



## APA California Northern Minutes of the May 6, 2010 Board Meeting

Meeting Location: - PMC, Oakland, CA

*Board meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.*

### 1. Introductions/Welcome

Roll call:

x	Avis, S.	x	Eastwood, R.	x	Lucas, Kim	x	Ouse, A.		Wenter, B.
x	Baker, J.	x	Galambos-Malloy, C.	x	MacDonald, P.	x	Paniagua, R.	x	Whitty, E.
	Blumer, M.	x	Hom, H.	x	Meek, J.	x	Ratcliffe, C.	x	Wong, H.
	Bradley, D.	x	Irvin, K.		Mendoza, E.		Serrano, D.		Young, H.
x	Borrelli, J.		Jensen, J.		Meunier, C.	x	Sheyner, T.		
x	Bose, S.		K.-Lynch, M.		Miyasaki, L.		Tai, A.		
	Caraker, E.		Knox, N.		Miyasato, M.	x	Teng, C.		
x	Desai, M.	x	Kremin, D.	x	Moorhead, B.	x	Wardani, J.		

Board Candidates: Lindsey Virdeh

Guests: Joshua Hohn, AICP, CH2M Hill

### 2. March Meeting Minutes Review and Approval (Administrative Director)

**Action Item:** *Katja Irvin will send minor edits to Allen Tai.*

*Motion by Hanson Hom to approve the March 3, 2010 meeting minutes, seconded by Juan Borrelli, approved with Miroo Desai abstaining.*

### 3. Update on APA California Budget Discussions (Director)

Darcy Kremin summarized the Chapter Budget Committee meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Chapter's budget issues. In making decisions about budget cuts, the Budget Committee referenced results from a recent budget survey that was sent out to the membership. The survey results show members are generally opposed to raising dues. Darcy also noted that the survey also indicated many members have little knowledge about the current budget situation and how money is being spent by the organization. As a result, Darcy's upcoming Director Report will provide information about the 2010 budget, including how money is spent on administration, membership services, events and professional development, and supporting student events.

The Budget Committee made various short and long term recommendations to address the shortfall. The shortfall includes decreased revenues from the National Subvention funds and decline in memberships. Revenues are \$111,000 below 2009's actual numbers at this time and membership is down to 5,200 -- the lowest in many years.

The Chapter did make \$170,000 in cuts over the last two years, but needs short-term and long-term strategies and operating changes at both the Chapter and Section levels. The short-term action items include:

1. Forgo subventions for one year	\$60,000
2. Forgo Chapter-only Section Rebate for one year	\$3,000
3. Reduce Contracts by 5% for S/G, GranDesigns and In-Site Logic	\$17,810
4. Reduce VP budgets by 5%	\$2,734
5. Eliminate CSU Northridge Conference Grant	\$1,500
6. Use Reserves to cover any additional shortfall – up to:	\$65,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET CUTS RECOMMENDED</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>

The Executive Board also discussed the need for long-term financial policies at both the Chapter and Section levels. An important component of the policy is a standard for keeping healthy reserves. Local sections typically have reserves that last approximately eight years, because every eight years or so a Section would receive a healthy sum from hosting the State conference. However, moving forward with a limited number of Sections hosting conferences (it was deemed impractical to host State conferences in smaller, more remote Sections where facilities do not accommodate large conferences) new policies will be needed to decide how money from conferences can be equitably distributed among the eight CA Chapter sections. The Northern Section is expected to host the next State conference in 2015.

The Board discussed developing financial policies to ensure that it has at least one year's reserve equal to the operating budget. The Board also discussed possible timelines where the Chapter may release a financial policy template that other Sections could follow.

*Jeff Baker and Hing Wong volunteered to prepare a first draft of the Financial Policy.*

**Action Item:** *Jeff Baker and Hing Wong to prepare a first draft of the Financial Policy.*

#### **4. Bylaws Revisions (All)**

Darcy summarized the revisions to the Section bylaws. The current bylaws was last revised in 2006, and many changes to the Board positions and functions since 2006 have now been incorporated in the updated bylaws. The Administrative Director has been delegated substantially more responsibilities as a result of eliminating the Communications Director

position. Other revisions include adding the CPF Liaison and Young Planner Group Representative positions. Darcy summarized other minor revisions to the bylaws.

*Motion by Hing Wong to adopt the revised bylaws, seconded by Rob Eastwood, approved unanimously.*

**Action Item:** *Darcy to provide adopted bylaws to Webmasters for web posting.*

## 5. Awards Update

Eileen Whitty provided an update of the Awards Banquet registration numbers. To-date, there are 67 registered attendees out of approximately 100 attendees anticipated. It was noted that a greater number of registrations are expected during the final days before the event.

