

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting February 6, 2015 in Dublin

I. Introductions

II. Roll Call & Communications

Kinskey called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Present: Anderson; Brooker Scocco; Davis; Egan; Etchie; Ezell; Kennedy; Keough-Jurs; Kinskey; Logue; Moeller; Ray; Reger; Ronayne; Schmidt; Wenger

Absent: Braverman; Edelman; Eppig; Hopkins; Klavora

Others Present: Dersi Davis

III. Motion to Follow or Amend Agenda

A motion was made by Ray and seconded by Wenger to approve the agenda. Motion passes.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the November 21, 2014 Board Meeting

A motion was made by Ezell and seconded by Keough-Jurs to approve the minutes. Motion passes.

V. Action and Discussion Agenda

New Board Representative Introductions

Welcome Chris Anderson (Cincinnati Section Rep) and Matt Schmidt (Cleveland Section Rep)!

President's Report

Kinskey highlighted his report, which can be found in the Boardbook. He attended the quarterly APA legislative webinar, and was impressed by what the Colorado Chapter is doing on that front. He reported that there used to have a member of the Board that was able to do tracking, as it was part of his day job.

Kinskey said that he hopes Eppig can help with our initiative since the organization already does a lot of legislative tracking.

Egan asked if the Chapter is willing to pay for a service. Kinskey says not at the moment because of fiscal issues.

Reger said that MORPC pays for a summary of legislative items on a monthly basis, and would be willing to extract some of these summaries for our use.

Ronayne reported that the going rate for lobbyist is quite high. He suggested that perhaps someone at the DOT might have a staff person available for consult.

Apple v. Granger Township Student Research Presentation

Ezell put together a workshop to research the issue. A total of seven (7) graduate students from OSU are participating. The two student presenters today are Jacob Wolf (also an attorney) and Shannon Fergus (Ezell calls her our “future lobbyist”).

[Please see the PowerPoint presentation for case details, workshop objectives, and preliminary research findings.]

Kinskey asked if it would be appropriate for APA Ohio to select a few people to sit with OTA and CCAO to talk out the potential outcome scenarios.

Yin asked if there could be a potential moratorium should the Supreme Court determine that townships must have an actual comprehensive plan to coincide with zoning. Wolf said that the Supreme Court cannot put a timeline on the decision; that is up to the legislature.

Treasurer’s Report

Ray highlighted her report and asked for approval.

A motion was made by Reger and seconded by Kennedy to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion passes.

Ray detailed the online transaction fee increase and gave some background on its beginnings. Hopkins and Dersi Davis initially came up with the fee structure to recoup some funds from online credit card transactions and used a guestimation to come up with rates. Fees have been increasing to the point where Dersi Davis suggests we increase the online transaction fees, as described in the report.

Ray reported that she and Dersi Davis had a conference call with the section Treasurers ahead of this meeting to discuss their opinions of the increase, and any other issues or comments they wished to discuss. The Section Treasurers are all on board with the increase.

A motion was made by Reger and seconded by Moeller to approve the online transaction fee increase. The increase will take effect with any new programming beginning on March 1, 2015.

Ray reported that looking into an investment strategy is her next big item to tackle. She reported another item to look at in the near future is accounting policies and codes. The Chapter Audit is also wrapping up.

PDO Report

Yin reported that the number of Ohio members that take the AICP exam, which is administered twice a year, are average. He also reported that as PDO, he receives a list of AICP members that haven’t completed their CM requirements. He said most are putting in the effort.

Yin reported that National feels that the PDO position is very important and they want PDO’s to get more involved and push certifications.

Yin reported that the new advanced certification tests are having problems. There are currently three (3) advanced certifications available. It appears there is little interest and the program isn't making as much money as National had intended. Yin said that part of the problem is competition from LEED, CNU, and GIS.

Yin reported that the Department of Emerging Professionals is growing momentum.

Dersi Davis asked if Yin audited the AICP exam as planned. Yin reported that he did not.

Ezell reported that he is interested in taking over Yins position as co-PDO.

2013 State Conference

All payments have finally been received, and final distribution of revenue completed.

2014 OKI Conference

Final APA Ohio revenue and distribution of funds has not been completed yet.

2015 State Conference

Echie reported that he is working on getting a link to hotel reservation. He reported that Facebook and the webpage are up and running.

Echie asked the Board for \$2,000.00 in seed money. A motion was made by Kinsley and seconded by Scocco. Motion passes. Dersi Davis will cut and send at the beginning of December.

Yin proposed a possible discount for MI members.

Dersi Davis thought that for the future, it might be useful to have one (1) account for the State Conference, with changing signatories versus each local section having to open an account.

Membership Drive Brainstorming

Ray stated that the Chapter needs to start thinking about ways in which to increase revenue. She stated that the budget is not balanced, with a deficit of about \$13,000.00 a year.

Ray brought up a possible membership dues increase. She mentioned the report within the Boardbook that lays out the possibilities. She also reported that 2006 was the last time the Chapter raised rates.

Ray spoke with Jorgenson at APA National about the options for raising rates.

Ray pointed out page twenty-two (22) of the Boardbook for other possible revenue drivers including conference revenue, professional development workshops, advertising, investments, and a membership drive.

Anderson asked if the increase would be a flat fee (like it is now) or a percentage based fee (like APA National dues). Ray responded that it can be either or.

Ezell asked Ray if she had a rate increase recommendation. Ray reported that she would look at the numbers and come up with various options.

Kinskey noted that National may require Chapters to become percentage based in the future, so why not begin now.

Logue asked if the lowest percentage rate of twenty-five percent (25%) would help the current budget deficit. Ray reported that she will crunch numbers and come up with various options.

Reger asked if student memberships fall into a percentage rate. Ray reported that they do not.

Ray reported that a decision by the Board has to be made by May 1 for her to get paperwork into National for an October 1 start date (beginning of fiscal year).

Kinskey reported that there seems to be a disconnect between what the Board suggests as benefits, and what the local Sections end up conducting.

Schmidt suggested perhaps an inspirational/motivational video about the benefits of membership might be a good idea.

Scocco reported that it's been difficult getting folks to volunteer at the local Central Ohio Section level.

Executive Director's Report

Dersi Davis directed everyone to her summary report and summarized her activities.

Section Updates

Akron: Section leadership is meeting soon to begin programing for the year.

Cincinnati: The Section partnered in December with northern Kentucky to host a holiday party. They also had their annual Planning and Zoning Workshop this past Friday with great attendance – almost 200 people and at capacity.

Central Ohio: As stated before, they are in need of leadership. They are planning for a Planning and Zoning Workshop in June.

Cleveland: There are new Board Members at the section level. The group is looking at blending programming and education committees together. March 31 will be a panel discussion with CSU APA. June 12 is the annual Boat Cruise. The Cleveland City Planning Commission will be celebrating 100 years in June; there will be some type of celebration for that.

Miami Valley: Currently on down time. There is a meeting next month to beginning planning for the December 2015 workshop.

Northwest Ohio: Working mostly on the State Conference.

VI. Other Business

N/A

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made at 2:06 to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes.