Western Central Chapter

American Planning Association

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2018

Attendees: Jeff Bollman, AICP, President; Charles Bloom, AICP, VP; Megan Nelms, AICP, Secretary/Wyoming State Director; Lysann Zeller, South Dakota; David Heinhold, Webmaster; Randy Johnson, AICP, Professional Development Officer; Allison Mouch, AICP, Past-President; Andrew Boughan, Montana

Agenda:

1. Minutes

Charles moved to approve the minutes from October 10, 2017 as presented. Lysann seconded. All voted aye, motion carried.

Megan needs to do the January 8, 2018 minutes. Will get them out for next meeting.

1. President’s Report

Jeff gave an overview of the leadership meetings at the NPC this year. Allyson B. got him the Twitter login so he did some tweets from the conference. At Chapter President’s Council they went over the performance standards for the yearly report. Allison M. is going to assist with getting some of the information. We have until the end of the calendar year to work on the report. For the most part we have met all the requirements. There are a few things we need to work on.

There are PowerPoint slides available for the Ethics Case of the Year for any state that wants to use them at conferences. Jeff is going to send that out to the board and there was a lot of interest from board members on using them.

There was a legislative update from APA. Infrastructure is a national priority as well as housing choice and high quality federal data, relating back to the upcoming census.

The topic of paid chapter staff came up at the CPC. About a quarter of all chapters have a paid administrative staff person and there was discussion about having APA subsidize some of the cost for chapters to have paid staff. There was also discussion about chapter only memberships (not being full APA members) and how that might look. Possibly only offering it to certain people. It was very preliminary discussion but he expects the topic to come back up.

They also showcased the new APA Learn, the membership learning website. You would have to pay to access the materials and it is intended to be a large, learning platforms with opportunities for people to get education, training and CM credits.

All chapter presidents are on a subcommittee of CPC and Jeff chose the Advocacy and Policy subcommittee. He will keep us all informed as it moves forward. Said he had a good overall time.

1. Treasurer’s Report

Bethany wasn’t able to be on the call or get a report out. She will try to get a report out later this week. Jeff still has bank access so he gave a short update.

1. PDO Report

Randy spoke with about six people recently who are getting ready to take the AICP test this month. We did grant 1 scholarship for the testing fees. Randy also told everyone about an upcoming webinar on June 22nd that offers a 1.25 CM Law credit for anyone looking to get that.

Jeff said he went to the PDO exchange at NPC. They said the APA test manual is going away (Exam Prep 3) and that exam study materials and prep will be done by Chapters. There was brief discussion about the AICP pilot program and we talked about how none of the four states have an accredited program anymore. AICP is also refreshing the test questions and looking at how questions are set up. They want to try to get away from “rogue knowledge” and make it a better predictor of your knowledge and how well you would be a planner, not just how well you know random facts. Focus on being more process oriented and less wrote knowledge.

1. Website Update

David said we were delayed until June we are in the queue for then. There hasn’t been a weekly call in awhile, as they have cancelled them. It sounds like things are getting backed up. Jeff and David still need to review the website content to move to the new site. We just need to get the documents backed up and onto the drive to give it to APA. Jeff and David said they will schedule a call to work on it. Megan said she would help if needed as well. This is an ASAP item.

1. Western Planner Representative

Andrew Boughman introduced himself. He works for the City of Missoula. He attended the University of Cincinnati and was previously with the City of Bozeman. He is interested in being the WPR representative. Megan is going to email him more information and there was discussion about the MAP position on WPR as well. We will follow up with this.

There was general discussion about Andrew’s position, MAP and WPR. Jeff officially appointed Andrew as the WPR representative to WCC.

1. Young Planners Initiative – Mentorship Program Update

The proposed mentorship program is our response the requests in our Young Planners Survey to support state chapters in providing more professional development opportunities. The committee is looking at what we can do to facilitate the development of a mentorship program in each state and fostering a mentee/mentor program similar to that of APA. They are hoping to roll out the program at each of the state fall conferences. Allison went over their presentation and asked for the Board’s approval and support to get it going at the state level.

The Board thought the plan looked good and Allison asked Jeff to send information out regarding the program in the next chapter wide newsletter/eblast. There was discussion on how the states could support this and how they try to time the release to encourage cities and towns to send the newer/younger planners to the conferences to benefit from the program.

1. State Reports
   1. Wyoming

Charles gave the update. They are having their annual spring conference May 10-11th. They have a good agenda of sessions and nice sign up rate so far.

* 1. South Dakota

David said they were working on the agenda for the fall conference in Huron, October 17-18th. They are trying to get more practical sessions, geared toward lay-planners.

* 1. North Dakota

No rep on the call.

* 1. Montana

The fall conference is September 12-14th in Whitefish. They are looking for session proposals right now and should have a full agenda by June. Attendance is looking good right now and they are expecting about 120 people. The MAP board is working on conference tracks and getting ready for the 2019 legislative session. They did a membership exercise at their last conference and will be going back to their membership with some organizational and legislative priorities this fall.

Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2018. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm (MST).