

# THE PALMETTO PLANNER



American Planning Association  
South Carolina Chapter  
Making Great Communities Happen

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## Presidents Message

The American Planning Association's 2010 National Conference will be held in New Orleans April 10 through 13. In order to provide accessibility to the membership, APA has condensed the conference into four days and reduced the price for registration. This year's conference provides the opportunity to obtain up to 32 CM credits at one time. This roughly correlates to around \$18.60 per hour of CM-level training. I have to admit, I was one of those that felt that the national conference was too expensive, that the sessions would not be applicable to my daily responsibilities, or that I was too busy to be away from the office for two business days. I have been fortunate to attend the last two national conferences and I have to say that I have been pleasantly surprised by the applicability of the sessions, the colleagues that I have met and been able to share knowledge with, and the information that I'm able to bring back with me and utilize "in the trenches". Future conferences over the next two years will be held in Boston and Los Angeles, so take the opportunity to register for the conference as it is only four states away.

Speaking of conferences, the Programs Committee has scheduled three conferences this year in Greer, Camden and Pawleys Island. Additional information is provided in this edition of the *Palmetto Planner*. Be sure to put these dates on your calendar so that you don't miss out on training opportunities for you, your staff and your citizen planners.

I reported in the last President's Message that APA had proposed a fee increase to chapters of \$10 a member. After much deliberation, the APA Board with input from the Chapter President's Council, adopted a fee of \$2.92 per member to offset increases in costs and decline in membership revenue. Even though this is substantially less than the \$10 initially proposed, our chapter should expect a loss in revenue from APA of around \$1,400 for the next budget year. Your Executive Committee has been proactive in identifying reductions to the 2010 budget to ensure that this fee does not adversely affect the long-term growth of our chapter. APA President Bruce Knight has appointed a Blue Ribbon Task Force



to provide long-term recommendations for chapter financing services and communications with the national organization.

Additional information is provided on the APA website or you may contact our regional representative to this task force (Judy Daniel, AICP – [jdaniel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:jdaniel@ashevillenc.gov)).

This year is exciting as we will be preparing for our election of officers in August and our bi-annual awards program at our Fall Conference. Additional information will be provided in the next edition of the *Palmetto Planner* and on [www.scapa.org](http://www.scapa.org).

It's not too early to be thinking of nominating a project and a member for office!

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# Dollar\$ and ¢ents

by Robert Moody, AICP, SCAPA Secretary/Treasurer

2010 is here and belt-tightening is the order of the day. In my last column, I noted that SCAPA's finances experienced a challenging year due to recent growth pressures. I am pleased to report that our reserve fund balance remains over \$19,000. We will use these 'rainy day' funds as needed to weather the current economic storm. The following budget reflects reductions in income and expense from recent years.

## 2010 SCAPA Budget

INCOME			EXPENSE		
AICP Exam Training		\$ 2,000	AICP Exam Training		\$ 500
Advertising		\$ 1,600	Chapter Administration		\$ 19,700
Palmetto Planner	\$ 1,000		Administrator Salary	\$ 15,000	
SCAPA Website	\$ 600		Bank Charges	\$ 100	
APA Dues		\$ 10,000	Cell Phone	\$ 600	
Conferences		\$ 52,000	Legal-Professional Fees	\$ 1,500	
Winter	\$ 11,000		Office Supplies	\$ 1,000	
Summer	\$ 11,000		President's Travel	\$ 1,500	
Fall	\$ 30,000		Clemson Student Chapter		\$ 2,000
Interest		\$ 50	Conferences		\$ 39,500
Scholarships		\$ -	Winter	\$ 7,000	
			Summer	\$ 7,000	
			Fall	\$ 25,000	
			Awards	\$ 500	
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 63,650</b>	FAICP Application		\$ -
			Legislative Committee		\$ 1,500
			Membership Committee		\$ -
			SCAPA Website		\$ 150
			Scholarships		\$ 300
			Debbie Lieu Memorial	\$ 300	
			<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$ 63,650</b>

The national leadership at APA is also dealing with a recession-impacted budget and has implemented two fees to the chapters to cover charges that our members generate. Specifically, a credit card/bank fee and a data record keeping fee will be charged back to SCAPA at a total rate of \$2.92 per member. As a point of reference, planners in North Carolina and Georgia will pay \$3.79 and \$3.70 each, respectively. The impact to the budget is projected to be a loss of \$1,856 in the APA Dues income line item for 2010. A full explanation can be found on the APA website at: [www.planning.org/leadership/communications/index.htm](http://www.planning.org/leadership/communications/index.htm).

The SCAPA Executive Committee is committed to continuing to provide a high level of service to our members at a reasonable cost.

*Robby*

Robert Moody, AICP  
SCAPA Secretary/Treasurer

# SCAPA'S 2010 CONFERENCES

## Winter/Spring Conference Greer City Hall Greer, SC

Please mark your calendars for **March 26** as SCAPA will host a one-day conference that will focus on planning for rural communities and small towns. Sessions will be geared toward demonstrating and providing tools to address such diverse issues as historic preservation, economic revitalization, and community branding and image building.

## Summer Conference Teneleven Galleria Camden, SC

Don't miss this exciting one-day event on **July 16** in beautiful historic Camden. This conference will focus on new technologies, innovative tools, and imaginative strategies to address planning needs and public investment in the process. Attendees should be able to acquire at least 5 hours of continuing education credits as required by SC Code 6-29-1310 as all SCAPA conference sessions are pre-approved.

## Fall Conference Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort Pawley's Island, SC

Join your planning colleagues on **October 27-29** at The Litchfield Beach & Golf Resort on Pawley's Island in examining how the profession is preparing to meet the challenge of sustainability in a changing climate. The theme of this conference is "Planning for Natural Challenges & the Environment". What better location for this topic than the coast of South Carolina which has experienced such unprecedented growth during the last decade. Sessions will explore strategies for balancing ecology, public safety, quality of life, and economic development.

Please visit our website at [www.scapa.org](http://www.scapa.org) for more detailed session and registration information for all three conferences. You may contact Susan at 803.909.7242 should you have any questions or desire additional information.

## SCAPA 2010 Winter/Spring Conference

### PLANNING FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES AND SMALL TOWNS

**MARCH 26, 2010**

**GREER CITY HALL, GREER, SC**

Session topics:

- The New Ruralism: Promoting Sustainability in Small Towns and Rural Communities
- Planning for Historic Buildings and Districts
- Small Town Branding and Image Building
- True Sustainability in Small Community Comprehensive Planning

All SCAPA sessions are approved for CE and CM credits. Total credit hours for these sessions is 6 hours.

Registration forms are available at [www.scapa.org](http://www.scapa.org).

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING IN MARCH 12, 2010**

For more information please contact: Pat Collins at [jpcoll44@bellsouth.net](mailto:jpcoll44@bellsouth.net) or 864-221-1433

**If you are interested in proposing a session please complete the Session Proposal Form located on our website and forward to Susan Britt, AICP at [susan.britt@yorkcountygov.com](mailto:susan.britt@yorkcountygov.com).**

# Proposed changes to the SCAPA Bylaws

## **Executive Committee Proposes Bylaw Changes for Winter/Spring Conference**

Over the last two years, the SCAPA Executive Committee has discussed various modifications to the Chapter bylaws. The Executive Committee is recommending the amendment of the chapter bylaws to better reflect our interaction and growth as an organization. This article highlights the major proposals for the document. Please view the proposed amendments on the SCAPA website ([www.scapa.org](http://www.scapa.org)). These bylaw changes will be discussed and voted on by the active members present at our chapter business meeting on March 26 at noon during the Winter/Spring Conference in Camden.

## **Chapter Communications Officer.**

For a number of years, the SCAPA Executive Committee has included the webmaster position who was a non-voting member appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. This proposal would eliminate the Chapter Historian position and replace it with a Communications Officer with responsibilities unique to that position – one of which includes maintaining and updating the chapter website.

