



American Planning Association
Texas Chapter | Midwest Section
Making Great Communities Happen

Minutes of the TX APA Midwest Section November 7, 2017 Continued November 20, 2017

- I. November 7 Meeting opened at 12:08 pm in the conference room at NCTCOG
November 20 continued meeting opened at 12:00 pm via conference call
Present: Tamara Cook, Director
Abra Nusser, Director Elect
Jeff Whitacre, Immediate Past Director
Travis Liska, Treasurer
Jenifer Reiner, Secretary
Eleana Tuley, Communications Coordinator
Jenny Crosby, PDO - Professional Development Officer
Danielle Stellrecht, EPL Representative
- II. Approval of Minutes: September 19, 2017 – Motion for approval by Jeff Whitacre. Second by Jenny Crosby. Unanimously approved.
- III. Recap Past Events: 2018 State Conference: Brief discussion of attendance at the annual conference in Frisco and future conference locations. Information provided by Director.
- IV. Upcoming Events:
 - A. Awards Banquet in January:
 - i. Date set for January 31.
 - ii. EPL Representative volunteer to coordinate event planning with Director. Danielle provided an update about food/caterer, coordination with speaker, and location given during November 20 conference call.
 - iii. New venue idea – Wild Acre Brewing Company in Fort Worth.
 - iv. Ethics CMs will be provided to members with a seminar conducted by Carol Barrett.
 - v. Director asked for volunteers to manage the Awards and Scholarship nominations/applications.
 - Treasurer volunteered to lead the Awards application and review process. Travis provided an update on the process on the November 20 conference call.

- Secretary volunteered to lead the Scholarship application and review process. Jeff provided the last application form and information from the previous year via email. Jenifer provided an update on the November 20 conference call.
 - Each will coordinate with the Communications Coordinator to include information in the December newsletter and on MW Section Facebook page.
- B. Putt Putt for Planning: General discussion about location and time for event next year.
- C. Big 6 Conference: Director reported that the Midwest Section is considering teaming with the North Central Section to assist with this conference. Several conference calls are scheduled to discuss location, dates, and other logistics. Further information will be provided at next Board meeting. On the November 20 conference call, Tamara briefed the Board on the calls that have been occurring related to planning for the next Big 6 event. Kelly Porter is aiming to have this event in February or March of 2018. The Theme of the event is Access to Opportunity.
- D. Timeline of Activities: Director plans to create a calendar to help the Board plan new and continue annual activities.
 - i. Professional Development: Continue to provide CM opportunities to members throughout the year.
 - ii. UTA SPA Coordination: Director encouraged membership support of UTA re-accreditation process as well as continued increased coordination between the Midwest Section and the Student Association.
 - iii. Service Project (May): Director asked for service project ideas in addition to participating in the annual Trash Bash again this year.
 - iv. Lunch and Learn series: Board discussed a series about Disaster Response for professional development.
- V. Great Places Outreach: Director provided the Board with the application for the Great Places. The Board talked about outreach to several communities and location about the Great Places award and deadline. Tamara offered to reach out to some of the cities to make them aware. Places to nominate within the Midwest Section were discussed.
- VI. EPL Activities: Director introduced Danielle Stellrecht, new EPL Representative. Activity ideas were presented.
- VII. Upcoming Conferences: The Director provided the following information and encouraged attendance at both the 2018 State Conference in Galveston/Houston and to assist the State Chapter with preparation for the 2019 National Conferences in Houston. Also, the Director stated that Section events should be coordinated with State and National conferences.

YEAR	NATIONAL	STATE
2018	New Orleans	Galveston; Oct. 17-19
2019	San Francisco	Waco
2020	Houston	TBD

VIII. Communications

- A. Posting to TX APA Website: Both Director and Director Elect requested that the Communications Coordinator and the Secretary post events and minutes on a regular basis. There was general discussion about the Update Big 6 Conference: coordinate with North Central Section; still working to find venue and cost; probably September or later.
- B. Facebook Administrators: In addition, to the Communications Coordinator, the Director, the State Director, and the Secretary will have permission to the Section Facebook page.
- C. Social Media Discussion: General discussion about providing current State Chapter and Section information in the Newsletter and on Facebook and LinkedIn.

IX. Reports and Updates by Board Officers:

- A. Director: Tamara Cook - Director introduced and congratulated each Board member as this meeting is the first of the 2017/19 term.
- B. Director Elect: Abra Nusser
- C. Treasurer: Travis Liska
- D. Secretary: Jenifer Reiner
- E. Communications Coordinator: Eleana Tuley – updated Board that the newsletter will continue to go out on the 1st and 15th of each month; will highlight the planning scholarship and awards applications in December newsletters; will provide a Save the Date announcement in the next newsletter; will coordinate with Abra to gain access to State website. The group also talked about using the Facebook page to post things too and the DFW Urban Planning and Architecture Events Calendar run by Rik Adamski.
- F. EPL/Emerging Planning Leaders: Danielle Stellrecht – no update from the State Chapter regarding EPL activities.
- G. PDO/Professional Development Officer: Jenny Crosby
- H. Programs Chair (volunteer) – Vacant
- I. UTA SPA President: Dhawal Kataria
- J. Immediate Past Director: Jeff Whitacre

- X. November 7 meeting ended at approximately 1:30 pm; continued on November 20 at 12:00 pm, and adjourned at approximately 1:35 pm.