



Oklahoma Planner

President's Notes

The chapter leadership has changed guard with three new faces on the Executive Committee. **Richard Rolison, AICP, Jan Ramseyer-Fees, AICP,** and **Donna Sorrels** have all committed their time and service to the chapter for the next two years. Richard takes over as the Chapter Secretary and Newsletter Editor. Jan and Donna will serve as Directors At-Large. The Planning Commissioner position remains unfilled.

I appreciate those who served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. **Mike Segroves, AICP** served as secretary and as newsletter editor for over 4 years. **Cynthia Hoyle, AICP** and **Ronnie Ford** both served as At-Large Directors. **Deborah Reynolds**

provided valuable insight from a Planning Commissioners perspective.

As a small chapter, we must make several decisions over the next few months pertaining to our growth and development, as well as, the services provided to our members. Due to our lack of numbers, our budget ranks amongst the lowest in the nation.

The Executive Committee has contracted to produce a bi-monthly newsletter over the next six months with the anticipation of going to a purely digital newsletter by the end of the year. This change would free-up funds that would have gone toward printing and postage. A digital copy will also minimize production time.

Your input is valuable and will aide in our decision. Some of the other changes are more thoroughly detailed in articles of this edition.

You might have noticed the new APA logo, "Making Great Communities Happen." If you have ideas of how the chapter can make great Oklahoma communities, contact a board member.

Best wishes.

Michael Southard, AICP



Continuing Education

The chapter held the sixth continuing education workshop on January 31st in Tulsa. Due to the weather, attendance was roughly half of those registered. The workshop was organized by **Jim Coles** and co-sponsored by the City of Tulsa. It was extremely

interesting to learn the differing uses of improvement districts and applications to many projects around the state.

We are busy working on future workshops and conferences over the next six months or so. If you would

like to organize or to recommend a topic, please let us know.

The Chapter has had over 180 people attend our workshops over the last year. Nationally, we are looked to as examples in continuing education.

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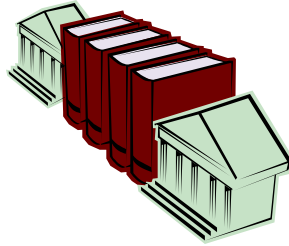
Upcoming Events:

- *APA National Conference April 13th-17th*
- *Oklahoma Development Summit, May 3rd in OKC*
- *Historic Preservation Conference, May 16th-17th in Durant*
- *OKAPA Water Quality Workshop, June 25th-26th in OKC*
- *OML/OKAPA Conference, Sept. 19th in Tulsa*

Legislative Update

SB 605 (by Monson in Senate and Blackburn in House) addresses inconsistencies between municipal zoning laws and state regulations of child care facilities. "The Department of Human Services shall make information available to localities about the impact of local zoning ordinances on the availability, accessibility and cost of child care and, on request, assist localities with preparation of ordinances that will remove unnecessary barriers to the establishment of family child care and large family child care homes as defined in Section 402 of this title." This legislation passed the Senate in March 2001.

HB 2897 (by Blackburn) allows for municipalities over 300,000 to mandate the repair of historic buildings. The law grants the municipality the ability to dictate construction and completion dates



and then to bid the construction. Liens can be levied on the property for construction costs for lack of payment. The notices and processes are similar to the public nuisance hearing process.

HB 2863 (by Sullivan) increases the width of a fence-line annexation from 20 feet back to 200 feet. This law would reverse the law passed last year. Residents within the unincorporated area may petition for annexation into another municipality if the annexed area is less than 200 feet.

HB 2703 (by Mitchell) would substantially hinder a community's ability to grow and enforce land use and building codes in agricultural areas. The bill requires 75% consent prior to annexation of lands in excess of 5 acres and eliminates the ability to annex properties when surrounded on three or more sides. It also requires that an annexation plan be completed within twelve months. The bill goes further by exempting farm units of at least 10 acres from land use and building construction codes.

HB 2260 (by Fields) restricts a municipality's ability to adopt any codes other than the most recently revised International Code Council regulations after November 1, 2002. The list includes the International Zoning Code. The bill also eliminates the ability to adopt any type of rehab code.

Bob Goins, AICP, Honored by OU

The OU Regents' Alumni Awards were presented November 9 during a ceremony in Oklahoma Memorial Union. Bob Goins, AICP, along with nine others, was selected to be honored for their service and dedication.

The name of each recipient is engraved on a permanent plaque that hangs in OMU as a testament to the important role that OU's alumni play in the life of the

university.

Bob Goins, of Norman, is a professor emeritus of Regional and City Planning in the College of Architecture and holds two degrees from OU. He has enhanced the perception and reputation of OU through his affiliation with the university and civic involvement in Norman. He retired from OU in 1988, after serving as faculty for 28 years.

Others honored were Darrell Bull, Tulsa; Josephine Freede, OKC; J. Clifford Hudson, OKC; James Dudley Hyde, OKC; Glen McLaughlin, Saratoga, CA; Shane J. Merz, Houston, TX; Polly Puckett Nichols, OKC; J.D. Sander III, Houston, TX; Barbara H. Thompson, OKC.

Chapter Endorses APA Candidate for President



The Executive Committee has reviewed candidate position statements and responses to a Chapter Presidents Council questionnaire. As a result, the committee unanimously voted to endorse **Mary Kay Peck, AICP** for President Elect. This decision is based on her positions on continuing education, the

College of Fellows selection process and the rolls/make-up of the APA Board and AICP Commission.

Mary Kay has served as President of Western Central Chapter and as chair of the Chapter Presidents Council. With her roots firmly planted at the chapter level, she plans to be a "tireless advocate" for the chapters. She currently serves on the APA Board representing Region VI.

The Chapter Executive Committee en-

courages every member to review the position statements and to vote for the National candidates who best represents your views and positions. The other candidates are Dennis Gordon, FAICP, Roger Hedrick, FAICP, and Gary Johnson.

Website Under Construction

by Nancy McNayr, AICP

For the past two years, our Chapter President has pushed to make **OKAPA more responsive to chapter members** as well as help the planning profession and planners become more visible in our communities. As OKAPA president, Mike Southard has specifically sought to improve the Chapter in the areas of **continued education and communication**.

Over the past two years, OKAPA has sponsored several workshops alternating between Oklahoma City and Tulsa. These workshops are primarily designed to **provide opportunities for the professional planner to gain much needed**

continued education credits.

In 2001, OKAPA applied for a grant from the (national) APA Chapter President's Council. The purpose for the grant was to **'develop a website and have a web presence to improve communication with the chapter membership.'**

After some research and deliberations, OKAPA contracted with a company to host the website and help in the initial setup. The domain name **www.okplanning.org** was purchased. The website is still under construction, however, it is working.



Initially, the site will be a work-in-progress. As we continue to update and refine the site, we hope that the OKAPA membership will provide feedback. During the initial development, OKAPA members should not hesitate to submit ideas or make comments on site content or design to me at nancy@mcnayr.net.

Campus Corner by Dr. Richard Marshment, AICP

Here's a glimpse of what has been happening at the University of Oklahoma.

► The Planning Accreditation Board, an organization jointly sponsored by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the American Institute of Certified Planners to assure minimum educational standards for aspiring city planners, reviewed OU's Master of Regional and City Planning program this past year. Results of the accreditation review will be issued in May, 2002.

► The Division of Regional and City Planning (RCPL) inaugurated the first *Joseph Lee Rodger, Jr., Lecture on Comprehensive Planning* in October, 2001. The first lecturer was Bruce McClendon, FAICP, current president of the American Planning Association. Mr. McClendon

discussed the status of comprehensive planning in Florida and its relationship to growth management in the state. The lecture was held at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History on OU's Norman campus.

► RCPL welcomed two new faculty in August, 2001. Sarah Peterson has a B.S. in mathematics and history, and a M.S. in urban and regional planning from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is finishing her Ph.D. in history from Yale University. Ms. Peterson spent three years with the Urban Strategies branch of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation before beginning her doctoral studies at Yale. Charles Warnken has a B.S. in political science from the University of Wyoming, a Master of Public Administration from the University of

Louisville, and is finishing a Ph.D. in urban planning from Florida State University. Mr. Warnken worked for a community development bank in Louisville prior to initiating his Ph.D. studies at Florida State.



Pictured left to right are Larry Hopper, Mike Segroves, Bob Wolfram, Jim Duncan, Norm Standerfer, Bruce McClendon, and Steve Burnsworth

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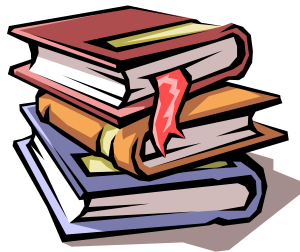
***Making Great Communities
Happen.***

**We're On the Web!
WWW.OKPLANNING.ORG**

Teaching Planning to Children

Some professions are very self-explanatory to children: a fireman puts out fires, a dentist takes care of people's teeth. But what does a "planner" do? Take a look at the following web sites with information geared to our younger counterparts.

The issues of the APA *Resources* newsletter have become a "vine" or on-line newsletter. It is available on the APA homepage at www.planning.org. If you are unaware of the newsletter, it is a vital communication tool for those working with children in education and planning. It was first developed in 1990 and has grown to a readership approaching 800. In the move from paper newsletters, APA hopes to reach an expanded readership of planners,



people is now available at www.planning.org/kidsandcommunity/. Called *Kids and Community*, the site contains information on community planning and provides activities that help young people learn about their communities. The site is aimed at awareness building and is highly interactive. It consists of two parts. In the first, called "About Planning," visitors are introduced to two planners and their jobs. They can also read about city planning. There are

parents, and teachers.

A second new web site for young

links to career information and to an APA site that provides a history of American community planning.

In the second section, young visitors can explore interactive activities, which expose them to concepts of community. The section includes reviews of planning books for children, a web gallery of pictures created by children of their community, posted poems by children, word games, and a scavenger hunt exercise that teaches about planning concepts.

These sites are a fun way to introduce young people to planning. Over time new activities will be added to the site.