Regarding the award winners, Andrea Ouse noted there were 12 award winners and three awards of merit out of 20 applications received. The winning entries are high quality projects, and many are expected to compete for the Chapter awards. The Board will also be honoring Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore who recently achieved Fellow AICP recognition. The Board discussed a special recognition for a planner attending the ceremony from India.

## 6. Board Appointments - Young Planner's Group (YPG) Candidates: Lindsey Virdeh and Natalie De Leon

Lindsey Virdeh introduced herself and Natalie DeLeon, who was not able to attend, and described recent and upcoming events organized by the YPG.

*Motion to appoint Lindsey Virdeh and Natalie DeLeon as Young Planner's Group Representatives, seconded by Eileen Whitty, approved unanimously.*

## 7. Northern Section 2010 Goals

**Hanson Hom, Director Elect:** Hanson thanked board members for submitting thorough board reports. Hanson also described his experience at the APA National Conference in New Orleans. He participated in a legislative assembly at the conference to see how APA National establishes its position for lobbying in Washington, D.C.

**Rob Eastwood, International Director:** Rob summarized a recent event at UC Berkeley involving a prominent Indian architect/planner. Rob also noted that there were five applications received for the International Internship program in India. Of the five total applications, three candidates were deemed qualified and two finalists were selected for the program. Rob also noted that Alice Daly, a planner who participated in the India Tour will be writing an article in the next issue of Cal Planner.

**Brenna Moorhead, Membership Director:** The Board acknowledged Brenna's excellent work with the semi-monthly eNews blasts. Brenna thanked Naphtali Knox and Allen Tai for their assistance.

**Hing Wong, CPF Liaison:** Hing noted that the CPF Walking Tour in Santa Monica was cancelled due to low turnout, but the tour in San Jose was very successful. Hing also expressed his appreciation for the Board's strong support of his candidacy for Chapter President. While Hing did not win in the election, he is expected to be appointed as the Membership Inclusion Director on the Chapter Board. The Chapter Board will issue an official announcement of Hing's appointment. The Board congratulated Hing on his new role; he will remain on the Northern Section Board as CPF Liaison.

**Connie Galambos-Malloy and Miroo Desai, Planning Diversity Director/Associate Director:** Connie is looking forward to support Hing as the Membership Inclusion Director by organizing a diversity summit in September. The diversity summit will likely be a three-hour Saturday morning event, but details are currently still being decided.

Miroo noted that the high school ambassador program that she has been organizing is beginning to take shape. The first event, called "Conversations with Professionals," is scheduled to during the last week of May. The event will involve several planners talking to students at Emery High School about the planning profession. Miroo also identified challenges in finding schools and volunteers willing to participate in the ambassador program.

**Justin Meek, SJSU Student Representative:** Justin announced that he will be graduating at the end of the Spring semester. The Board asked Justin to recommend a replacement as SJSU Student Representative prior to the Fall semester.

**Kim Lucas, UC Berkeley Student Representative:** Kim gave an overview about a speaker event at UC Berkeley later in May. Kim will send details of the event to Allen.

**Action Item:** *Kim Lucas to send details of UC Berkeley event to Allen Tai.*

**Tania Sheyner and Christina Ratcliffe, Professional Development Directors:** Christina gave a brief description about a possible workshop involving career counselors providing guidance to planning professionals in transition. In addition, there is a networking event at the Triple Rock Brewery on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Berkeley. Regarding passing of the CM credit deadline, Christina indicated that there are a number of AICP members who had missed the deadline for obtaining the required number of CM credits. Tanya noted that the Section website has been updated to include information about AICP reinstatement and other resources for members who had missed the deadline.

Tanya also discussed a sponsorship request for CM credits for one event within a four-day conference, and the Board decided to request additional information and prior to sending the sponsorship request for a Board vote. The Board also discussed the timeline for obtaining APA approval of CM credits for events, and it was noted that the average approval time is three weeks.

**Caroline Teng, Newsletter Associate Editor:** Caroline gave preview of what's upcoming in the future issues of Northern News. On how to feature Award winners in the newsletter, the Board confirmed that the Awards profile section of the Northern News should follow the same format as previous years. It was noted that the Awards profiles will be spread out over several issues

of Northern News. The Board also discussed doing a feature for RACs and upcoming RAC events in the newsletter.

