia Kees or Jean Waterbury may have a copy of it.

Mike's outline discussed the bulleted points in his “Issues” statement. The 1992-1995 plan was very broad. The by-laws could be reviewed and updated.

Finance is the big area that needs work. We need to focus on this. Should we do web site advertising? Half already to this. Membership has been static for 15-20 years; thus it won't bring money in to do the improved services that we talk about in the plan. Are there things we need to do to publicize who we are and what we do? How do we get the media to recognize us? These are issues we must focus on in the plan. Mike suggested we look at the video given to us by the IL chapter. IL has made progress with their pro- bono work. This could help us in the Promotion of Excellence.

The plan also discusses very little about the role of the sections. Should we require that sections hold a certain number of programs in order to qualify for their national rebate?

Rocky suggested that Board members be responsible for reviewing their own position responsibilities.

Mike suggested we each look at our own positions for the January meeting. We should also look at other areas of interest too. Please send e-mail ideas to Mike Krasner who will compile for the January meeting. Keep the ideas general.

Mike Krasner also noted that some chapters have chapter plans on their web sites. We could check these out to get some ideas for our own. Perhaps we want to be more specific with our mission statement. As of now it is very generic.

Discussion was held about chapter members joining other chapters. Andy explained that Hudson Valley members want to join the Upstate Chapter, but they belong to the Downstate Chapter. These folks have to go to NYC to get active because everything that Metro Chapter does is based in NYC. Putnam wants to go upstate. Andy, Judy and Mike were appointed to discuss jurisdictional issues on this matter. They will find out how many people want to make a change from one section to another. Many may not be joining APA because there is no programming for them in their geographic area. They have let their membership lapse. We need to find out how many people would want to come to the upstate Chapter from counties like Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan, Putnam, Ulster etc. It was suggested that we proceed with caution. Metro may be concerned if they feel they will be losing members and resources (dollars).

Part of the strategic plan should discuss possible boundary revisions since central section has membership problems as well.

Motion to adjourn was made by Gary and seconded by Mike Long. All concurred. Meeting closed at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Diane V. Carlton