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American Planning Association **Kansas Chapter**

Making Great Communities Happen

Presidents Message

From all of the Kansas Chapter Executive Committee – we hope that you are safe and staying healthy.

By now, I hope that you have settled into a “new normal” working remotely from home and/or using good distancing measures to flatten the curve of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I can honestly say that the transition to working from home was not real smooth for me. As someone who enjoys seeing and visiting with co-workers, friends, and neighbors, the idea of working in a basement bedroom to conduct work remotely was a tough thing to wrap my head around. I am very glad our community, county and state leaders who took the challenging and decisive steps to lessen the spread of this virus and keep us safe.

The biggest part for me, beyond the social aspects of an extrovert, is how to conduct business. I am sure you and your co-workers had to quickly pivot on how to conduct public meetings and operate an office from afar. Our parent organization, the American Planning Association, has organized a great online resource on this topic – [check it out](#). They also compiled a [good summary of the CARES Act](#) and how it relates to our profession. Some of the larger state Chapters have also stepped up to provide excellent online resources, forums, and training. Two notable chapters are the Colorado Chapter and the Massachusetts Chapter. Check them out on social media!

Our Chapter is also hosting a resource for examples for public meetings and engagement on our website. More information about this state resource is found in this newsletter.

As a step to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to follow the orders of the Governor’s Stay at Home Order, we, unfortunately, had to cancel the Spring Symposium. It was scheduled for Friday, April 10th in Lawrence and was going to cover some outstanding topics related to housing in the state of Kansas. It was a hard decision to cancel this event, but it was the correct decision. Thank you to our Executive Committee members, Stephanie Peterson, Dr. Bonnie Johnson, Erin Ollig and Martin Rivarola for their excellent work organizing a great event! I also want to thank Josh White, Chapter Treasurer, for refunding the registration fees. Finally, thank you to the presenters who had volunteered to share their knowledge on housing issues and solutions in Kansas. It was going to be an awesome day.

Thankfully, several presenters have agreed to share their presentations at our Annual Chapter Conference in October in Topeka, which we are still planning to have at this point. Obviously, things can change, but the Chapter Executive Committee is still working to organize a great event to meet, learn and celebrate our profession. Hopefully, by October this horrible and unprecedented pandemic will be behind us.

that Dr. Bonnie Johnson was inducted to the AICP College of Fellows for her tireless teaching of planners and advocacy for professional planners in Kansas. Please drop Bonnie a message of congratulation or if you happen to see her, give her an "air five" from a safe distance.

Stay safe, healthy and positive!
Chad Bunger, AICP, CFM
Kansas Chapter President

Chapter Resource-Sharing

Let's share resources! During this unprecedented time, we are all trying to figure out ways to plan and engage the public in our planning processes while maintaining the recommended social distancing practices. The Kansas Chapter is pulling together resources for our members via a comment feature to allow for sharing of information.

Our website now includes a link on the homepage where you can share articles and comment with ideas you may have. Let's share our knowledge - we don't have to navigate this issue alone.

<https://kansasplanning.org/2020/04/07/virtualengagement/>

Board Members Needed! Call for Executive Committee Officers

The activities of the Kansas Chapter are managed by a volunteer board of directors. This board is made up of elected and appointed representatives. 2020 is an election year for APA Kansas and we are seeking interested nominees in the following positions:

President: Oversees the general direction of the chapter, runs committee meetings and participates in APA National Leadership Meetings on behalf of the chapter.

Vice President: Supports the President on chapter activities, sits in for the president in his/her absence, manages special initiatives

Secretary: Provides written documentation of all chapter leadership meetings

Treasurer: Maintains the chapter budget and accounts; completes tax filings on behalf of the chapter

Professional Development Officer: Serves as the liaison between the AICP Commission and the Kansas Chapter, submits APA-KS sessions for CM Credits. Supports Kansas planners in their professional development needs

The Kansas Chapter is seeking emerging leaders to seek nomination for positions on the APA-KS Board of Directors. Serving on the Board is a fulfilling way to provide service to your profession and a great way to meet colleagues. If you are interested in running for one of the following offices, please provide a 500-word statement of interest (that will be included with your name on the ballot) to Lisa Koch, APA-KS Election Chair, by May 1, 2020. If you have questions and would like to discuss this opportunity, please reach out to Lisa. Submissions and questions should be sent to lisa@groundswellconsulting.net.

May AICP Exam Postponed

According to Felicia Braunstein, Professional Practice Director, APA, the May AICP Certification Exam will not occur in May. See the message from Ms. Braunstein below.

Certification Exam, you are probably very anxious for news about expectations, and we appreciate your patience. We have been working with our exam testing partner, Prometric, to adjust the May exam testing window, since we know that testing centers are not open, and the timeline for returning to routine testing operations is unknown at this time.

As a result, we want to confirm that the next AICP Certification Exam will not occur in May. While we rely on Prometric for information about their resources and availability, we are also actively exploring possibilities for an expanded testing window with new exam dates this summer, including potential alternative testing options such as remote online testing. Our priority is to support your professional development goals with as much flexibility and creativity as possible. Rest assured that we will share additional information with you as soon as it becomes available, so that you can plan accordingly and put your best efforts into the exam process.

Thank you very much for your understanding as we do our best to navigate uncertain times with our testing partners.

We are here for you, and hope this update allows you to devote your full attention now to the priorities that matter most- tending to the health and safety of yourselves, your loved ones, and your communities.

Best,

Felicia Braunstein
Professional Practice Director

CM Credit Opportunities

The Virginia Chapter has hosted a monthly webinar for the past couple of years that is recorded and certified for on-demand credits on their YouTube channel. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGrer-HWpjrwZ9ROKVC8HtA> where you can watch the recordings and earn credits.

APA also has some free offerings that you can find at www.planning.org/cm/free/.

Planning Webcast Series Information - Additional CM Credit Opportunities

The Kansas APA Chapter is a member of the Planning Webcast Consortium which means our members have access to regular online CM credit sessions, usually Fridays from Noon to 1:30 p.m. They offer over 50 CM credits every year via your computer. Check out their website for session days and times and to register:

www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/planning-webcast-series

The information listed below was sent by Christine Davis, webcast moderator for the Planning Webcast Series. Please contact Bonnie Johnson if you have any ideas or questions at bojojoh@ku.edu.

Happy April Webcast Consortium Members!

Please remember that in light of the cancellation of NPC20 and many other Chapter and Division hosted events over the next month(s), our platform is an excellent space to virtually host those sessions that were cancelled. If there is enough interest, I'd be happy to open dates beyond Fridays so that your members may continue to receive the professional development that is so imperative, especially now. Please extend this invitation to your Chapter and Division membership - I am more than happy to host as many sessions as possible.

Your Webcast Moderator,
Christine

AVAILABLE SESSION DATES

Available dates (through August) are listed below. *Remember, you may reserve a date with me before having all the session information together!*

July 31

August 7

August 14

August 21

ON-DEMAND SESSIONS

We have two distance education sessions available (LAW and ETHICS) for on-demand viewing through December 31! Visit our [webpage](#) and click on the "Distance Education" tab.

UPCOMING WEBCASTS

April 24 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

LGBTQ Issues and Planning (Registration Coming Soon)

Sponsored by: APA National Capital Area Chapter

CM | 1.5

May 1 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

[Craving Community: The Increments of Great Neighborhoods](#)

Sponsored by: APA Urban Design and Preservation Division

CM | 1.5

May 8 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

Integrating Sea Level Rise into Plans (Registration Coming Soon)

Sponsored by: APA HMDR Division

CM | 1.5

May 15 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

[Micromobility: Incorporating New Methods of Travel into the Planning Landscape](#)

Sponsored by: APA Transportation Planning Division

CM | 1.5 Pending

May 22 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

[Project Management for Planners](#)

Sponsored by: APA Florida Chapter

CM | 1.5

THE FINE PRINT

- Click on the title links to register. For a current listing of all webcasts and to obtain PDF copies of previous webcasts, visit www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast.
- Recorded webcasts are available at www.youtube.com/planningwebcast.
- Questions? Comments? Email me at info@ohioplanning.org.



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