**Pierce MacDonald/Raquel Paniagua, Co-Webmasters:** Pierce noted that the Unify tool for the website is up and running. This feature would allow making real-time updates to the online web calendar. The webmasters are also working on updating the website to include the latest budget update, bylaws, etc. Raquel is also working on consolidating links to Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. The Board discussed the advantages of using Facebook to announce events, track RSVPs, and remind or notify members of new events. The Board discussed having icon links to the Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter in every eNews issue.

**Action Item:** *Webmasters to work with Brenna to incorporate social networking icons in eNews blasts.*

**Katja Irvin, South Bay RAC Chair:** Katja noted that an event co-sponsored by HMMH, called "Living with LIDs" had approximately 50 individuals pre-registered. Katja noted that when given the choice to RSVP on Facebook or email, 90% of people registered via email. Katja indicated that the turnout was approximately 60 people, and that the event was very successful. Katja also noted that many attendees were there to earn CM credits. She was delighted that the event was successful despite being held during the workday.

**Stephen Avis, Redwood Coast RAC Chair:** Stephen discussed his involvement in promoting a webinar on walkable communities. The webinar is free and Stephen will work with Tania to obtain approval for CM credits. Stephen also noted that he has organized a team of interested planners to assist him in organizing events such as brown bag lunches and coordinating with other groups to organize networking events. Stephen noted that people are enthusiastic and willing to engage in organizing more events in the Redwood Coast area. Juan Borrelli reminded Stephen to take photos of the events so they can be featured in Northern News.

**Surachita Bose, Peninsula RAC Chair:** Surachita will work with the webmasters to further promote Board events via Facebook.

**Jane Wardani, East Bay RAC Co-Chair:** Jane summarized the Sustainable Planning and Neighborhood Resiliency recently held at Merritt College. She noted that the event was successful. Jane enjoyed seeing the collaboration between public agencies, non-profits, and students in a discussion of global climate change issues. The Board provided a \$100 sponsorship to cover food costs. Darcy summarized a joint APA-AEP event in Concord hosted by Entrix.

Guest Joshua Hohn from CH2M Hill inquired about possible board events that relate to sustainability topics such as renewable energy. Joshua wondered if the Board has had any events related to energy or sustainability topics. The Board described various events held in the past relating to these issues and the opportunities to organize even more discussions on topics that would benefit the membership.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at AECOM, San Francisco

**Summary of Action Items:**

- *Katja Irvin will send minor edits to Allen Tai*
- *Jeff Baker and Hing Wong to prepare a first draft of the Financial Policy*
- *Darcy to provide adopted bylaws to Webmasters for web posting*
- *Kim Lucas to send details of UC Berkeley event to Allen Tai*
- *Webmasters to work with Brenna to incorporate social networking icons in eNews blasts*
- *Surachita to work with Webmasters to consolidate social networking sites on website*

**Budget Changes:** None



**American Planning Association  
California Chapter Northern Section  
Board Reports – May 6, 2010**

**DIRECTOR: Darcy Kremin, AICP**

- I created the Executive Committee with 10 members. We had two conference calls, and we worked on streamlining the board meetings.
- I updated the bylaws, which should be approved at the board meeting.
- I helped organize and hosted the East Bay RAC event “Sustainability and Historic Preservation.”
- I attended the APA California budget discussion meeting in Sacramento on Saturday, April 24.
- And I’ve been busy coordinating various subgroups, including awards.

**DIRECTOR ELECT: Hanson Hom, AICP**

- Participated in ongoing conference calls of the AICP Membership Committee to review appeals for reinstatement of lapsed AICP memberships. The committee also formulated a policy recommendation to the AICP Commission regarding CM requirements for semi-retired “life” members. Recommendation is that such members shall only be required to log 8 units of CM credits during the two-year reporting period (instead of 32 for all regular members.)
- Attended the APA Conference in New Orleans and participated in the annual Legislative Assembly as a member of the 16-member California delegation. The Assembly consisted of over 200 planners representing almost all of the state chapters. The agenda was to review, amend and adopt the APA national policy on surface transportation. The policy balances a number of transportation priorities including, but not limited to:
  - Emphasizing funding for multi-modal transportation projects that support sustainable land use development and public health;
  - Promoting expenditures to improve and maintain urban infrastructure while acknowledging the transportation needs of rural communities;
  - Funding transit improvement and expansion projects in urbanized areas;
  - Supporting inter-regional transportation projects such as high-speed rail;
  - De-emphasizing parking standards or setting parking maximums in transit-rich areas; and
  - Promoting environmentally responsive transportation programs and practices that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air and water quality.

The adopted policy will be posted on the APA website.

- Organized a well-attended session on design review at the League of California Cities 2010 Planners Institute in which **Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Planning Commissioner Director**, was also a panelist.
- Assisted in assembling the jury for the APA California Northern Planning Awards.
- Participated in meetings of the Executive Committee.

#### **IMMEDIATE PAST DIRECTOR: Juan Borrelli, AICP**

- I assisted with juror facilitation for the 2010 awards submittal deliberations and have continued to assist the Awards Program Co-Chairs with the upcoming 2010 Awards Program and gala event.
- I have continued to assist (ongoing) with Section and RAC event outreach to planners/members in the South Bay to help increase attendance at these events and to encourage members to earn their CM Credits.
- I have continued (ongoing) to update the APA California Calendar of Events webpage with Northern Section events and deadlines.
- I have continued (ongoing) to update the Northern Section's webpage on the APA California Chapter website.
- I have continued to assist (ongoing) the State Professional Development Director with the development of a planning ethics-related session for the 2010 APA Conference that will be held this fall in Carlsbad, CA.
- I have continued to provide assistance to the Section Director on various other section-related issues.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR: Allen Tai, AICP**

Attended two YPG events: YPG mixer in Oakland on March 11<sup>th</sup> and the "Planning Jobs without Planning Titles" event on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Both events were pretty successful.

Will be working with Andrea Ouse to prepare the PowerPoint slides for the Awards Ceremony. Coordination with other board members and Brenna on eNews items have been working okay. A lot of time is spent working with others to understand the details of events and writing/modifying event blurbs for the calendar.

Our webmasters do great work and they are very responsive to our needs. I see an opportunity to further improve calendar coordination by using the website calendar as the central location for the events listing instead of the Google calendar. It would also make sense to allow me to make real time updates to the web calendar as events are sent to me. However, this would require that I have access to update the calendar portion of the website. If this were to happen, I would also request access to

the Agendas and Minutes webpage in order to upload agendas and minutes directly to the website. This would save time and the need to do extra work by our webmasters.

### **TREASURER: Jeff Baker**

I am going to do a midyear budget update at the Board Meeting in July and will provide a year to date spread sheet at that time.

As far as my report for this month, we are current on all expenses, I have submitted the financial reports for the first quarter, and I am exploring alternatives to PayPal.

### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES & PROGRAMS**

#### **Awards Program Directors: Andrea Ouse, AICP and Eileen Whitty, AICP**

The Awards Directors held the Awards Jury Deliberations on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Oakland MTC Building in the ABAG offices, hosted by Hing Wong. From the 20 applications, 12 Regular Awards were selected as well as 3 Awards of Merit (so 5 applications were non-winners). The 6 Jurors and their Moderator worked extremely well together.

Letters of congratulations were sent out April 27<sup>th</sup> to the Nominators of the award recipients.

Arrangements for the Gala at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel are proceeding with on-site event volunteers organized by Emy Mendoza, photography by Ladd Miyasaki, and program design by Hing Wong. Allen Tai has agreed to prepare the Power Point presentation with Co-Director Ouse, and Juan Borrelli has graciously agreed to frame the certificates.

More details will be discussed at the Board Meeting on 5/6/10. We are seeking to increase Board attendance at the gala this year.

### **PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT & EDUCATION**

#### **Compiled by: AICP Director, Don Bradley, AICP**

Our retreat in Benicia this past January clarified some issues and established goals for the professional development efforts, planning ethics training, certification maintenance processes, and AICP studies for APA members seeking credentialing.

The CM process has taken a long while to become operational and has met with organizational and individual problems since the requirement was set in place. There has been some loss of both APA and AICP members nationally, statewide, and within our own local section. This was to be expected when implementing the mandatory requirement for continuing educational units instead of the voluntary method established over many years. The national and global economy has also contributed to the loss of former members and perhaps in recruiting new ones. There is a positive aspect to this that planners may well see this as a good chance to acquire the designation and that the organization is now serious about planners continuing to keep up their skills.

**Professional Development Directors, Christina Ratcliffe, AICP and Tania Sheyner, AICP**, are continuing to contact those AICP members who have not either taken the CM hours or just

not logged them into the system yet. The deadline established was extended but is now over. While this is a problem it will seem that it may be resolved over time.

**Ethics Review Director, Colette Meunier, AICP**, continues to give ethics training at the section and state level coordinating with Hanson Hom. This has taken on a more structured format since there is a required segment for hours in both ethics and planning and zoning law for CM.

