



American Planning Association  
**Iowa Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

**American Planning Association  
Iowa Chapter Board Meeting**

Iowa State University  
College of Design  
Room 411, Design Building  
715 Bissell Road, Ames, IA 50011  
Call-in Only Meeting  
Conference Call Number: 1-866-499-7054  
Access Code: 9600115719  
January 17, 2020  
10:00 AM

Conference Call Number: ~~1-515-294-3600~~  
1-866-499-7054  
Access Code: 9600115719

**Meeting Agenda**  
**(Amended 01-16-20)**

**1.0 Call to Order**

**2.0 Roll Call**

**Officers:**

President-	Dylan Mullenix
Vice President-	Madeline Sturms
Past President-	Ben Champ
Secretary-	Bill Micheel
Treasurer-	Zach Young

**Executive Board Members:**

Professional Development Officer-	David Wilwerding
Planning Board Member-	Trina Flack
University of Iowa-	Charles Connerly
Iowa State University-	Francis Owusu
At-Large-	Charlie Nichols
At-Large-	Alexsis Fleener
At-Large-	Jim Holz

**Program Area Chairpersons**

• Chapter Development-	Chris Janson
	Anne Russett
• Professional Development-	Chris Shires
• Outreach/Advocacy-	Melissa Tiedemann
	Rose Schroder
• Legislative & Policy-	Steven Van Steenhuyse
• Recognition/Awards Co Chairs-	Charlie Cowell
	Emily Bothell
• Public Relations/Communications-	Liesl Seabert

**Liaisons (non-voting)**

• University of Iowa Graduate-	Leon Begay
• Iowa State University Undergrad-	Julia Hertaus
• Iowa State University Graduate-	Sarah Runkel
• County Planning/Zoning Officials-	Bret VandeLune
• Floodplain/Stormwater Management-	Mark Land

**3.0 Introduction and Welcoming of any Guests/Others**

**4.0 Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

4.1 Approval of Agenda for Friday, January 17, 2020

4.2 Approval of Minutes of Friday, November 15, 2019 – *Attachment*

**5.0 APA Iowa Membership Forum/Input**

**6.0 Business Items**

6.1 Consideration of Re-appointment of David Wilwerding as the Professional Development Officer

6.2 Consideration of 2020 Lobbyist Registration for Chapter President and Legislative & Policy Program Area Chairperson

- 6.3 **Consideration of Approval of Re-appointment of Melissa Tiedemann as the Outreach/Advocacy Co-chairperson.**
- 6.4 Consideration of Approval for 2019 Chapter Annual Report - *Attachment*
- 6.5 Consideration of Approval for 2020 Chapter Work Plan - *Attachment*
- 6.6 Consideration of Approval for 2020 Legislative Agenda - *Attachments*

## **7.0 Discussion Items**

- 7.1 2020 Calendar of Events
- 7.2 2020 Upper Midwest Conference (Des Moines)
- 7.3 2020 Design Day on the Hill
- 7.4 ISU Student Firm Crawl
- 7.5 Small Cell Workshop Sponsored by APA-IA

## **8.0 Officers Reports**

- 8.1 President (Mullenix)
- 8.2 Vice President (Sturms)
- 8.3 Immediate Past-President (Champ)
- 8.4 Secretary (Micheel)
- 8.5 Treasurer (Young)
  - 8.5.1 Chapter Treasurers Report- *Attachment* - Receive and Accept Report

## **9.0 Executive Board Reports**

- 9.1 Professional Development Officer (Wilwerding)
- 9.2 Planning Board Member (Flack)
- 9.3 University of Iowa (Connerly)
- 9.4 Iowa State University (Owusu)
- 9.5 At Large Representatives (Holz/Nichols/Fleener)
- 9.6 Chapter Development Program (Janson/Russett)
- 9.7 Professional Development (Shires)
- 9.8 Outreach/Advocacy Program (Schroder/Tiedemann)
- 9.9 Legislative and Policy Program (Van Steenhuyse)
- 9.10 Recognition/Awards Program (Cowell/Bothell)
- 9.11 Public Relations/Communication Program (Seabert)
- 9.12 University of Iowa Graduate Program (Begay)
- 9.13 Iowa State University Undergraduate Program (Hertaus)
- 9.14 Iowa State University Graduate Program (Runkel)
- 9.15 County Planning and Zoning Officials of Iowa (VandeLune)
- 9.16 Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association (Land)

## **10.0 Other Items Not on the Agenda**

### **11.0 Upcoming Board meeting**

March 27, 2020: Location TBD

### **12.0 Adjournment of Board Meeting**

~~**\*\* A working lunch including a presentation by Gary Taylor and Jon Wolseth with Iowa State University Extension are scheduled for the board at the end of the agenda. The presentation should conclude by 1pm. \*\***~~

**Minutes**  
**APA-IA Chapter Board Meeting**  
**Friday, November 15, 2019**

**1.0 Call to Order**

1.1 President Dylan Mullenix called the meeting of the American Planning Association Iowa Chapter to order at 10:02 am at DART Central Station, 620 Cherry Street, Des Moines, IA.

