



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

## **Minutes of the TX APA Midwest Section**

**November 30, 2018**

**12:00 p.m.**

Meeting opened at 12:00 pm via conference call.

Present: Tamara Cook, Director  
Abra Nusser, Director Elect  
Jenifer Reiner, Secretary  
Travis Liska, Treasurer  
Danielle Stellrecht, EPL Emerging Planning Leaders Representative  
Eleana Tuley, Communications Coordinator  
Kelsey Poole, UTA SPA Representative

I. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Communications Coordinator, Eleana Tuley, to approve October 24, 2018 minutes. Second by Abra Nusser, Director Elect. Unanimously approved.

II. Director Updates:

- A. Bylaws Update– Information included in latest Section Newsletter. Director will check in with State Chapter in late December for update.
- B. Future Cities Competition – Director updated regarding Section donation to the organization/competition and thanked the Board. Kelsey Poole, UTA SPA Representative reported that SPA will also provide several volunteers.
- C. Board Appreciation Dinner this Saturday, December 1.
- D. NCTAPA Jingle and Mingle – Holiday party on December 13 at El Fenix in Dallas at 6 pm. Communications Coordinator will include in newsletter and share on LinkedIn.

III. Past Events: Quick recap of each of the following events.

- A. State Conference – October 17-19: Director thanked Director Elect for all her work prior to and during the conference. Several Board members attended.
- B. Mentorship Mash-Up – October 25: EPL Representative reported that the event met at Texas LIVE. Several Board members attended and enjoyed the venue.
- C. ASLA/APA Joint Networking Event – November 14: Director and Treasurer attended the event and reported that approximately 10 people attended and added that it was a great way to meet ASLA professionals. There will be probably future events with the Midwest Section and other local professional organizations.

#### IV. Future Events:

##### A. Awards and Membership Meeting

1. Recap by Director for Midwest Section meeting in 2019 separate from FNT.
2. Discussion to postpone annual awards event until after FNT.
3. Director Elect informed the Board about the State Chapter calendar for State awards – opens in May, closes end of July; recommended late March early April timeframe (week of March 25).
4. Director Elect proposed to combine awards and scholarship events in the last week of March. Board generally agreed.
5. Director requested help with new venue which will accommodate the combined event. One idea is to hold at the [Texas Star](#) golf course in Euless. Director also asked for suggestions for other activities/venue ideas, like skeet shooting or bowling. Provide ideas as soon as possible. In the meantime, Director will tentatively book the Bowling Museum.

##### B. Future City Competition

1. January 26, 2019
2. General discussion about Midwest Section booth.
3. Requested Board forward names of individuals and/or firms that will volunteer and sponsor.

##### C. Focus North Texas:

1. February 8, 2019
2. Irving Convention Center, Co-sponsored with North Central Section
3. Director-Elect updated the Board regarding the current status of event planning; requested Communications Coordinator provide focused campaign to promote registration and reported push for preliminary registration. Board discussed alternative target methods of advertising/media. <https://www.focusnorthtexas.com/>

##### D. Site Tours in 2019 (after FNT19):

1. Director presented event(s) ideas for next year and stated that she wants to provide as many professional credits as possible. Ideas include:
  - a. Storage Container Office Park in Fort Worth
  - b. Great Places in America – West Magnolia Avenue
  - c. Burleson, Weatherford, Denton, etc.
2. Forward additional ideas to Director.

V. Officer Reports

- A. Director – No additional report.
- B. Director-Elect – No additional report.
- C. Treasurer – Current account balance of \$6,105.67.
- D. EPL – No additional report.
- E. Secretary – No additional report.
- F. Communications Coordinator – No additional report.
- G. SPA Representative – The Association and students intend to hold and/or participate in the following events during Spring 2019:
  - January 26, 2019 - SPA students will volunteer at the Future Cities Competition.
  - February 20, 2019, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 pm - SPA is participating in the CAPPa career fair. We have invited planning firms and planning who work with cities to participate. There is a \$50 registration fee. Please contact Kelsey if your firm is interested in attending/participating.



- TBD Date - SPA Career Panel - The SPA is planning a panel to discuss career paths in the planning field. Looking for professionals in the non-profit and private sector to volunteer.
- TBD Date - SPA Volunteer Event - looking to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity or Bonton Farms. Would like to invite the APA MW to volunteer with us.

VI. Next Board Meeting: January 2019

VII. Adjourned at 1:02 pm.