



APA Colorado Annual Board Meeting and Town Hall

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Virtual Meeting

The meeting began at 3:00 p.m.

Roll call:

Present:	Absent:
Joni Marsh, President	Vacant, Public Official Representative
Michelle Stephens, Past President	Manish Shirgaokar, Faculty Representative
Josh Olhava, Treasurer	Greg Moberg, Northwest Area Representative
Mike Tylka, VP of Communications	Ignacio Correa-Ortiz, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Co-Chair
Julia Puester, VP External Affairs	
Erin Fosdick, Professional Development Officer	
Hadley Peterson, Metro Representative	
Britt Palmberg, Metro Representative	
Mark Truckey, Central Mountain Area Representative	
Katelynn Wintz, South Central Representative	
Summer Frederick, North Central Representative	Committee Chairs:
Mark Williams, Southwest Area Representative	Daniel Murray, Awards Committee Chair
Shaida Libhart, Legislative Affairs Representative	Renaë Stavros, Great Places Committee Chair
Joan Lyons, EPP Representative	Bradyn Nicholson, Healthy Communities Committee Co-Chair
Max Morgan, Student Representative	Scott Bressler, Legislative Committee Co-Chair
Eric Sokotas, Western Planner Representative	Maureen Paz de Araujo, Membership Committee Chair; PIC Board Chair/President
Susan Wood, APA Region V Director	Conor Merrigan, Sustainability Committee Co-Chair
	Wade Broadhead, Youth in Planning Chair
Staff:	Guests:
Shelia Booth, Chapter Administrator	Sol Malick, Peak Government Affairs; and Chapter members (see list below)

1. Welcome & Introductions – Joni Marsh, President

Joni welcomed everyone and introduced herself as the new President. She reviewed the agenda for the meeting then summarized the impacts of 2020 and how the Chapter pivoted for the conference and other things. She concluded by stating that she was looking forward to 2021, moving forward with conference planning and hoping to see more people volunteer.

Joni then discussed her goal to have the Chapter participate in discussions and actions around affordable housing in the state. She reviewed the Chapter's mission and goals, noting they have been in place for four years and that the Board and Chapter will continue moving forward with the overarching goals. She then thanked the Chapter sponsors and noted that we are always seeking sponsors. She then reviewed the current board members and those outgoing members.

2. Farewell Address – Michelle Stephens, AICP

Michelle remarked that attendance at this Town Hall meeting has almost quadrupled since the first one a few years back. She then reflected on her term as President, stating she ran on a platform to raise the profile of planners and planning around the state, and to throw a "kick ass" conference. She says she feels like she has worked hard and been successful with both and then encouraged members to run for office, to continue to give your time, and to sponsor our profession and professional organization.

3. Chapter Administrator Report – Shelia Booth, Chapter Administrator

Shelia listed the board positions up for election in 2021. She then reviewed the accomplishments of the Chapter and the goals for 2021. She reviewed the registration numbers and income of the 2020 Colorado Planning Conference.

4. APA Update – Susan Wood, APA Region V Director

Susan reviewed the structure of APA, including Chapter, Divisions and the leadership at the APA Board, Chapter Presidents Council, etc. She discussed the transition to virtual conferences for the 2020 National Planning Conference and the Fall Policy Conference. She then noted that APA reviewed all its programs in 2020 to determine which ones needed to end, to be enhanced and to be retained because they were working well. Planning Magazine will have a digital edition each month, with quarterly printed editions. The awards program was modified to four categories. The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee will be revitalized. APA adopted the EDI workplan and the strategic plan. She reviewed the four pillars of APA's Strategic Plan: Prioritize Equity; Reframe the Voice of Planning; Pursue Digital Relevance; and Upskill Planners. She then concluded stating that registration is open for the virtual NPC21 and they hope it will be bigger and better than 2020.

5. 2020 Financial Report – Josh Olhava, Treasurer

Josh reviewed the Income and Expenses for 2020. The Chapter income was \$132,331.74 and expenses were \$110,563.99 for a total net income of \$21,767.75. He noted that the Chapter received a Payroll Protection Program loan to help offset income loss. It is anticipated that the loan will not have to be repaid. He then reviewed the various line items within each category.