**Legislative Director, Bryan Wenter, AICP**, is our resource for this as he assists in the portion of the AICP exam prep work shops currently being given to candidates for the exam. Colette and Christina also provide sessions for these. Other guest speakers have kept this program a northern California tradition. This season we have a planner from Los Angeles City Planning Department and another from Incline Village attending along with the local region participants. Alan Tai has suggested that we consider being involved in the new Transportation and Environmental Planning Specialist Certifications now being formed by the AICP for the near future. Some see this as another effort of the national to create income by charging for another testing process and hoping to help solve the economic difficulties of the APA at least on the national level. The PDOs and AICP Director keep in contact with Carol Barrett, the APACA VP for PD by a monthly conference call as well as the annual APACA statewide conferences where I recruit new AICP exam candidates.

## **OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT**

### **California Planning Foundation** **CPF LIAISON: Hing Wong, AICP**

The California Planning Foundation hosted its fourth annual sustainability walking tour on April 30 in San Jose. The tour showcased successful sustainability initiatives. The City of San Jose's award-winning "Green Vision" included an excursion through its thriving urban center: City Hall and Civic Center, theater arts and entertainment district, and the historic Diridon Station.

CPF is scheduling scholarship interviews on May 8 (Southern California) and May 15 (Northern California) for the academic year 2010-11. Surprisingly, there was a much lower number of applicants this year and no one (on the CPF Board or from the various schools) is able to explain the drop in applications, especially since the cost of tuition continues to rise. Nevertheless, CPF plans to award a wide range of scholarships to planning students throughout the state.

### **Planning Diversity** **Director: Connie Galambos Malloy** **Associate Director: Miroo Desai, AICP**

The Ambassador program is starting to take shape with the first event to be held during the last week of May. The plan is to have 4-5 professional planners come and talk to students at Emery High School and participate in a program called "Conversations with Professionals". Each planner will sit around a table and informally talk with students about their planning careers. The format is designed to promote free conversations rather than a top-down lecture-style. Attempts are currently being made to set up something similar with a couple of schools in Oakland and Redwood City before the end of this academic year, and to work with each of the RAC directors to plan for one Ambassador launch in each area of our Section during the Fall 2010 school season.

**Student Representatives**

**San Jose State University: Justin Meek**  
**UC Berkeley: Kim Lucas**

**University Liaison**

**Emy Mendoza**

San Jose State University's Urban Planning Coalition (UPC) has successfully wrapped up its Speaker Series for the Spring academic semester. Over the past three months, the UPC put on six events that attracted over 500 people, five of which had CM credits. To recap, the presentations were:

- The Business of Affordable Housing (Peter Vogel, ROEM Builders)
- The High Cost of Free Parking (Donald Shoup)
- Bus Rapid Transit: An Opportunity for SJSU & Silicon Valley (TransForm)
- The Legacy of 'Livable Streets' (Bruce Appleyard and Josh Hart)
- Demystifying Bay Area Brownfields (Ignacio Dayrit, Center for Creative Land Recycling)
- Implementing SB 375 at the Local Level (Laurel Prevetti, City of San Jose; Steve Ross, County of Santa Clara; Hing Wong, ABAG)

Please note that for anyone who missed SB 375 presentation, they can download the slides and watch a video recording of the session. Go to the UPC's website:

<http://sites.google.com/site/upcsjsuorg/calendar-of-events/speaker-series>

At present, there are no upcoming events. Looking ahead, the UPC will be holding an election to bring new blood into the organization. Many of the current members are graduating in May and will no longer be a part of the Board.

**PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATIONS**

***Complied by:* Raquel Paniagua, Co-Webmaster**

**Newsletter Editor, Naphtali Knox, FAICP**, recently ran some statistics on the issues of *Northern News*:

The past 14 issues of *Northern News* were reviewed for statistical characteristics.

Findings:

