

New Jersey

Year 2018

President

Linda Brennen
Monmouth County



County Planners Association

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Passaic County

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Bergen County

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NJCPA Regular Meeting
Thompson Park Visitors Center, Beech Room
Lincroft, New Jersey
February 16, 2018

Member Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Frances Brown	Atlantic	Linda Brennen, Pres.	Monmouth
John Peterson	Atlantic	David Schmetterer	Monmouth
Ken Aloisio, Pres. Emer.	Bergen	Michael LaPlace	Passaic
Andrew Levecchia	Camden	Michael Lysicatos, Treas.	Passaic
Andrew Lloyd	Mercer	Laurette Kratina	Somerset
Matthew Zochowski	Mercer	Thomas D'Amico	Somerset
Mirah Becker	Middlesex	Kamal Saleh	Union
George Ververides	Middlesex		

Other Agencies/Guests:

Allen Weston	NJ Association of Counties
Alan Miller, Director WRM Operations and Coordination	NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Tom Stanuikynas	NJ Department of Community Affairs
Maria Connolly	NJ Department of Community Affairs
Gerald Scharfenberger	Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders
Dave Hojsak	FEMA- Region II

Welcome & Introduction: NJ County Planners Association President Linda Brennen called the meeting to order, led self-introductions and thanked everyone for attending.

Business

Donation to Friends of the Monmouth County Park System: The 2018 Budget includes a Thompson Park donation of \$300 for 2017 and a \$300 2018, for a combined total of \$600, which is reflected in the 2018 Budget. The \$300 for 2017 will be submitted to Friends of the Monmouth County Park System

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organization at this time, in response to the solicitation letter that was received in December 2017; whereas the second \$300 payment will be made in December 2018. A motion to approve both payments was submitted by George Ververides and seconded by Michael LaPlace.

2018 Meeting Schedule: Paper copies of the proposed 2018 Meeting schedule were distributed and an overview was provided by Linda Brennen. This year's special meeting will comprise a tour of Ocean Grove on June 15th. A July 20th business meeting was added to the schedule. It was agreed that the NJCPA holiday luncheon would be held at Tatum Park on December 7th. A larger space for this event has been reserved. A correction to the May meeting date was made. This regular meeting will be held on May 10th at the Annual NJ Association of Counties Conference in Atlantic City. Interest was expressed in organizing another panel/session following last year's example, for which a proposal must be developed. Strategies for enhancing the NJCPA's exposure/presence at the conference were discussed, including a NJCPA visitor's table with "giveaways", a raffle/drawing or other activities.

Treasurer's Reports and 2018 Budget: Paper copies of the Draft 2018 budget, December 2017 and January 2018 Treasurer's Reports were distributed and an overview was provided by NJ County Planners Association Treasurer Michael Lysicatos. An agreement to include 1) Speakers/Sponsorships and 2) Planning Student APA Membership Gift and/or Scholarship (e.g., Rutgers and Rowan) as a new line items under projected expenses in the 2018 budget was reached. A motion to accept the 2018 Budget with the addition of the aforementioned revisions was submitted by George Ververides and seconded by Kamal Saleh. The need for some updates to the NJCPA letterhead upon which the Treasurers Report was provided were noted.

Presentations

Proposed MLUL Changes to Incorporate Resiliency: Ms. Brennen led the discussion of proposed changes to MLUL, proposed by the NJAPA Hazard Mitigation & Recover Planning Committee. Mr. David Kutner, PP/AICP, Planning Manager with NJFuture had originally planned on leading this discussion, but the flu prevented him from attending today's meeting. The draft text was projected on-screen in order to facilitate discussion. Proposed changes to the language in Articles 3, 4, 8, 12 and 14 were discussed. The comments and recommendations based on this discussion are to be drafted by Laurette Kratina and provided to Linda Brennen for distribution to the NJCPA membership prior to finalization and submission to Mr. Kutner.

Allen Weston, ANJC described a bill comprised of changes to Article 17 of MLUL, S1074, aimed at protecting public access to tidal waterways. This proposal requires the provision of municipal public access plans that ensure permanent public access, including an inventory of public access points, parking, marinas, boat ramps and strategies for enhancing public access.

County Project of the Month: Ms. Brennen noted that each month, a new plan, program or project spearheaded by a County Planning office that has been recently completed will be featured at the NJCPA regular meetings. To jump-start this initiative, Ms. Brennen provided an overview of the NWS Earle Joint Land Use Study. This study involved a joint venture between this active military installation, Monmouth County, the 5 municipalities within which portions of NWS Earle are located, as well as 8 additional municipalities located at its perimeter. Her presentation was facilitated by a PowerPoint presentation which includes a map showing NWS Earle and its military influence area (MIA). Formation of a policy committee, general advisory committee and technical working groups to guide the work and implement public outreach was described. An analysis of existing conditions, compatibility assessment, including sea level rise and storm resiliency were conducted. An important

outcome was increased awareness of the importance of this ammunition depot which supplies the entire North Atlantic naval fleet, opportunities for joint projects and the identification of new potential implementation funding sources. The identification of compatible land uses within and adjoining the MIA was a key outcome as well. Land use scenarios based on sea level rise of 3, 7 and 12 feet were provided and a new compatible use list for comparison with municipal zoning in areas adjoining the MIA were developed. A total of 37 recommendations were provided, of which 5 were land use-specific. SADC funding prioritization to support agriculture within the 3,000 ft. buffer area, as well as open space and preservation activities were recommended. Resiliency recommendations included evacuation route identification and a marsh & dune restoration plan. Development of an overall transportation study and economic development assessment were identified as follow-up recommendations. An implementation committee is being considered to pursue additional grant funds.