## **SCPEAC Appointee.**

The current bylaws reference the SC Academy of Planning which is no longer active. This proposal recommends the elimination of this reference and replacement with the

appointment of our state-authorized representative to the State Advisory Committee on Educational Requirements for Local Government Planning and Zoning Officials and Employees.

## **Chapter Administrator.**

This proposal adds an additional duty to the Executive Committee to hire and evaluate annually the performance of a Chapter Administrator. SCAPA provides an annual evaluation and contract with our Chapter Administrator.

## **Legislative Committee Functions.**

The current bylaws state that an annual legislative reception shall be provided by the Legislative Committee. This proposal modifies the wording to allow for flexibility within the committee's functions.

## **Programs Committee Functions.**

The proposal deletes the reference to the SC Academy of Planning and adds wording to reflect the committee relation with the Professional Development Officer to obtain certification maintenance credits for sessions offered. This amendment also identifies a Director-at-Large to serve as the Assistant Programs Chair.

## **Election Nomination Process.**

The proposed amendment more clearly defines the process by which nominations for officers occur. This proposal calls for open nominations with consideration of geographic representation from across the state.

## **Directors-at-Large.**

Currently, the bylaws outline the election of a President, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer and two Directors-at-Large. This proposal would increase the field to three Directors-at-Large. This proposal is in direct response to the overwhelming response we received in 2008 for members wanting to be active in the chapter functions. This amendment, if approved, would expand the membership of the Executive Committee to the following:

### **Elected Members**

Past President

President

President-Elect

Secretary/Treasurer

Director-at-Large

Director-at-Large

Director-at-Large

### **Appointed Members**

Citizen Planner

Communications Officer

Professional Development Officer

Director of Clemson University Planning Program

President of the Clemson University Student Chapter

If you have specific comments or questions about these proposed changes, please contact your Executive Committee members (a list and contact info is provided on the web site). We look forward to seeing you on March 26.

## Winter Issue of Planning Commissioners Journal & New Online Resource About Public Hearings

The feature article in the Winter issue, "Dealing With Contentious Public Hearings," highlights twelve ways of "reducing the heat" at public hearings. They range from holding neighborhood meetings on controversial or complex projects, to focusing public input on relevant review criteria during hearings. In preparing the article, Planning Commissioners Journal editor and author Wayne Senville received suggestions from more than two dozen planners and planning commissioners from across the country on what worked best in their communities.

"Virtually every planning commissioner," Senville notes, "will face a public meeting at which tempers flare. One piece of advice I repeatedly heard is 'keep your cool and maintain a respectful environment.' "The bottom line," says Senville, "is ensuring that the public feels their voice is heard by the planning commission, while providing commissioners input that will be helpful to their decision-making. That means keeping meetings civil while providing commissioners input that will be helpful to their decision-making. That

Also in the Winter issue, an article by consultant Joel Russell, "Building our Planning Process From the Ground Ups." Russell considers how active engagement in the planning process can minimize the likelihood of opposition erupting seemingly out of nowhere near the end of the process. Russell considers this in the context of farmland preservation planning efforts in New York's Hudson River Valley.

For more on the content of our Winter issue, go to: [www.plannersweb.com](http://www.plannersweb.com). you'll find the link in our Quick Access sidebar near the top right of the page).

One final, but important, note. In conjunction with Senville's article, we've posted on our Planners Web site resources and links on how to deal with contentious public hearings. This material provides a valuable supplement to the published article, and is available at: [www.plannersweb.com](http://www.plannersweb.com).

For more information, contact either: Betsey Krumholz or Wayne Senville

pcjoffice@gmail.com

802.864.9083

## Taking a Closer Look: Ethics

### Ethics

Short articles focusing on key ethical situations planning commissioners, zoning board members, and others involved with land use development often encounter.

- **Setting the Stage.** Commissioners play an important role as decisionmakers, weighing the often conflicting interests of those who appear before the commission.
  - **Personal Responsibility.** Commissioners must always strive to maintain the highest personal standards of conduct.
  - **The Community.** Planning commissioners have an obligation to consider the implications of their decisions on the broader community.
  - **Public Perception.** Citizens must have every confidence that the commission has acted fairly and without improper influence.
- Written in jargon-free language for citizen planners, this collection of articles from the *Planning Commissioners Journal* will be useful to both new and experienced members of planning commissions and zoning boards. Attractively bound, and delivered by first-class mail, you'll receive this 57 page booklet within a few days. For details and to order, call us at: 802-864-9083. or go to: [www.plannersweb.com/ethics.html](http://www.plannersweb.com/ethics.html)

## Membership Minute



If you haven't seen by now, our very own **Ernie Boughman**, member of the SCAPA Executive Committee, was selected by the State Newspaper as one of this year's 20 under 40. The State compiles this list of professionals ". . . who have made their mark before age 40 and who look like they will continue their contributions for years to come."

You can see the entire list @ <http://www.thestate.com/20under40/> click Ernie's name to learn more about his commitment to our community!

Way to go, Ernie!

## Debbie Lieu Scholarship Fund

Dear SCAPA Member,

As many of you know, I am one of three SCAPA representatives to the DEBBIE LIEU SCHOLARSHIP FUND Committee. The fund was established in her memory upon her untimely passing in 2005 and was transferred to the Clemson Advancement Foundation for administration as an endowment. The endowment, supported by donations from friends, family and professional colleagues, is intended to support an annual award to a deserving rising 2<sup>nd</sup> year student in Clemson's Graduate Planning Studies Program.

While the initial endowment accrued interest to a level to support an annual student award, SCAPA agreed to provide the yearly award amount for 3 years – a commitment that was completed in 2009. However, during the economic decline in recent years the endowment took a significant loss, jeopardizing its ability to fund student awards in the coming years. To bring the endowment up to the level needed to begin funding the annual award, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Any donation, regardless of the amount, does make a difference. Please visit the SCAPA website at [www.scapa.org](http://www.scapa.org) and make your pledge today. On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, we thank you and wish you well for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Philip Slayter, AICP

### HAVE YOU JOINED THE SCAPA LIST SERVE ?

More and more professionals are joining this community every month to help you answer the proverbial question, "What are they doing in \_\_\_\_\_ [insert City or County name here]?" Visit [www.groups.google.com](http://www.groups.google.com) and search on "SC Planners". Be sure to use the quotation marks. Also, joining the List gives you access to 40 previous questions and responses from the past year.

Lastly, and equally important, use features of the List to shorten the miles between us! Edit your profile to include your community name, your title, and a picture of yourself! That way, when we see each other at the next conference, we'll be that much more familiar! For questions or comments about the List, contact Marc Mylott, AICP at (803) 545-3333 or [msmylott@columbiasc.net](mailto:msmylott@columbiasc.net).



## News from Clemson University Graduate Program in City & Regional Planning

Submitted by Barry Nocks, AICP (Program Director)  
and Samantha Jackson (Student Chapter President)

Surely, spring will be here soon and we can stop acting like it's winter. In the meantime, we are enjoying a new set of classes in the spring semester and anticipate our 20 second year students completing their theses and terminal projects by early May. There is an interesting array of topics covered, including transportation, sustainable development practices, water policy, community development, homelessness, food systems, mill village renewal, bike plans, neighborhood planning, and design guidelines. The graduating students are well prepared for planning practice, with significant skills and professional experience as part of their program at Clemson.

Similarly, we have 24 first year students who are seeking internships as part of their MCRP program. They have had a variety of core courses in quantitative and land use analysis, GIS, site planning, planning process, economic development, as well as some courses in such specific areas as transportation, water policy or environmental planning. I encourage you to seek our students and hire them as interns if you can.

Many of you will recall the auction at our annual conference held by the students as a fund-raiser to help support their travel to the National APA conference in New Orleans. 24 of our students expect to go to APA this year! New Orleans will be a bit more orange than usual for a few days. I will also be attending, although not necessarily as a chaperone. Thanks for your support in the student auction last October in Greenville—it makes a difference.

### Are you doing your part?



# Welcome to Our New Members

**SCAPA would like to welcome our new members. The following have joined since October 1, 2009:**

Henry Bailey, Greer, SC	Charles Lathan, Spartanburg, SC
Beverly Ballow, Isle of Palms, SC	Tyler Lesley, Clemson, SC
Eric Bram, Clemson, SC	Andrew Marine, Aiken, SC
Keith Brockington, Greenville, SC	Christina Mikulik, Taylors, SC
Anna Brown, Clemson, SC	M. Scott Mingonet, Fort Mill, SC
Marshall Brown, Central, SC	Peter Mohan, Clemson, SC
Scott Brown, Atlanta, GA	Ron Moore, Florence, SC
Paul Cheezem, York, SC	William Moore, Rock Hill, SC
Jacquelyn Coats, Greenville, SC	Daniel Newquist, Georgetown, SC
David Cohen, Isle of Palms, SC	Diane Olterik, Isle of Palms, SC
David Cothran, Anderson, SC	Joseph Otterbine, Bluffton, SC
Jean Crow, Spartanburg, SC	Erik Pechuekonis, Central, SC
Bradley, Dodson, Columbia, SC	Michael Reed, Edgefield County, SC
Jared Draper, Clemson, SC	Allison Rowland, Central, SC
Kyle Flanders, Clemson, SC	Daniel Rudge, Greer, SC
Kaylen Francis, Liberty, SC	Noel Scott, Isle of Palms, SC
Ellen Hoj, Steamboat Springs, CO	Yujie Shu, Clemson, SC
Chris Inglese, Charleston, SC	Leah Sirmin, Clemson, SC
Datrack Jefferson, Anderson, SC	Andrew Strickland, Seneca, SC
Stephanie Johnson, Clemson, SC	Aaron Taylor, Anderson, SC
Stephen Julka, Clemson, SC	Ashlee Temple, Anderson, SC
Jason Knudsen, Clemson, SC	Ralph Walling, Rock Hill, SC
Kelly Larkins, Central, SC	Stephen Williams, Central, SC
David Laszlo, Columbia, SC	

## Chapter Only Memberships

Chapter Only memberships are available through APA. Join SCAPA without joining APA for \$35.00 annually. To become a chapter only member please go to the APA website under membership.

Benefits of a chapter only membership include:

- Reduced rates to all SCAPA conference
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Training Workshops
- Participation on SCAPA committees

## **Does APA have your correct information?**

SCAPA distributes all informational materials electronically. In order to ensure receipt of these materials you need to make sure that your email address in the APA record is up to date. All members can access their APA profiles and make changes online. These changes become effective immediately (mailed or faxed changes requiring manual entry will take longer to appear). To access your APA profile go to [www.planning.org/myprofile](http://www.planning.org/myprofile). Enter your APA ID (from the Planning magazine mailing label or invoice) and password (click on "create new password" if you have forgotten it or do not have one). If you need assistance contact Webmaster@planning.org.



American Planning Association  
**South Carolina Chapter**

*Making Great Communities Happen*

SCAPA  
 PO Box 683  
 Clemson, South Carolina 29633

Chapter Administrator  
 Pat Collins

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 [jpcol44@bellsouth.net](mailto:jpcol44@bellsouth.net). Please include your name, organization and contact information.

**Advertise in the Palmetto Planner and on the SCAPA webpage for one low fee.**

The Palmetto Planner is a quarterly publication of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association with over 475 members. The newsletter provides information on current planning topics, chapter conferences and activities and job opportunities.

Advertisement space in the Palmetto Planner and the SCAPA webpage is available on a yearly basis.

The fee for a Business Card Advertisement is \$200.00 per year.

For further information contact Pat Collins at 864-221-1433 or email [jpcol44@bellsouth.net](mailto:jpcol44@bellsouth.net)



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