**2.0 Roll Call**

**Executive Board**

*Officers*

+	Dylan Mullenix	President
+	Madeline Sturms	Vice President
+	Ben Champ	Past President
+	Tony Filippini	Secretary
+	Zach Young	Treasurer

*Professional Development Officer*

+	David Wilwerding	
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*Planning Board Member*

NP	Trina Flack	
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*University Representatives*

+	Charles Connerly	University of Iowa
NP	Francis Owusu	Iowa State University

*Program Area Chairs*

+	Chris Janson	Chapter Development
+	Anne Russett	Chapter Development
+	Chris Shires	Professional Development
+	Melissa Tiedemann	Outreach / Advocacy
+	Rose Schroder	Outreach / Advocacy
+	Steven Van Steenhuyse	Legislative & Policy
NP	Charlie Cowell	Recognition / Awards
+	Emily Bothell	Recognition / Awards
+	Liesl Seabert	Public Relations / Communications

*At-Large Members*

+	Charlie Nichols	
+	Alexsis Fleener	
+	Jim Holz	

*Liaisons (non-voting)*

+	Leon Begay	University of Iowa Graduate
+	Julia Hertaus	Iowa State University Undergraduate
NP	Sarah Runkel	Iowa State University Graduate
+	Bret VandeLune	County Planning / Flood Officials
NP	Mark Land	Floodplain / Stormwater Management

18 (of 21) - Voting Members Present (notated "+") (12 required to achieve quorum)

**3.0 Introduction and Welcoming of Any Guests/Others**

Guests in attendance: Jerry Anthony, John Peterson, Kristina Sickles.

**4.0 Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

4.1 Approval of Agenda for Friday, November 15, 2019.

*Motion by Sturms, seconded by Wilwerding. Unanimous Approval.*

4.2 Approval of the Minutes, as read, from Friday, September 20, 2019.

*Motion by Seabert, seconded by Young. Unanimous Approval.*

**5.0 APA Iowa Membership Forum/Input**

Mullenix opened the floor for membership input.

John Peterson presented on an opportunity with Active Living Iowa, started by the Iowa Department of Public Health. John presented to the board that he has the opportunity to lead the Active Living Iowa group with the concurrence of the Iowa APA Chapter Board. Those in attendance were supportive of John's efforts.

**6.0 Business Items**

**6.1 Chapter only membership for 2019 Iowa APA Conference non-member registrants.**

Mullenix presented that in past years, non-APA members who registered for the APA-IA conference have been extended one-year APA-IA Chapter membership. 13 names from the APA-IA Conference in Iowa City were determined to not be members and proposed to receive a year of Chapter Only membership.

*Motion made by Shires, seconded by Young. Unanimous Approval.*

**6.2 Approve 2020 Chapter Budget**

Young reviewed the agenda as presented. He stated that the student scholarship amounts were low and were to be increased.

*Motion made by Holz, seconded by Shires. Unanimous Approval.*

**6.3 Approve 2020 Board Meeting Dates**

Mullenix presented the proposed 2020 meeting dates.

January 17, 2020 - Iowa State University (Ames)

March 27, 2020 - TBD

May 15, 2020 - Des Moines

July 17, 2020 - TBD

September 18, 2020 - University of Iowa (Iowa City)

November 20, 2020 - TBD

*Motion to approve the 2020 board meeting dates and locations, made by Streams, seconded by Seabert. Unanimous Approval.*

**6.4 Approve 2020 Legislative Agenda**

Van Steenhuyse presented a review of the 2019 legislative agenda.

- Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Reform
  - Recognizes that TIF is an important tool for local governments and supports the flexibility provided under current law.



