



American Planning Association
Sustainable Communities Division

Making Great Communities Happen

SCD Business Meeting

2015 National Conference (Seattle, Washington)

Sunday, April 19, 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Attendance

There were also one or two names that were not recorded.

- Scott Turner (Division Chair)
- Jennifer Koch (Division Secretary-Treasurer)
- Rob Kerns (Past Chair)
- Stephanie Weigel
- Beth Otto
- Mark Teschauer
- Daniel Lerch
- Adam Beck
- Matt Bucchin
- Mildred Warner
- Kevin Cook
- Scott Edmonson
- Dafne Gokcen
- Karen Miller
- Becky Bradley
- Amanda Reeck



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Discussion

Scott Turner led the discussion.

- Acknowledgement of volunteers
 - Division is very stable. Volunteers work very hard, are very committed, and do an outstanding job.
 - Future is bright for SCD!
- Financials
 - Stability is strong.
 - Large group – the bigger the division, the more money we have coming in.
 - Sponsors – only one other Division does it.
- Leadership & Policy
 - Sustainability Champions: 12 Champions in 11 States. Effort emerged from discussions at last year's meeting. Lots of effort happening at the national level – policy, etc. Want to empower an individual in each state chapter. Current round of champions is a pilot.
- Sustainability Policy Guide
 - Aaron Tulle and Rob Kerns have been spearheading the Policy Guide.
 - Purpose is to advocate, especially at the State level.
 - Have reached out to experts to weigh in.
 - Work session at 3:00pm-5:00pm today – everyone is welcome. We'll be asking the Delegates to provide input and depth.
 - Expected to be adopted at Fall policy conference.
- Communications & Outreach
 - E-bulletin
 - Scott Edmonson comment: Perhaps we need a filter around the information that we are sharing?
 - Matt Bucchin comment: Need to make sure that all volunteers have the resources they need to not get burned out.
- Education & Awards
 - Awards reception is tonight at Pike Place economy market building
 - Webinars
- Survey interim results
 - #1 request is currently webinars. People would also like to see policy guides.
 - Still open – please take it if you haven't!



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- Going forward
 - 525 members – want to continue growth. 6th largest Division.
 - Sponsorship program is unique – will want to expand and enhance as we move forward.
 - Volunteer base – want to grow. There will be a sign-up sheet tonight, and would also like to have it in the expo booth tomorrow.
- Questions and General Discussion
 - Are we building relationships with other Divisions?
 - Yes, for example through expanding the reception to combine with two other Divisions, and work on efforts like the Smart Cities & Sustainability Task Force.
 - There is not only one definition of sustainability. Need to be constantly thinking forward to the next thing.
 - “How do you institutionalize radicalism?” – the need for sustainability largely comes from the way planning has been done for years – need to have institutional radicalism to make changes.
 - Website
 - Potential website/tool – Nationbuilder – to build virtual presence.
 - Don’t want to have too many sites, but we are required to have an APA site, which is not as flexible as the blog site..
 - Daniel Lerch willing to help develop website.