

MAP Board of Directors Meeting
August 1, 2008 (via telephone conference between Bar Harbor, Augusta and
Yarmouth)
Minutes

Meeting Convened at 10:35 AM

Present: Maureen O'Meara (President), Beth Della Valle, Anne Krieg, Helen Edmonds, Hugh Coxe, Jane LaFleur, Linda Johns, Stacy Benjamin

Agenda Items:

1. **Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes.** The Board voted to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes. 7:0:1 (Beth Della Valle abstaining).
2. **Preparation for Maine Municipal Association Conference, October 9.**
 - Rodney Lynch has approached MAP to co-sponsor a session being presented by the Community Development Association, focusing on legal aspects of the historic preservation tax credit.
 - We had also discussed presenting a session on planning law, to be presented by HLEdmonds and/or others at Pierce Atwood LLP.
 - After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to co-sponsor the CDA session, and to conduct the planning law session later in the year, due to Helen's conflicting schedule.

Motion: MAP will co-sponsor the CDA session at the MMA conference and conduct a planning law session later in the year.

Passed 8:0:0

- On a related subject, Anne reminded the Board that we had discussed presenting a "Planning 101" type course for municipal officials. The Board agreed that this is an important subject to keep on our list of future seminars.
- Maureen asked whether the Board would support seeking CM credits for the MMA session. After discussion, the Board recognized the minimal sum that would be involved in this effort would be worthwhile, to allow people another opportunity to gain credits.

Motion: MAP will allocate funds to seek CM credit for the MMA session.
Second.

Passed 8:0:0

3. NNECAPA \$1,000 Grant Offer.

- Maureen reported that after a conference call with Stacy Doll and others, she is very optimistic that APA will be working to improve the cost of gaining CM credits. APA is considering a number of options in this regard, including allowing “bundling” of credits and “blanket” certifications for longer, multi-session conferences.
- NNECAPA is offering the opportunity for a \$1,000 grant to be used to provide CM continuing education credits. Maureen suggests that MAP apply for this grant and apply it toward the sum already allocated to this effort.

Motion: MAP should apply for the grant. Second.

Passed 8:0:0

4. Legislative Liaison to NNECAPA.

- We are still seeking a volunteer to act as the Maine legislative liaison to NNECAPA.
- Beth recalled that Rebecca provided a newsletter article to NNECAPA on the Maine legislative session. She may be willing to volunteer for this position.
- Stacy also said that she may be available to fill this position, but she needs a little more time to work out her new schedule.

Motion: Table item so that Maureen can ask Rebecca whether she wants to volunteer as the NNECAPA legislative liaison. Second.

Passed 8:0:0

5. National Community Planning Month Sponsorship

- Maureen has been approached by Gerry Mylroie, the organizer of the “American City Quality” group, asking MAP to co-sponsor “American Community Planning Month.” Maureen suggested telling Gerry that our name can be mentioned as a co-sponsor, and that we also support anybody interested in conducting events to commemorate the month.

- Jane suggested that we could add the American Community Planning Month sponsorship information and logo to our sponsorship at the MMA Conference in October.
- Helen noted that if we are going to have our panel board at the MMA Conference, this would be a good way to indicate our sponsorship of Planning Month.

Motion: An announcement of American Community Planning Month and MAP's co-sponsorship should be posted to the MAP listserv. Second.

Passed 8:0:0

6. **GrowSmart Initiative**

- Beth reported that she has received information from GrowSmart regarding an upcoming series of "For'Em's", along with a request for MAP co-sponsorship. The first session is already planned for August 27 in Portland, 5:30 - 8 pm at the State Gallery. She will forward this information to the rest of the Board.
- It's obviously too late to participate in planning the August 27 event, but MAP, if it is going to co-sponsor, should be involved in future planning of such events. Apparently there is no cost to MAP.

Motion: MAP should support these events prospectively. Second.

Discussion: Beth will email GrowSmart, reaching out, offering to assist in future planning of events, and asking for more information. MAP will not co-sponsor if we can't plan any role in the events.

Passed 7:0:0 (Jane having left the meeting)

7. **Other**

a. **Website Upgrade**

- Maureen questioned the status of the website upgrade, which seems to have stalled. Rebecca and Judy have been working on getting information and quotes for this work.
- Beth suggested that we model our site after the NNECAPA site and work with that designer to save money.

- Maureen asked Board members to review our existing MAP website and get suggestions to Rebecca for changes we would like to see by the end of the week of August 4.
- The goal is to have a proposal in hand for website design, by the next Board meeting.
- Minutes should continue to be sent to Jim Fisher, for now. He has graciously offered to continue working on the site until we have the new system set up.
- Hugh suggested telling Rebecca and Judy that we would like 1-2 proposals for the next meeting, including what the site would look like and what it would cost. Include the NNECAPA web designer as one of the proposals.
- In terms of ongoing website maintenance following the upgrade, Amanda Lessard in Rebecca's office has offered to do this. Stacy also mentioned that she might be able to take this on if another person is needed.

b. SPO Representation on MAP Board

- With Stacy having left SPO, we now have no SPO representative on the Board. This has been "traditional" for the past 8-9 years. She will speak to SPO staff before the next meeting to gauge interest.
- Maureen said that to avoid losing Stacy's contribution, if an SPO representative wants to join, we can create an *ex officio* liaison position for them.

8. Next Meeting

- The Board agreed that last year's face-to-face meeting was productive, and that the next meeting should be in person.
- Consensus reached that the next meeting should be **September 26**, for lunch in Camden or Rockland. Stacy and Jane will identify a good location.
- On a related note, Maureen said that she had wanted to congratulate and thank Jane for all of her hard work on the Annual Meeting. The day went extremely well and Jane did a great job making it all come together.

9. Other, continued

- c. Please let Maureen know in advance if you have items for the agenda.

d. Upcoming newsletter deadline is August 22. Helen offered to submit an article on vernal pool regulation.

Motion: Move to adjourn. Second.

Passed 7:0:0