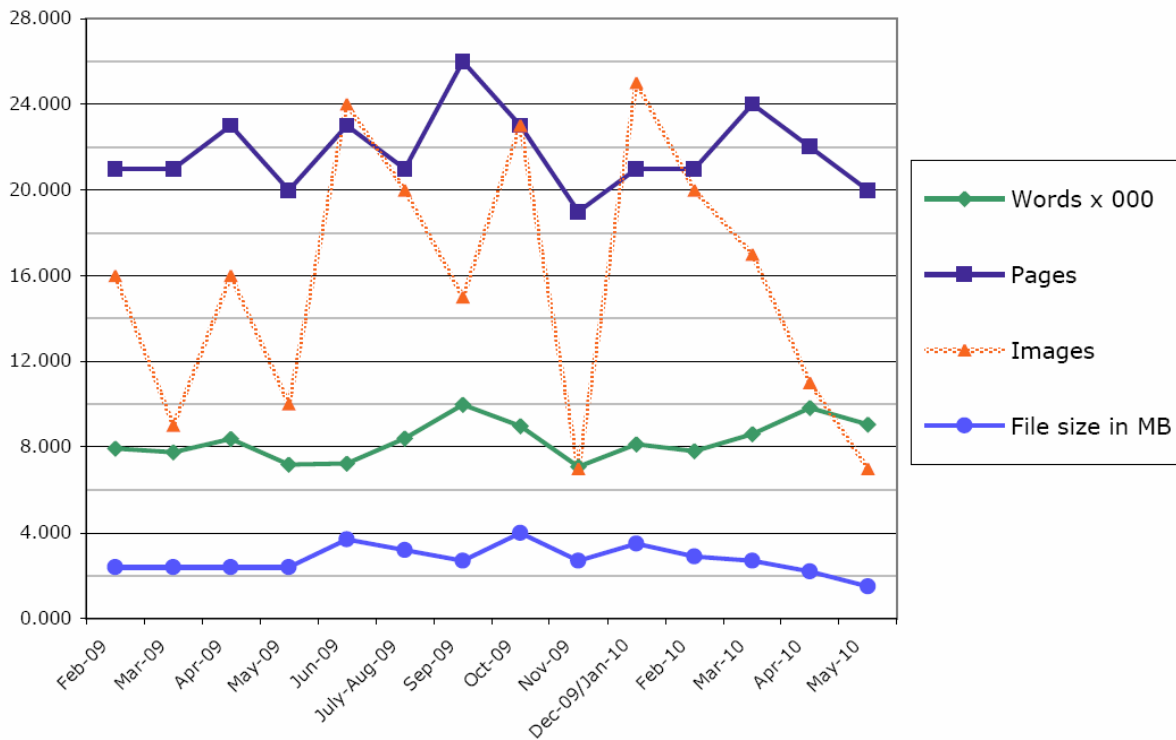
- In terms of word count, there is an uneven but very slight trend toward longer issues; however, the length has stayed in a range from 7,000 to 10,000 words.
- There's no trend to the number of pages; the range has generally been 20 to 23 pages.
- The number of images per issue varies significantly because the subject matter varies, but falls within a range of 7 to 25 images per issue. The number of images is greatest when special events are covered.
- File size remains in a narrow range of 2 to 4 MB.

These ranges can serve as guidance or targets for future issues.

NORTHERN NEWS STATISTICS  
Text, Pages, Images, File Size

DATE	TEXT length in words	Number of pages	Number of images	File size in MB	Notes re Images
Feb-09	7,941	21	16	2.4	Holiday party photos
Mar-09	7,750	21	9	2.4	
Apr-09	8,397	23	16	2.4	
May-09	7,183	20	10	2.4	
Jun-09	7,244	23	24	3.7	Where in world = 8
July-Aug-09	8,421	21	20	3.2	Award winner profiles
Sep-09	<b>9,982</b>	<b>26</b>	15	2.7	Award winner profiles
Oct-09	8,973	23	23	4.0	Award winner profiles
Nov-09	<b>7,091</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	2.7	
Dec-09/Jan-10	8,125	21	<b>25</b>	3.5	India tour photos
Feb-10	7,800	21	20	2.9	Holiday party photos
Mar-10	8,615	24	17	2.7	
Apr-10	9,839	22	11	2.2	
May-10	9,064	20	<b>7</b>	1.5	
<b>Average</b>	<b>8,316</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2.8</b>	

Characteristics of 14 Issues  
NORTHERN NEWS



## **REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

### **East Bay: Joanna Jensen, AICP and Jane Wardani**

Jane represented the APA California Northern section at the "Connecting the Dots for Sustainable Planning and Neighborhood Resiliency" event that took place on Saturday, March 20th, 10-2 at the Oakland City Hall. The event was co-sponsored by APA California Northern, Merritt College Institute for Sustainable Policy Studies, and the City of Oakland Redevelopment Agency. Students in a neighborhood planning class at Merritt College built upon their research and design charrette work from earlier this year and presented their findings about the lived experiences of residents in the underserved East Oakland neighborhoods making up the Coliseum Redevelopment Area. The event sparked lively discussion amongst City of Oakland planners, capacity building nonprofits, and community leaders on the need to work together and connect resources, ideas, and agencies for neighborhood resilience and sustainability.