Josh then reviewed 2020 accomplishments including ending with a positive income, finding ways to support our partners and affiliate organizations, work with EPP's mentorship program, and personally as serving as a mentor during the state conference. For 2021, he said there is a lot of "work with" elements to expand the reach of the organization funds. The Board will be reviewing the budget more diligently this year.

Motion by Mark T. to approve the 2020 Year End Financial report as presented.

Second by Erin

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

6. Legislative Committee Report – Shaida Libhart, Legislative Affairs Representative and Scott Bressler, Legislative Committee Representative (Co-Chairs)

a. Legislative Committee

Scott noted when the Committee meets and what happens at the meetings. The Committee determines which bills to track and if the Chapter should take a position

supporting, opposing, or simply monitoring. They also determine if the Chapter should be proactive or reactive. In 2020 there were 710 bills and they monitored 33, supported 11 and opposed 1. The Committee's major victory last year was the passage of HB20-1095: Local Governments Water Elements in Master Plans – which links land use planning and water planning together. The bill includes a full-time equivalent person for DOLA.

Shaida then introduced the 2021 Legislative Priorities which are developed from membership input. She explained what the document is used for and noted that they incorporated an equity statement this year. She then reviewed the Committee's 2021 goals, stating their focus will be on building relationships with legislators and allied organizations. They hope to host a Planners' Day at the Capital since they were not able to hold one in 2020. Lastly, she discussed the Committee's plans to create a "story bank" and how it would be used.

b. Peak Government Affairs

Sol discussed the importance of building relationships with State leadership and the Governor's Office to make sure planning and planning interests are adequately addressed. The Chapter's reputation is strong and has become stronger. He said that he and the Committee started with a goal to make APA Colorado the experts in the state when it comes to planning and transportation issues. He then discussed what happens when the Chapter supports, opposes, or monitors bills.

Sol then stated that in 2020 the State Legislature changed focus and concentrated on keeping the state afloat financially. He said he didn't anticipate many bills passing with fiscal impacts in 2021 and that the Chapter's Legislative Priorities are in line with potential legislation.

7. VP Reports

a. VP External Affairs – Julia Puester

Joni summarized Julia's presentation. She noted that being active on social media was critical in 2020 and the Chapter received a big boost in followers. For 2021 they will focus on increasing outreach on social media, expanding the awards program, seeking additional partnership opportunities, and assisting area representatives with planned events.

b. VP Communications – Mike Tylka

Mike reviewed the 2020 accomplishments of Sarah Davis who rotated off the Board. He discussed her impacts on developing the anti-racism resources, her work on the newsletter and her biggest accomplishment - the 400% increase on social media activity over multiple platforms. For 2021, he hopes to accomplish partnering more with committees, working to elevate the Chapter's profile, exploring ways to be more interactive and to promote the Chapter to allied professions. He wants APA Colorado to be "The Partner of Choice!"

8. Area Representative Reports

a. Central Mountain Area – Mark Truckey

Mark T. said 2020 was mostly about COVID survival but there were opportunities for information sharing within mountain communities. In Breckenridge, they were able to close main street which was something they had been wanting to do for years. He discussed things they did in Breckenridge to address business relief and talked about his conference session on "Taking Carbon Reduction Seriously – Eliminating Natural Gas" He

then discussed plans for 2021 including a housing tour in Breckenridge, outreach to Central Mountain members and networking events.

