

New Jersey

Year 2021

President

Ranae Fehr
Atlantic County



County Planners Association

Treasurer

Francesca Giarratana
Hudson County

Secretary

Tom Stanuikynas
Burlington County

President Emeritus

Walter Lane
Somerset County

Visit us on the web at www.njcountyplanners.org

NJCPA Regular Meeting
July 16, 2021 at 11:00 AM
VIA Zoom

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – President Ranae Fehr welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM. Secretary Tom Stanuikynas followed with a Roll Call of counties. Quorum was achieved.
2. **Resolution Celebrating and Honoring George Ververides** – Ranae Fehr welcomed Mr. Ververides and acknowledged his career, contributions to the County Planners Association and his recent retirement from Middlesex County. Mr. Ververides expressed his appreciation and thanked past and present members of the Association. Ranae Fehr read the resolution commending Mr. Ververides for his work and service. Motion to approve resolution made by Walter Lane (Somerset) and seconded by Donna Orbach (Bergen), all in favor none opposed. Several members personally acknowledged and congratulated Mr. Ververides. Ranae Fehr mentioned that the Association chose to name the annual scholarship after Mr. Ververides.
3. **Agency / Partner Updates (NJTPA, OPA, NJDEP, NJAC, RPA etc.):** Donna Rendeiro indicated that the deadline for Plan Endorsement and extending centers designation is now January 11, 2022. The Office of Planning Advocacy will be back in the office full time after Labor Day, which is consistent with other State offices. Karin Morris (DVRPC) and Blythe Eaman (NJTPA) introduced themselves to the Association.
4. **Business**
 - a. **Executive Committee Report** – Ranae Fehr discussed the George Ververides Scholarship Award. The application package is in development and the scholarship will be available in the Fall of 2022. The Association is looking for a County project or program to highlight at the next meeting. The Association would like to know if members are interested in having an in-person meeting in December. An online poll showed that most are either agreeable to or unsure of meeting in-person. The meeting will be held on December 3, 2021. The wastewater working group met with the NJDEP yesterday. Walter Lane and Virginia Michelin gave a summary of the meeting and indicated that the comments were well accepted and the meeting was positive.
 - b. **Meeting Minutes** – The April 2021 and May 2021 meeting minutes were distributed in advance to the general membership by Ranae Fehr via email. Tom Stanuikynas asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes, which was made by Kamal Saleh (Union) and seconded by Francesca Giarratana (Hudson), all in favor none opposed. Middlesex County abstained.
 - c. **Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer's Report for April 2021 and May 2021 was shared on screen with the group. Francesca Giarratana summarized the recent transactions, which includes

Contact: New Jersey County Planners Association
c/o Somerset County Planning Division

Somerset County Administration Building, 20 Grove St, Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

e-mail: Fehr_Ranae@aclink.org

- income received from the 2021 dues collected to date (only two counties are pending) and reimbursement for the Zoom account. Francesca indicated that the Executive Committee is looking to streamline the process for next year. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for May was made by Kamal Saleh (Union) and seconded by Walter Lane (Somerset), all in favor none opposed. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for April was made by Walter Lane (Somerset) and seconded by Kamal Saleh (Union), all in favor none opposed. Ranae indicated that Francesca is researching accountants to conduct a review of the Association's bookkeeping.
5. **Presentation** – Understanding the Transportation Mobility Needs for an Aging New Jersey Population, Deva Deka, Senior Research Fellow, Voorhees Transportation Center. Dr. Deka shared a presentation reviewing and analyzing Statewide data gathered on older adults and their transportation needs and use of services. The population of older adults is increasing in the U.S. and will continue to grow in the future. Much of the growth in New Jersey is occurring away from the existing transit facilities. Surveys were conducted of older adults to understand their transportation needs and priorities. Many older adults live alone, walk less as they age and rely more on rides from friends and family than from public transit. Where transit is not available, older adults miss more trips than those that live close to transit. Many of these missed trips are to important destinations such as medical visits and grocery shopping. Free or more affordable transit is the most significant way to persuade older adults to use transit. Increased coordination between public agencies and understanding of older adults needs and removal of barriers will improve transit use. Ranae Fehr, Karin Morris (DVRPC) and Doug Greenfeld commented positively on the presentation. Presentation will be shared on Association's website.
 6. **Presentation** – County Project - Hudson County Ferry Expansion Study, Kevin Force, Principal Planner, Hudson County. Kevin Force shared an overview of the study to expand ferry service in Hudson County. The County looked at six proposed landing locations (Jersey City, Bayonne, Harrison, Hoboken, South Kearny and West New York). The project included public outreach (web-based meetings and information sharing), site and financial analysis and travel demand modeling. Concerns identified in the study included costs, accessibility, connectivity and ability to accommodate underserved communities. Census data was used to determine catchment areas, expected growth and daily trip patterns. Three concept routes were developed and potential ridership was analyzed. Although interest in the service exists, results of demand analysis concluded ridership numbers were not high enough to be financially sustainable without subsidies. The study will be available soon and the presentation will be shared with the Association.
 7. **Committee Updates** – Kamal Saleh (Union) provided an update on NJ Transit's mixed-use transportation-oriented development at Metro Park Station on a 12-acre property (<https://www.njtransit.com/press-releases/murphy-administration-nj-transit-advance-metropark-development-project>). The transit to trails program that links NJ Transit facilities to parks is underway on more information is on their website (<https://www.njtransit.com/trails>). The Port Authority of NY/NJ announced that they received LEED v4 certification for its new Terminal B at LaGuardia Airport. Kate Katzer (Somerset County) reported that the offshore wind fast tracking legislation is on the Governor's desk. At the SADC June meeting, comments on the proposed soil standards were read into record. Many commenters were opposed to the standards. Gerry Scharfenberger commented that many are opposed to the offshore wind legislation.
 8. **Resolutions** – None
 9. **Updates/Necessary Business** – None. Please contact Ranae if you have a County project to present at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 1:05 PM

Next meeting will be September 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM