



The Palmetto Planner

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of the
American Planning Association

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The date is set for
the Fall Conference -
November 10-12, 2004
in Beaufort County.....

Friend, Colleague Remembered

by Cheryl Matheny

Members of South Carolina’s planning community and SCAPA recently lost a colleague and friend when Debbie Lieu, City Planner for the City of Goose Creek, passed away unexpectedly on March 15, 2004. Debbie was born in Hong Kong, but was very proud of her American citizenship. Her introduction to the United States began at Clemson University, where she earned an undergraduate degree in history. After graduation Ed Falk and his staff persuaded her to join the Master of City and Regional Planning program at Clemson, where she earned her Masters degree in 1983. Some of us were privileged to be “classmates” of Debbie’s at Clemson – a title she fondly used when introducing us to colleagues, friends and family throughout our long friendships.

Debbie began her career as the Community Development Coordinator for the City of Chester, moved on to become the Regional Planner at the Pee Dee Council of Governments and later served as a Planner for Spartanburg County. She was hired as the City Planner for Goose Creek in 1991. At Goose Creek Debbie served as staff for the Planning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Architectural Review Board. She also represented the City on the Charleston Area Transportation Study Committee (CHATS). In a recent newspaper article, Goose Creek Mayor Michael Heitzler observed that “Professionally, she made sense out of all the planning and zoning documents in our city and was able to translate those documents to the people who came to her for help. Not only was she competent, she was very human, and treated everyone with kindness.”

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FROM THE CHAPTER ADMINISTRATOR....

Pat Collins

I just wanted to say hello and tell everyone how glad I am to be on board. I am looking forward to working with all of you and know that I have some hard shoes to follow.

Sorry for the delay in the Palmetto Planner. I will also be assuming the duties of publishing the Planner and with the change over some things just got delayed a little. Hopefully I am back on track now and you should be expecting your Planner in the normal intervals in the months to come.

Just a little bit about me – I spent 30 years in Health Care Administration, raised three sons and now am looking forward to taking life a little easier. My husband and I live on the lake and enjoy getting out on it every chance we can. The rest of my time is spent either in my garden or working for the City of Clemson in the Planning and Codes Administration.

I would appreciate any input concerning my SCAPA responsibilities and welcome any suggestions. Now that I have gotten my “feet wet” at the Spring Conference, where I enjoyed meeting a lot of you, I look forward to meeting the rest in the coming year. If I can be of help to any of you please just let me know.

You can contact me by email addresses :

pcollins@cityofclemson.org and jpcol44@bellsouth.net . or call 864-221-1433. The address remains the same.
SCAPA, P.O. Box 683, Clemson, SC 29631

Record Attendance at Spring Conference

The Spring Conference of SCAPA had a record attendance of over 120 professional and citizen planners at the State Museum in Columbia. The topics ranged from a discussion of the State’s Multi-Modal Transportation Plan to training through the South Carolina Academy for Planning. The programs committee will be reviewing the comment sheets from the conference in order to make continual improvements to upcoming sessions.

Friend, Colleague Remembered

Debbie was a tireless and dedicated SCAPA member who devoted untold hours of her time to the advancement of SCAPA and the planning profession. Whenever help was needed, Debbie was always the first to volunteer. She took on many roles in the Chapter that included serving on the Executive Committee and Legislative Committee, as Secretary/Treasurer, and as a contributor to the initial planning and development of the SC Academy for Planning. She also volunteered to take on the grueling and thankless job of Program Chair, where she used her creativity, organizational skills and powers of persuasion to develop some of the most interesting and profitable SCAPA conferences in recent memory. Not one to sit idle, Debbie took on additional challenges both within her profession and in her community. She was a proud member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and was a SCAPA appointee to the Governor's Task Force on Affordable Housing. She also served on the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. Debbie was an active member of two churches – her home church (St. James United Methodist Church) and her fiancé Dan Lithgow's church on the Charleston Naval Base. She also found time to volunteer for local charitable organizations such as the TriCounty Ministries. In fact, Debbie spent the last hours of her life volunteering at a local mission.

Debbie will be remembered for her generosity, her love of life, her bright and sunny nature, her devotion to family and friends, her dedication to her profession and her job, and her upbeat, can do attitude. Her serious, yet light hearted approach to life along with her offbeat humor (sometimes entirely incidental) produced many "Debbie" stories that will be retold for years to come. I will personally remember the million acts of kindness and caring that I was privileged to receive from her during our long and enduring friendship. As I write this I can imagine that she's standing behind me saying "Now Cheryl, this is just too much!" because she was never one to toot her own horn and was always uncomfortable when praised, which was unfortunate because if ever anyone deserved the admiration and respect of their colleagues and friends, it was Debbie Lieu. We will miss her.

From Dan.....(Debbie's fiance)

"I would like to thank you for the flowers that were sent for Debbie. Debbie's family and I are truly grateful for the love and support that she received from this organization over the years...."

Sincerely, Dan Lithgow

"Debbie was a tireless and dedicated SCAPA member who devoted untold hours of her time to the advancement of SCAPA and the planning profession"

Donations to the Debbie Lieu Scholarship Fund should be made to "SCAPA", with the notation "Debbie Lieu Scholarship" included on all checks. Please send to: SCAPA. P.O. Box 683, Clemson, SC 29633

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Harold Lea Mond & Phil England

The Legislative Committee met on February 27 with Bo Shetterly and Robert Croom from SCAC and Gary Cannon with the Municipal Association and we discussed 28 pending bills of interest most of which were on hold due to budget work. Two of particular interest are H 3555 the "Hog Bill" which would exempt from local control anything regulated by state law. This goes way beyond just the farm issue to include locations for liquor stores and adult uses. Please contact your local Senator and urge them to oppose this assault on Home Rule.

The other bills of special concern are the Billboard bills S 831 and H 4556. A meeting was held in Columbia where both sides sat down to try and hammer out a compromise but they could not reach an agreement as the billboard industry refuses amortization for lost signs. The Senate bill remains on the contested calendar but look for movement on the House bill after the Easter break.

As always if you would be willing to volunteer to serve on the committee or have a bill you would like us to research please contact either of us.

Harold LeaMond
843-719-4102
or
Phil England
803-642-7588

SC ACADEMY FOR PLANNING:

PROVIDING TRAINING TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF S204

By Cheryl Matheny, Chair

In 2004 the Planning Academy began a new era of providing training to members of Planning Commissions, Boards of Zoning Appeals and Boards of Architectural Review in South Carolina. The passage of S204, which includes educational requirements for both citizen and professional planners at the local government level, has shifted the Academy role from providing optional training to appointed commissioners and board members to providing training to assist jurisdictions in meeting the educational requirements of the new legislation.

In a nutshell, S204 requires all appointed officials to complete 6 hours of orientation training, and then to complete 3 hours of continuing education each year after that. Requirements for professional planning staff are the same; however, persons can be exempted from the 6 hour orientation training if they are certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners, have a post graduate degree in planning from an accredited college or university, have a post graduate degree or specialized training or experience in a related field, or have a license to practice law in South Carolina. The full text of S204 can be found at: www.scstatehouse.net/sess115_2003-2004/bills/204.htm.

The compliance dates for the educational requirements of the legislation are staggered based on the population of the jurisdiction and are as follows:

- Jurisdictions with a population above 70,000: by January 1, 2005
- Jurisdictions with a population of 35,000 to 70,000: by January 1, 2006
- Jurisdictions with a population under 35,000: January 2007

The Planning Academy has developed a 6-hour orientation training program designed to assist jurisdictions in complying with the training requirements of S204. This program will provide training for planning commissioners, boards of zoning appeals, boards of architectural/design review, and planning staff who are not exempted from the educational requirements of S204. The training will be a one-day event, to be held on October 26, 2004, from approximately 9 am to 5 pm in Columbia. More information on this training will be distributed later this year.

The Planning Academy will continue its mission to provide informative, timely and affordable training for citizen planners in South Carolina. The new 6-hour orientation training program is an adaptation of core Planning Academy courses that have been offered on a regular basis for a number of years. In a continuing effort to keep costs low, all development and presentation of the Planning Academy materials to date has been by volunteers. In 2005, we also will be exploring and implementing new ways to deliver required training, possibly including video conferencing or regional training. Our goal is to make solid and proven training available at the best possible price to all jurisdictions in South Carolina.

For more information on course descriptions, course schedules, completion requirements and other information, please go to *SC Academy for Planning* on the SCAPA website at www.scapa.org.

Congratulations to the First Planning Academy Graduates of 2004!

James Burt
 Planning Commissioner, Edgefield County

John Groover
 Planning Commissioner, Dorchester County

Marcia Lucius
 Planning Commissioner, Richland County

Steve Rudd
 Planning Commissioner, Dorchester County

Roger Timpson
 Planning Commissioner, Edgefield County

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 30th **Summer Conference**
SC State Museum, Columbia SC

October 28th **SC Academy of Planning Training**
Columbia, SC

November 10-12th **Fall Conference**
Hilton Head, SC

For more information contact: pcollins@cityofclemson.org

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For Regional Correspondence, please see www.scapa.org. Please contact your regional SCAPA correspondent to share information about the projects and news in your community.

Greenwood County Makes Energy Conservation a Priority

by Phil Lindler

Energy conservation has emerged at the forefront of policy debate in the United States sparked by rising energy costs, energy shortages in the nation's northeastern and western states, increasing demands for energy in nearly every facet of modern life, and continued national dependence on foreign energy sources. Governments and communities have initiated reviews of their policies and practices related to energy consumption as they search for new ways to conserve energy and reduce costs. In South Carolina, Greenwood County, in partnership with the City of Greenwood and the Towns of Ninety Six and Ware Shoals, has taken a proactive lead in incorporating energy conservation into their comprehensive planning process through the development of an Energy Conservation Element. The Greenwood City/County Energy Conservation Element is the first such plan adopted in the State.

The Energy Connection

Jurisdictions across the country are discovering that many of the development practices that save public funds and improve the quality of life in their communities also conserve energy. Energy is undeniably a crucial resource in terms of its availability, use and cost. It is a common thread that weaves throughout the traditional comprehensive plan elements of housing, economic development, natural resources, community facilities and transportation. While sensible land development practices – such as mixed-use development, compact and cluster development, infill and redevelopment, and multi-modal transportation systems – are more cost-efficient to build and maintain than conventional development, they are also more energy-efficient.

Energy conservation is important to the community on many levels. Energy consumption patterns affect not only the availability and cost of energy resources, but also other key community issues including economic viability, environmental quality and fiscal stability. When households, businesses, institutions and governments cut energy expenses, they have more disposable income to direct to other priorities. Because energy use can adversely affect air quality and other natural resources, energy issues are also environmental quality issues. An effective energy plan can aid local economies by keeping more dollars in circulation locally, reducing environmental impacts, and providing a focal point for addressing complex local issues such as land use planning and development, transportation system design, and affordable housing.

How SCEO Can Help

The South Carolina Energy Office (SCEO) recognizes the central role of the State's cities and counties in the formulation, implementation, and ultimate success of energy conservation policies and programs. The mission of the SCEO is to increase the efficient use of energy resources among all consumer sectors, while maximizing environmental quality and minimizing energy costs.

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Amid the growing development pressures and fiscal challenges facing a large number of jurisdictions in South Carolina, the Office seeks to assist local governments with technical support and general guidance in improving the efficiency of energy use in their communities.

In 2000 the SCEO, with planning consulting assistance by the Matheny-Burns Group, developed a guide for incorporating energy conservation into local government planning entitled “*A South Carolina Local Planning Guide: Preparing an Energy Conservation Element for the Comprehensive Plan.*” Through this planning partnership with cities and counties, the SCEO strives to improve the quality of life in South Carolina – putting savings into the hands of its residents and local governments, creating jobs and economic sustainability, reducing pollution and conserving non-renewable resources, and supporting the development of affordable, livable and vibrant communities.

To further encourage energy conservation at the local level, the SCEO offered a pilot grant program to local governments to develop an energy conservation element for their comprehensive plans. Greenwood County and the City of Summerville were awarded planning grants in 2001.

The importance of this State and local partnership approach to encourage energy conservation is emphasized by Dr. John F. Clark, Director of the South Carolina Energy Office, who notes, “It is very important to incorporate energy into the local planning process and we are pleased that Greenwood County has taken a lead in addressing this essential issue. We hope that the Greenwood County Energy Conservation Element will serve as a model and encourage other counties and municipalities to incorporate energy issues into their comprehensive planning process.”

The Greenwood County Experience

The Greenwood City/County Planning Department maintains a comprehensive planning process that is anchored by strong public participation. More than 250 residents participated on advisory committees for each of the seven elements of their most recent Comprehensive Plan. The role of these citizen advisory committees extends well beyond draft review, with members directly developing the detailed goals, objectives and implementation strategies that guide planning and development in Greenwood County, the City of Greenwood and the Towns of Ninety Six and Ware Shoals. This participatory process was replicated during the development of the County’s new Energy Element. Membership of the Greenwood Energy Planning Advisory Committee (EPAC) included 25 representatives of local government, energy providers, K-12 schools, higher education, local businesses, and industries.

The Greenwood County EPAC identified trends in energy use and formulated alternative and realistic approaches to energy conservation that could be implemented locally. The EPAC planning effort yielded 22 objectives and 128 strategies for energy conservation implementation in Greenwood County. In addition to energy savings, these conservation strategies are designed to produce additional local benefits such as job creation, operational cost-savings, economic development opportunities, and establishment of collaborative partnerships.

cont.....9

Got somet
Got something to share?
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to hear from you. Show
case a project, express an
opinion, or just share
issues and information in
the planning field.

Deadlinesffor submittal to
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Summer Issue 6/15

Fall Issue 9/15

Winter Issue 12/15

You can send, email or
call Pat Colliins (page 2)
I look forward to hearing
from you.

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Student Chapter Update April 2004

Hello,

Thank you for reading this edition of the Palmetto Planner. My name is Justin John Price, and I am the current Student Chapter President of SCAPA. Since this is my first column, I would like to take a minute and tell you all about what the planning students have been up to on campus since the first of the year besides immersing ourselves in the rigors of academic pursuits. I would also like to mention a few things that will be coming in the next year that hopefully will be of interest to the planners of South Carolina.

We began this year with the introduction of a student service project. We have been volunteering a Saturday each month to help Pickens County Habitat for Humanity with a house right here in Clemson. As students, many of us previously unexposed to the breadth of the affordable housing issue in rural and urban transition areas, felt that this organization gave us a great opportunity to give back to a community that has welcomed the students of this university for so long. While our contribution may be minimal in the overall grand scheme, this opportunity has enriched each one of us that have participated.

February and March came and went as first-years were getting a glimpse of the work the second-years were putting into finishing their final projects. However, the pace quickened considerably in April as the second-year students presented their Terminal Projects and Thesis Papers the first and second week of April, and have been busy making final adjustments on their projects. Many of them have secured employment for next year, and the first-year students (myself included) are looking forward to our summer internships around the state, the region, the country, and even one very lucky planning student going across the pond to intern in the United Kingdom.

Finally, I would like to point out that we have been working on a new student website where students will be able to post pictures of themselves and our activities. It will also be an excellent forum for every student to post information about themselves, their resumes, their backgrounds, and why they choose to pursue the MCRP degree. We hope it will be up and running before October. We are looking forward to the fall SCAPA conference, and would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the organizers and participants of last year's fall conference for presenting such an informative and fun conference.

Please feel free to contact me at jjprice@clemson.edu with any questions or comments you may have about the student chapter.

JP

cont. from page 7 **Energy Conservation**

The concepts developed by the Greenwood EPAC include: sharing teleconferencing facilities to reduce transportation costs for local businesses, industry, and service providers; incorporating life-cycle costing into procurement evaluations; and encouraging local and regional eco-industrial recycling partnerships in which waste by-products can be incorporated into industrial production processes and energy generation.

Each EPAC member arrived at the planning table with their own perspective on energy usage and conservation and its relevance to the community. As the planning process evolved, members recognized actions that their own agency, business or industry could take to reduce their own energy costs, while lessening local dependence on energy sources. Inter-agency and institutional partnerships also began to materialize early in the planning process.

The linkage between energy use and air quality emerged as a significant issue in the energy conservation planning process. Like many jurisdictions in the State, Greenwood County is actively working with SC DHEC on the 8-Hour Early Action Compact to reduce ozone levels. Many of the same planning strategies incorporated into the Energy Element proved to be effective steps to reduce local ozone levels. As a result, many of the objectives and strategies developed for the Energy Element of the Comprehensive Plan have been integrated into Greenwood County's Early Action Plan for air quality.

For more information on the SC Energy Office and their programs, visit their website at www.state.sc.us/energy. The planning guide, "A South Carolina Local Planning Guide: Preparing an Energy Conservation Element for the Comprehensive Plan" is available for download at the SCEO website at www.state.sc.us/energy/Public/planning.htm. The following representatives can also be contacted for further information:

- Kate Billing (kbilling@drd.state.sc.us or 803-737-8030) at the South Carolina Energy Office
- Phil Lindler (phil@co.greenwood.sc.us or 864-942-8636) Planning Director of the Greenwood City/County Planning Department – Web Site: (www.co.greenwood.sc.us)
- Cheryl Matheny (cmatheny@sc.rr.com or 803-356-9475) or Gloria Burns (gburns@sc.rr.com or 843-527-8961) of the Matheny-Burns Group, Consultants for the SCEO Local Planning Guide and the Greenwood County Energy Element

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THE PALMETTO PLANNER is the official newsletter of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Newsletter contributions are encouraged from SCAPA members and others. Material selected for publication may be edited to conform to space or other requirements. Please email contributions to the Newsletter to: Pat Collins:

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Articles to be published in the Palmetto Planner should be no more than 750 words. Use spell check and write in the active voice. Please include your name, organization, and contact information.

Articles may be edited.

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 DAY

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