

Regional Planning Board

**Wednesday April 12, 2006
10:00 a.m**

**Offices of the Regional Planning Board
800 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois**

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order and Introductions-*Mayor Gerald R. Bennett, Board Chair*

Mayor Gerald Bennett of Palos Hills and Chair of the Regional Planning Board, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the offices of the Regional Planning Board at 233 South Wacker, Chicago, Illinois. Others present included:

Voting Members

Rita R. Athas- Vice Chair (Deputy Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office, City of Chicago)
Frank H. Beal, (Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020)
Anthony Calderone (Mayor, Forest Park)
Zenovia Evans (Mayor, Riverdale)
Elliott Hartstein (President, Buffalo Grove)
Al Larson (President, Schaumburg)
Marilyn Michelini, (President, Montgomery)
Raul Raymundo (Executive Director, Resurrection Project)
Rae Rupp Srch, (Former President, Villa Park)
Dan Shea (McHenry County Board Member)
Mike Smith-Vice Chair (Mayor, New Lenox)
Andre Rice (President Muller and Monroe Asset Management)
Nigel F. Telman (Partner, Sidley, Austin, Brown & Wood)

Non-Voting Members

Stephen Schlickman, (Executive Director, Regional Transportation Authority, CATS)
Ed Paesel, (Executive Director, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, NIPC)

Others present include:

Joel Stauber, Lohan Anderson
Laura Jibeen, Benesch
Joe DiJohn, UIC
Joe Henrich, SSMMA
Bill Kiley, CATS
Laura Wilkison, Metro Strategies
Doug McLaughlin, METRA
Bruce Christensen, Lake County
Beth McCluskey, NCCOM

Stephen Vaughn, CCHD
Chalen Hunter, NWMC
Holly Ostdick, McCOM
Mike Walczak, NWMC
Jan Metzger, CNT
Rick Curneal, DMMC
Erin Willret, NNCOM
Fluturi Demitasti, RTA
Jill Leary, WCMC
Pat Higgins, Western Springs
Gordon Smith, IDOT
Vicky Smith, Southwest Conference of Mayors
Karyn Romaro, Metro Strategies
Patricia Berry, CATS
D.E. Vile, CATS
M. Urban, CM2020

II. Approval of Minutes-March 8, 2006 meeting (*See Attachment 1*)

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2006 board meeting was made by Member Shea, seconded by Member Michelini, and passed unanimously.

III. Committee Reports

Transition Committee

A motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing staff issues was made by Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Member Telman and passed unanimously.

IV. Reconvene Regular Meeting 11:00 a.m.

A motion to reconvene the regular meeting was made by Member Shea, seconded by Member Calderone, and passed unanimously.

V. Committee Reports Continued

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee would like to recommend a unanimous vote of approval for Randy Blankenhorn as the first Executive Director of the Regional Planning Board. A motion to approve was made by Member Michelini, and seconded by Member Larson. A roll-call vote was taken and Mr. Blankenhorn was unanimously approved as the Executive Director of the Regional Planning Board. Chairman Bennett welcomed and congratulated Mr. Blankenhorn. Member Schlickman stated although he is a non-voting member he would like to add his personal support of the recommendation.

The By-law Final draft was presented to the Board. Karen Greenbaum highlighted the changes that have been made since the previous meeting:

- Telephonic meetings-A majority of board must present and the rest can call in. Ms. Greenbaum recommends that for the committee meetings the whole committee can be on the phone.
- The Act allows for one vice chairman and one chairman. We have two vice chairpersons and that is an issue to be resolved. Chairman Bennett stated the Executive committee will come back with a recommendation.
- A question was raised regarding committee assignments. Chairman Bennett stated that normally the chair would recommend with the advice and consent of the board. Member Rupp Srch agreed.
- Member Schlickman offered a general comment that there is a good deal of issues to be resolved and item requiring clarity. Specifically, page three as it relates to term of non voting members the “transition period” is a very vague term. Mr. Schlickman would like to have counsel review and determine the exact time of the transition period. As long as the board remains as is he is of the opinion it is still in transition. Member Schlickman pointed out that NIPC is not incorporated in the section that designates CATS as the policy committee, it should include the designation of NIPC (pg 10). Member Smith stated CATS and NIPC should be recognized in the By Laws because they were directed to keep functioning as they are. Chairman Bennett responded that on page 17 both NIPC and CATS are recognized. Member Beal suggests having By Laws that recognize the current situations and do not try to anticipate what the organization will be, rather have By Laws that represent the organization today. Member Paesel stated in section 15D developing a transportation committee is mentioned but not a comprehensive planning committee. Chairman Bennett stated we will bring all of these comments to counsel for review and any additional comments please submit ASAP.

i. McKinsey Report Final Draft

There was a full and comprehensive presentation regarding organization to the Executive Committee prior to this meeting. Chairman Bennett noted they have done a great job and their work is appreciated.

b. Public Participation Committee

Committee Chairman Hartstein stated there were 184 submissions by people who wish to participate in the Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC). The committee is in the process of screening those applications at this time and is very committed to the development of an effective and strong CAC. The committee is hopeful recommendations can be made at the May meeting.

c. Planning and Priorities Committee

Member Frank Beal reported for Mayor Larson and recapped the committee meeting held earlier today. Member Schlickman reported to the committee on RTA strategic planning and the committee is looking forward to working with the RTA. TJ Ross spoke to the committee about the excellent work they are doing at Pace to restructure their activities as well as strategic planning. In addition, the committee discussed section 53 of the act that charges the board to develop a regional financial plan. We will be working with the board and Randy Blankenhorn to complete that.

d. Transition

Committee Chairman Telman stated that during executive session the committee presented their initial findings on benefits packages for employees. The next module is the full staff plan in the next month and that should be presented hopefully within the next month. After the staff plan, the committee will then direct its focus to a financial plan.

VI. Public Comment

Chairman Bennett opened the floor for public comment. No comment was offered.

VII. Next Meeting-May 10, 2006

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Member Calderone, seconded by Michelini, and passed unanimously.