

Legislative Committee Meeting Notes

October 9, 2009

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Cunningham Group offices

Present: Bob Patton, Suzanne Rhees, Michael Noonan, Matt Brown, Andrew Mack by phone, John Shepard (in person!), Phillip Schaffner (MnDOT), Casey MacCallum (formerly with City of Jordan), Andy Gitzlaff, Karen Berkholtz.

Meeting began at 2:00 pm

1. Approved agenda

2. **Reviewed minutes** from annual retreat – note that we haven't yet finalized work program. Minutes approved.
3. **2010 Work Plan and Budget** – Review of 2008 work plan
 - Add Item #6 – create a presence at the Legislature for the chapter and planning in general
 - Discussion of MnAPA Board's concern with Chapter lobbying. Noted difference between "lobbying" and creating a presence (already part of "Tier II" of work program)
 - Item #5 – add "build coalitions" with allied organizations – Andrew noted that we've had limited success in this area, with some membership from AMC, MCPZA – but have been approached by 3-4 other organizations to support some of their initiatives. For example, the USGBC chapter is interested in possible collaboration. Need to discuss how best to collaborate.
 - Bob to circulate wording of work plan for comments
4. **Review of Budget** – Questions about "Legislature Education Awareness" – could involve a flyer, etc. The Education Coordinator position would increase – more time per month, based on Alex's input
 - Shouldn't phone equipment be part of the MnAPA Board expense? – Brad will look into it.
 - John Shepard – reliable phone connections are key for his participation
5. **Discussion of Platforms** and survey results
Andrew: Thanks to Bob for putting this together!
Platform development process includes Board discussion and final approval by November or December
 - Should platforms be ranked by importance or generality – least important ones at end
 - What's final format of platforms? Should be graphically appealing piece.
 - Delete "action timeline" when circulating platform for public consumption

Discussion of additional policy statements A through F

- Discard additional policy statements A and B
- Statement C – integrate into Platform #1 and #3
- Break platform statements into a hierarchy – broad statements followed by more specific bullet points – stay with broad policies where specifics are too controversial
- Statement D – Integrated Transportation System – integrate into High Speed Rail statement –
 - don't miss opportunity to advocate for HSR however – even if not statewide –
 - Andy will revise platform statement. Phil – important to broaden to multi-modal, integrated system.
 - Don't favor High-Speed Rail over other modes – or continue to plan and explore?

- Karen B. - Integrated transportation system– not enough to integrate – modes need to be connected
- Statement E – Complete Streets – part of transportation package? AG – timely, should sign on as part of coalition-building – Integrate but also highlight.
- Statement F – Climate change – VMT – white paper issue or set aside? Integrate into rationale for other planks

Discussion of Platform Statements 1-7.

- Create short bulleted statements for legislative audience; paragraphs for membership – see Brad’s outline
- Comprehensive Planning Position Statement – MACPZA platform would delink planning & zoning! Comp Planning is not necessarily growth management – consider adding growth management
- Economic development – IEDC defines economic development as generation of new tax base and permanent jobs. Karen will redraft policy
- Housing – encourage life cycle housing and aging in place – sustainable devel – needs more focus – Karin to revise
- Land Use – integrate into other policy statements.
- Intergovernmental Cooperation – Suzanne to incorporate session notes – cooperation and better definition of roles.

Next steps – Complete platform revisions done in next 2 weeks for presentation to Board in November. “Annotated” draft statements to Board by Thursday 10/15

6. Other business

- State Rail Plan hearings coming up – is it possible for MnAPA to offer testimony – no, too soon for Board to act.
- Next meeting – possibly November 6th – need location

Adjourned: 4:15 pm