- b. Denver Metro Area – Britt Palmberg and Hadley Peterson
Hadley stated that Anne Miller had stepped down as Denver Representative in the last election cycle. She highlighted Metro Area events, the impacts of COVID-19 and participation in the book group reading of *The Color of Law*. Britt then introduced the 2021 Goals that were identified during a brainstorming happy hour. He said they have plans to: hold virtual happy hours but make them more interactive; hold open forums where members can share ideas on a wide range of topics; and hopefully hold in person events later in the year. They also hope to hold a main event during the fall conference.
- c. North Central Area – Summer Frederick
Joni reviewed Summer's presentation and her top words of 2020: Adaptation; Resilience and Re-imagine. For 2021 Summer plans to increase outreach and membership involvement, identify and strengthen professional connections and more.
- d. South Central Area – Katelynn Wintz
Katelynn introduced herself as the new area representative and highlighted the 2020 accomplishments during Maureen's term including lunch and learns, webinars, happy hours, etc. For 2021 Katelynn said she wants to be as dynamic as possible and hold a variety of events. She's looking for ideas and looking to engage others in the area.
- e. Northwest Area – Greg Moberg
Joni said Greg presented the Great Places award to Palisades Plunge last year. His 2021 goals are to reach out to members and allied groups and hold regional events.
- f. Southwest Area - Mark Williams
Mark W. said he represents 2% of the planners in the state located in the Southwest Area. He hosted a hang out session during the fall conference that originally focused on identifying Great Places in the southwest to nominate; however, the event morphed into a discussion of the impacts of "Zoom Town" transplants on smaller communities. He plans to hold more dialogue about this phenomenon on the mountain and rural regions of Colorado. For 2021, he plans to establish a discourse with other mountain communities to gauge how COVID-19 is impacting them culturally, financially, recreationally and in terms of housing. He hopes to return to indoor gatherings and will plan a mixer for design professionals and engineers. He talked about his plan to work with the Chapter and others to develop an updated model development code and a toolbox for small towns.

9. Special Representative Updates

- a. **Allied Organization Representative | Western Planner – Eric Sokotas**
Eric introduced himself as the newly appointed representative, then turned it over to Brandon to review 2020 accomplishments. Brandon summarized what Western Planner is, talked about their annual conference and noted that Colorado is typically the highest reader of the WP publication. He talked about the tribal and indigenous research that was done and his recommendations for article shares between WP and the Chapter.
- b. **Faculty Representative – Manish Shirgaokar**
Max reported that Manish was teaching and that he would present on his behalf. He stated that Manish won a grant in 2020 and there are a lot of exciting things going on at the University of Colorado-Denver (UC Denver). Manish is heavily involved in the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee and he has been spearheading an equity survey with that group and he wants to build a more diverse enrollment at UC Denver. For 2021 he will

work with UC Denver to continue offering MURP classes to planning professionals. He wants to continue working with EDI to explore partnership options for capstones, studios, and other engagements. Manish wants to inspire action towards building great communities through building collaborations between students and planners.

c. **Student Representative – Max Morgan**

Max said the UC Denver MURP students are coordinating monthly meetings with workshops and guest speakers. He said the student group is happy to help in any way and they are desperate to get in front of planners. For 2021, they will do the job shadowing program and will be seeking organizations and leaders to volunteer. Max then said he would be leaving his position in May and graduates in December. For 2020, the student group hosted a bike facility tour, dog day event, participated in the fall conference as volunteers, held a lunch and learn on community development, and more. The student group created sub-groups on topics of environment, social justice, housing, and transportation so they can focus and get involved in those areas. He concluded with his 2021 goals.

10. Committees

a. **Awards Committee – Daniel Murray & Julia Puester, Co-Chairs**

Daniel recapped the awards program in 2020 stating they had 17 applications, introduced one new category, and awarded seven merit, four honor and one planning leadership awards. The recipients were acknowledged with a video before the weekly keynote speakers during the conference and the videos were posted on the Chapter website, social media, and the Chapter's YouTube channel. For 2021, the Committee will continue to recognize outstanding projects, plans and people. He then stated that the request for nominations will open in February and concluded by stating that anyone interested in participating on the committee should contact him.

b. **Emerging Planning Professionals Committee – Joan Lyons, EPP Representative**

Joan reviewed who the EPP is and what they do. She said they host a lot of interactive happy hours so planners can learn more about planning activities around the state. She then discussed the book club and the inaugural mentorship program. She noted that the EPP Committee has dwindled due to impacts of COVID and they are looking to grow the Committee in 2021, expand the mentorship program, and host events/meet ups.

c. **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee – Ignacio Correa-Ortiz & Hadley Peterson, Co-Chairs**

Hadley introduced the 2021 EDI Committee members and encouraged those who would like to join them to contact her. She noted when and how the Committee meets and then reviewed the 2020 accomplishments. In 2020, the Committee focused on the EDI Survey, worked with the Western Planner Representative on researching Native American resources, and held a session at the fall conference. For 2021 their main goal is to "To further a planning profession that is representative of the population it serves."

d. **Great Places in Colorado – Renae Stavros, Chair**

Shelia stated the Committee completed a call for nominations in 2020 and awarded two Great Place designations. She reviewed the 2021 goals to increase awareness, get more applications, and to enhance program marketing.

e. **Healthy Communities Committee – Bradyn Nichols & Liz Young Winne, Co-Chairs**

Bradyn reviewed the Committee's mission and the 2020 accomplishments. She said the Committee typically host a speaker as part of their meetings and listed some of the presentations they did last year. She said they assisted in the COVID Townhall and did weekly presentations during the fall Colorado Planning Conference. For 2021, they want to

continue their online 6-week meeting schedule, finalize their Housing and Health position statement, and create a toolkit of land use regulations that support healthy communities. She said they hired an intern to assist with the toolkit and it should be completed this August.

f. **Membership Committee – Maureen Paz de Araujo, Chair**

Maureen introduced the Committee members, noting the Committee doesn't regularly hold events. She reviewed membership information including geographic location, membership classification, etc. In 2020, the Committee completed a refresh of the Chapter's membership brochure and volunteer opportunities. They initiated a "Welcome Packet" for new members and held a membership networking event. She then reviewed information from that event. She said the Committee's goals for 2021 are to complete a survey of planners – how can we promote employer support of membership; complete the welcome packet; promote AICP certification, and to do more and do better.

g. **FAICP Advisory Committee – Maureen Paz de Araujo, Representative**

Maureen introduced the FAICP nomination process, the purpose of the committee and why it was formed. She discussed the past nominations and the current window.

h. **Planning Institute of Colorado (PIC) – Maureen Paz de Araujo, Chair/President**

Maureen summarized what PIC is and then the course updates initiated in 2020. She reviewed the history of discussions to close PIC or move forward with course updates. She said the Board chose to update and sought volunteers to review and the material. Some of the courses have been completed, some are pending final review, and some are still in the initial stage. She concluded with goals for 2020 to enhance the course offerings.

i. **Outreach & Communications Committee – Mike Tylka & Julia Puester, Co-Chairs**

Mike said the Committee helped increase social media, worked with the Awards Committee, and participated in the virtual town halls. He then thanked Jena for her volunteer work as the Social Media Manager. For 2020, they want to be more interactive with social media, create more interactive newsletters, and connect to less active members outside of the Front Range.

j. **Professional Development Officer & Professional Development Committee – Erin Fosdick, Chair**

Erin reviewed the 2020 accomplishments that were done by the prior PDO, Allison Crump and said the Committee is always looking for members. Erin said the Committee reviews and selects conference sessions and holds two AICP Exam Prep workshops each year. She then recognized the planners who passed the AICP exam in 2020, noting that Colorado planners consistently pass the exam at a higher rate than the national average. For 2021, the Committee plans to host a compelling call for conference sessions, to continue hosting AICP Exam Prep workshops and supporting planners taking the exam, to adapt to the virtual learning platforms, and to engage the PDC beyond just conference session selection.

i. **Sustainability Committee – Conor Merrigan and Karl Barton, Co-Chairs**

Karl said that the Committee theme for 2020 was the year of EcoDistricts and that they held a series of events tied to that. In the fall they held a Shared Streets Competition with the winners were announced during the 2020 Colorado Planning Conference and celebrated during a joint networking session. Karl stated that the 2021 theme will be Sustainable Recovery. They are looking to hold virtual and in person events and are open to more members.

j. **Youth in Planning – Wade Broadhead, Chair**

Wade summarized what the Committee focuses on and when they meet. He said in 2020 he was able to conduct some in-class planning exercises, and the Committee continued to meet virtually and strategize. For 2021, they will create content in a new way with "bite size" information for teachers and planners to take into the classroom.

11. Adoption of 2020 Annual Report – Joni Marsh, President

Joni summarized the presentations by the Board members, noting that they were all a summary of the 2020 Annual Report. She said the Annual Report is forwarded to APA as part of the Chapter Presidents Council reporting criteria. She asked if there were any questions or comments and hearing none, she asked for a motion to adopt.

Motion by Erin to adopt the 2020 Annual Report as presented.

Second by Mark T.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

12. Questions & Answer Time

Wade said that since there were discussions about inclusion, he will be part of a session at the Historic Preservation Conference in February where they will present on how preservations have incorporated this into their practice.

13. Other Business

Joni reviewed the various Committees and open board positions, then requested anyone who might be interested in joining a committee or running for a board position to contact staff.

Jon then thanked the 2020-21 sponsors noting it was a difficult year for everyone. She reminded those in attendance that we are always open to sponsorships and encouraged them to support their organization and their profession.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Josh at 5:11 p.m.

Second by Shaida

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Chat Comments:

- 00:50:35 Le'alani Boykin:
Thank you, Susan! I've been a part of APA for many years and never truly understood the structure of the association. I appreciate your explanation:)
- 00:59:52 Michelle / Bang the Table:
Hi Carl, I don't think so (re: closed to registrants), but there is a Chapter Pres. Council meeting tomorrow, so perhaps Joni can find out and report back.
- 01:16:16 Hadley Peterson:
Love the Story Bank goal.
- 01:16:47 Le'alani Boykin:
Agreed Hadley - exciting stuff!
- 01:22:24 Susan Wood:
I am glad you are on the call and participate with APA CO. I still appreciate the notes you took and shared from the Legislative Committee meetings last year.
- 01:37:34 Le'alani Boykin:
Online karaoke - YES!!
- 01:42:04 Wade Broadhead:
Virtual game/party game night...planning-ish themed
- 01:53:36 Max Morgan:
<https://architectureandplanning.ucdenver.edu/architecture/about/news/news-item/college-of-architecture-and-planning-news/cap-professor-awarded-presidential-initiative-grant>

- 02:12:14 Renae Stavros:
Sorry, I can't get the audio to work. Thank you, Sheila! Please spread the word, we still need a few more committee members.
- 02:16:53 Bradyn Nicholson:
Healthy Community Committee - healthy@apacolorado.org
- 02:24:23 Shelia Booth:
To join great places: GreatPlaces@apacolorado.org
- 02:30:35 Le'alani Boykin:
Congratulations to the new AICP planners!
- 02:34:45 Shaída Libhart:
Here Here! Cheers to thee :)
- 02:41:34 Erin Fosdick:
Thanks everyone!
- 02:41:36 Le'alani Boykin:
This has been great - thank you!
- 02:41:48 Katelynn Wintz:
Thanks everyone!

Guest Attendees:

Emily Hoopes
 Jason Longsdorf
 Morgan Hester
 Lia Yakumithis
 Lesli Ellis
 Carlos Hernandez
 Michael Tylka
 Kim Bodine
 Kelly First
 TODD JOHNSON
 Julie Ann Woods
 Tareq Wafaie
 Narciso Lansdown
 Mark Nemger
 Renae Stavros
 Rex Poggenpohl
 Jade Krueger
 Amy Carr
 Kathleen Bracke
 Matthew Seubert
 Erica Dauer
 Daniel Krzyzanowski
 Brenn Anderson-
 Gregson
 Alison Eubanks
 Toby Stauffer
 Cynthia Martin
 Janell Flaig
 Timothy Gannon
 Stan Clauson, AICP
 Meggan Herington
 Chris Nazar
 Lauren Platman
 Libby Tart
 James Shockey
 Lindsay Schumacher

Rachel Shindman
Le'alani Boykin
Carl Schueler
Nicole Malo
Christie Cutter
Jay Renkens
Christy Wiseman
Jeremiah Bebo

APPROVED
MARCH 5,
2021