On April 20, APA co-hosted an event with the local AEP and AIA chapters entitled Sustainability and Historic Preservation. This was a panel discussion including:

Mark Huck, Restoration Architect, AIA, LEED AP, State Office of Historic Preservation, with 28 years of experience in historic preservation and adaptive reuse; Frederic Knapp, Historic Architect, Knapp Architects, with 23 years of experience in historic preservation, new construction, planning, analysis, and entitlements; and Leann Taagepera, CEQA and Preservation Planner, PMC, and City of Benicia Historic Preservation Review Commissioner. Ms. Taagepera has 20 years of experience in CEQA and specializes in projects affecting historic and cultural resources.

The event was held at Entrix offices in Concord, across the street from the Concord BART station. Darcy was instrumental in organizing the space and the food for the event. Many thanks to Darcy.

We had about 24 people attend from a variety of backgrounds - private CEQA consultants, private architects, and public sector planners and architects (City of SF, City of Oakland). The panel discussion was followed by a lively q-and-a from the audience. We have submitted the event for AICP credits and are awaiting confirmation.

### **Monterey Bay: Meryka Blumer and Elizabeth Caraker, AICP**

Held a successful happy hour with the local AEP chapter on March 8th. The next happy hour is scheduled for April 29th.

We would like to advertise a series of AMBAG workshops on water issues. I will be compiling descriptions of the events for the newsletter as well as submit for CM credits. The events include the following:

May 14, 2010: 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.  
Moss Landing Marine Labs Water Efficiency

June 24, 2010: 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

City of Watsonville Community Room Recycled Water  
Lunch & Recycled Water Facility Tour

October 1, 2010: 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

TBA Monterey Peninsula Water Project  
Lunch & DSAL Facility Tour

### North Bay: Ladd Miyasaki

- Continuing to spread the word about the Northern Section Planning Award Banquet on May 14.
- Have spoken to three north bay consultants, Pat Collins of Winzler & Kelly, Geoff Reilly of Chris Joseph & Assoc., and Doug Cover of ESA about sponsoring/getting a social/mixer in early summer.
- Have spoken to City of Sonoma Planning Administrator, David Goodison and Sonoma Ecology Center Director, Richard Dale about a green tour of Downtown Sonoma this summer.
- Have spoken to Napa County Planner, Ron Gee, about a post-national conference get-together and a water conservation workshop next month.
- Will contact Pete Parkinson of Sonoma County, Mike Moore of Mill Valley-Marin County and Mike Yankovich of Solano County next month.
- Need to recontact Mendocino and Lake County.
- CEQA Workshops available from AEP throughout the bay area, northbay, City of Cotati May 12.

### Peninsula: Surachita Bose, AICP

#### Events in Discussion

- *Climate Action Plans and GHG reduction at the local level:* A number of local jurisdictions in the Bay Area are going through the process of preparing Climate Action Plans as part of their General Plan update processes – the plan includes a GHG inventory, setting reduction targets and implementation strategies for reducing emissions. A panel discussion on the issue would be timely and informative and will include panelists from local government, consulting firms and non profits. Event will most likely be held in the Peninsula area in June; discussions with possible panelists are ongoing. Location TBD.
- *TOD walking tour of successful TOD projects in the Bay area:* The RAC's have had some preliminary discussions about this – the idea is to organize walking tours in different parts of the Bay Area to educate planners on how different communities have taken advantage of their proximity to public transit. Surachita and Katja have discussed organizing the event together – will update the Board as concrete decisions are made.
- *Periodic social mixers:* Trying to organize regular social mixers for local planners to network, socialize – these mixers will be held every month (or alternate month) at interesting local landmarks in the Bay Area (possible locations - comedy club, winery, historic buildings etc). In conversation with Fox theatre at Redwood City for first event.

The omnipresent/omniscient Facebook:

Some of you have asked about the Facebook page for APA California – Northern. Here are the details:

You should be able to access the page by clicking on the link below

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=117264532721>

If the above link does not work, try logging into your Facebook account and search for ‘**APA California – Northern**’ in the search box. The NorCal APA group should be the first search result. Clicking on the link will direct you to the group’s page. If you do not have a Facebook account, you should be able to see the ‘wall’ but will not be able to join the group.

*To join:*

If you already have a Facebook account, you could add yourself as a member (there’s a link on the left side of the page). It is an open group so anyone can join and invite others to join.

So far we have used the page to:

- create events, manage RSVP lists, send invitations for events
- provide announcements and updates on newsletter releases, events, conferences etc.
- message all group members, upload photos and other links

Administrative access is required for creating and managing events. I can manage events on your behalf OR I could provide administrative access to a few members of the Board so you can DIY (RAC's might find it particularly useful). So far Hanson, Katja and I have administrative access to the group.

**Redwood Coast: Stephen Avis, AICP***Planner’s Brown Bag Lunch Series for 2010 – 2011*

A Wednesday Noon-time Event: these monthly lunchtime talks are an opportunity to share time and gather some useful information with your peers (If the group approves, these may be scheduled every two weeks instead of once a month).

Dates and specific locations (in Arcata or Eureka) are to be announced.

- Supervisor Clif Clendenen gives us his perspective on Planning
- Rob Wall and Sara Mosser recap their trips to New Orleans for the APA conference
- The latest on the County General Plan update with Martha Spencer and Tom Hofweber
- Humboldt County’s Regional Trail Plan and the California Coastal Trail. Maps, photos, and update by Kevin Wright, Emily Sinkhorn, Colette Mertz and Tiffany Wilson
- The New Urbanism – Does it Make Sense in Humboldt County? Clay Johnson and Ben Luckens report
- The Balloon Track – What’s what these days? Security Pacific’s Randy Gans
- Public Health and Urban Planning – How Close a Connection? Ann Lindsay, MD, County Public Health Dir.

- The Gee-Whiz of GIS – How does it assist the Planning Process? Arcata, Eureka, and Humboldt County show off.
- Blueprint planning – Regional Bliss? HCAOG and Planwest Partners
- Planning for Sustainability in Humboldt County – Sara Mosser and (?)
- Grants – Are they worth pursuing on a shoestring? A roundtable with Winzler & Kelley, RCAA, and HAF
- Transit Options – Are We Spinning Our Wheels? Green Wheels and RTA

*A Planner's After Work Social Network*

The Wednesday no-host Happy Hour at 5:15 or so (Date for the first event is April 29. Others to be firmed up before publishing). These periodic get-togethers provide professional planners a chance to socialize, network, and relax in the company of peers.

April	Regional Microbreweries – North Coast Brewing Co. in Fort Bragg
May	Regional Microbreweries – Six Rivers Brewery in McKinleyville
May	Bayfront Restaurant (new) – in Eureka at the edge of Humboldt Bay
June	Regional Microbreweries – Mad River Brewing Company in Blue Lake
June	Robert Goodman Tasting Room (new) – in Arcata
July	Regional Microbreweries – Humboldt Brews in Arcata preceded by a tour of the Arcata Plaza's history
July	Regional Microbreweries – Ukiah Brewing Company in Ukiah
August	Regional Microbreweries – Lost Coast Brewery in Eureka preceded by a tour of the Eureka Theater restoration project
September	Regional Microbreweries – Eel River Brewery in Fortuna preceded by a short walk along the Eel River
September	Regional Microbreweries – Mendocino Brewing Co. in Ukiah
September	<b>Farewell to summer</b> at Historic Requa Inn – Have a glass of wine provided by our sponsor (RSVP or no deal)
October	Regional Microbreweries – Anderson Valley Brewing Co. in Boonville (RSVP or no deal)
October	Guided Tour of Historic Scotia followed by a glass of wine provided by our sponsor at the Scotia Inn (RSVP)
November	Looking Glass House in Eureka – Overlooking Humboldt Bay
December	The Carson Mansion – in Eureka

**San Francisco: Daniel Serrano, AICP**

Will have a tour of mission district and then networking event in June.

I've contacted Spur several times and we've been playing a bit of phone tag but I'm trying to work with their rep to nail down some events that we could coordinate with them on.

I've contacted the city's RDA to see if they have any redevelopment projects that they would like to highlight.

I'm thinking about doing another networking event/walking tour of a different neighborhood of SF (perhaps north beach) later in the year.

**South Bay: Katja Irvin, AICP**

*Winter Event* – Legacy of Livable Street, co-organized with the SJSU Urban Planning Coalition  
Monday March 22, 7-9pm at SJSU

About 45 people attended including planners, transportation planners and bike/ped advocates. A short article about the event will be published in the June Northern News.

*Spring Event* – Living with LID, co-organized with local planning and engineering firm HMM  
Friday April 23, 8:30am-1pm at HMM with walking tour

About 45 people are registered, from as far away as Pacifica, Gonzales, and Rio Vista.

*Summer Event* – Caltrain TOD Tour, co-organized with Peninsula RAC

Surachita and Katja have discussed doing this event. More details will be available in May or June.

Revised: May 6, 2010