Ms. Brennen invited members to contact her if there is a project that they would like to present. She noted a thank you letter will be provided to all attending staff that give a presentation.

Agency Updates

NJDEP: Alan Miller noted that he has been appointed to fill Colleen Kokas' position with NJDEP as Director of NJDEP-WRM Operations and Coordination. He noted his new NJDEP Assistant Commissioner is Michelle Putnam. The new Commissioner is Catherine McCabe and Debbie Manns is the Deputy Commissioner. He indicated additional organizational and staff changes are likely to roll-out. Mr. Miller indicated that it is his intention to attend NJCPA meetings regularly to keep County planners informed about WMP related matters. He indicated a county-by-county evaluation of WMP status is underway by NJDEP staff. Most counties will not be submitting all complete WMPs by the May 7th deadline (only 2 counties may accomplish this). Letters will be drafted to each county specifying the steps needed to complete the WMP process that serve as the basis for a time extension. Time extensions that are customized to each county are being considered. Four (4) counties did not accept responsibility for preparing WMPs. NJDEP will be reaching out to the affected municipalities to see if they would be willing to take this responsibility. Many are in the Highlands region. The Highlands Council staff will prepare WMPs for conforming municipalities. Grant timeframe issues must be addressed. Mr. Miller encouraged Counties to schedule the next round of WMP Quarterly Meetings to address these matters. There are 60 site-specific amendments currently in the NJDEP pipeline. A more indepth NJDEP review process is being implemented.

OPA: Gerry Scharfenberger noted that he is no longer serving as Director of the NJ Office for Planning Advocacy as of Monday. He was recently sworn in as a Monmouth County Freeholder.

NJDCA: Tom Stanuikynas, from the Office of Municipal Planning Services, noted that four municipal planning projects were recently completed and four more have gotten underway. He indicated his interest in presenting some of the projects at an upcoming NJCPA meeting. Current projects involve Post-Sandy Planning Assistance piloting the use of new hurricane and storm surge forecasting models and storm preparedness. The new DCA Commissioner is Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver and the Deputy Commissioner is Robert Long. He had no news to report regarding affordable housing issues.

ANJC: Allen Weston noted civil service title changes have been proposed that will recognize the relationship between AICP and PP.

Committee Updates

Executive Committee: Ms. Brennen provided an update on the NJCPA comments to the Civil Service Commission regarding the proposed changes to planning titles. They modified the wording to clarify AICP as a credential versus a license and thanked us for our input.

About 30 people attended the regional planning panel session provided by NJCPA at the NJAPA Conference in January. The focus was to present value-added initiatives counties are engaged in with their municipalities that advance regional planning agendas. Representatives from Somerset, Union, Monmouth and Passaic served as panel speakers. A NJCPA session time slot has been reserved at next year's NJAPA conference.

The Directory of county offices has been updated, emailed out and posted on the web site.

Open Space, Ag. & Environment: Ms. Brennen noted that paper copies of a 2-part committee report prepared by Laurette Kratina and Laurie Sobel have been provided for distribution at today's meeting. Ms. Kratina's report focuses on Energy and GHG initiatives, and Ms. Sobel's report focuses on agricultural development.

Education and Technology: Mr. Lysicatos noted that changes by the federal government to cell phone and "5 G" infrastructure technology and policy will be rolling out. Master Plans need to begin to address this, since changes in communication systems will impact economic development, records management, the technology and medical sectors.

Ms. Brennen noted there was an interest in learning more about the future of planning curriculum at Rutgers, Rowan and Princeton (et al) and is hoping to schedule a future NJCPA panel presentation, possibly in September.

Statewide Planning: John Peterson indicated the need for NJCPA to formulate a strategy through which it can help shape a new State Planning Framework. A joint meeting of this committee and the Executive Committee is being considered, along with organization of a follow-up meeting involving NJFuture, NJAPA and other state plan advocacy leaders. Counties generally have fewer resources today, so they may not be able to take on an expanded role in state planning. Mr. Scharfenberger noted that he is not aware of any decisions having been made regarding reorganization and/or relocation of the State Planning Commission and Office for Planning Advocacy at this time.

Communications: Andrew Levecchia reported that he has updated the website recently for the new year, and will continue to do so. He reminded everyone to contact him to have new job openings posted. The website gets about 80 visitors per week.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was submitted by George Ververides at approximately 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Laurette Kratina, PP/AICP, 3-12-18

Adopted 3-16-18