- Water Quality and Conservation
  - Supports funding and programs that facilitate and encourage nutrient reduction in Iowa's water bodies and improve Iowa's water quality. Furthermore, APA Iowa supports watershed-level planning that address urban and rural water quality, flood mitigation, and water recreation.
- Smart Planning Principles
  - Supports comprehensive planning and the Smart Planning Principles outlined in Iowa Code and opposes any legislation to remove or weaken the practice of sound planning in Iowa's communities.
- Enhance Iowa Funding
  - Supports programs that provide additional funding and/or incentives that encourage economic development. This includes support and additional funding for the newly created Enhance Iowa program and that program's Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT), River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT), and Sports Tourism funds.
- Brownfield/Grayfield Redevelopment
  - Supports efforts and funding to enhance the Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment program to encourage sustainable development and to revitalize blighted and distressed areas.
- Minimum Wage
  - Supports a statewide increase to the minimum wage to ensure equity in economic development efforts as well as to ensure income thresholds for social services are not disproportionate across the state.
- Local Control of Planning Issues
  - Believes local jurisdictions should have control on planning issues and opposes state legislation that mandates regulations or limits local planning and zoning powers. Examples issues include the regulation of adult oriented businesses, residential occupancy restrictions, firework legalization, and cellular tower/small cell placement.
- Livable Communities
  - Supports state policies that seek to improve quality of life by promoting development of safe, accessible, and vibrant environments. Policies could address sustainable land use, mixed use developments, multigenerational and affordable housing, alternative transportation, and efforts to help residents age in place.
- Housing
  - Supports increased investment in affordable housing programs, including the State Housing Trust Fund, Workforce Housing Tax Credits, and other programs that support the modification of homes to help people age in place.

Van Steenhuyse recommends reconsidering the minimum wage priority now that the State legislature has mandated a state level wage.

Van Steenhuyse recommends including a priority on land banking. Board is supportive of including a new priority in the agenda for land banking policy.

Iowa Great Places and Climate Change are additional topics the board suggested. Van Steenhuyse will prepare policy statements for what was discussion for future board consideration.

No action was taken.

*\*Fleener joined the meeting at 10:28 am.*

*\*Champ joined the meeting at 10:33 am.*

- 6.5 All Iowa Reception at 2019 National Planning Conference Funding (Houston)  
Mullenix presented to the board that the chapter historically contributes to an all-Iowa reception along with participation from Iowa State and University of Iowa. The 2020 National Planning Conference will be located in Houston, Texas.

*Motion to approve funding by Young and seconded by Van Steenhuyse. Unanimous Approval.*

## **7.0 Discussion Items**

### **7.1 Review of 2019 Iowa-APA Conference (Iowa City)**

Sturms presented a review of the state conference activities. Sturms mentioned that the venue did reduce the room rental and food costs due to issues with the venue. The board discussed feedback received in the post-conference survey.

In addition, Mullenix plans to do a review with the Iowa City local conference committee to evaluate the planning process and improvements. The conference committee will be working to compile the presentations from the conference to post to the chapter website.

Fleener presented that Mentor Match sessions at the conference went well.

### **7.2 2020 Upper Midwest Conference (Des Moines)**

Mullenix reported that he will be reaching out to the National APA President to attend the 2020 conference. He also presented that agreements with the events center have been signed and that the local planning committee is being developed and will convene in January 2020 to begin organizing. Sturms reported to the board that Kristina, the Chapter Administrator, will be our key personnel to organize many aspects of the conference.

## **8.0 Officers Reports**

### **8.1 President (Mullenix)**

Mullenix reported Perkins has resigned as of the end of October 2019 and commended her great work over years. Mullenix also recognized Filippini for his term ending as Chapter Secretary at the end of the year.

Mullenix reported that he will have a chapter report available at the beginning of 2020.

Mullenix reminded the board to send him photos and bios for the website.

### **8.2 Vice President (Sturms)**

Sturms reported she will be finalizing the contract with Ottumwa for the 2021 conference.

Sturms also reported that National APA has asked chapters about having a climate and sustainability liaison. Someone has been identified to serve in that role.

8.3 Immediate Past-President (Champ)

Champ gave a report on a program review session he participated in at University of Iowa.

8.4 Secretary (Filippini)

8.4.1 Filippini provided a membership update through October 2019.

8.5 Treasurer (Young)

Young reported that he has experienced issues with US Bank and was unable to provide a report. He reported that the Chapter has \$86,000 in the account. After paying bills, should expect to have \$42,000 balance. The chapter will be transferring the account to a bank in coordination with our new Chapter Administrator.

**9.0 Executive Board Reports**

9.1 Professional Development Officer (Wilwerding)

Wilwerding reported that the AICP testing window is open through Monday. Nine registered for the exam.

9.2 Planning Board Member (Flack)

No report.

9.3 University of Iowa (Connerly)

Connerly reported results from the University of Iowa program review.

9.4 Iowa State University (Owusu)

No report.

9.5 At-Large Representative (Holz/Nichols/Fleener)

At-large representatives reported their activities.

9.6 Chapter Development Program (Janson/Russett)

Russett reported that next Thursday will be the next Corridor happy hour at Joe's Place in Iowa City. Russett also reported that Iowa City has created a Climate Action Commission and ask if planners would be interested in volunteering assistance for the commission.

Janson reported that he plans to set up events for the next 6-months.

*\*Schroder joined the meeting at 11:34 am.*

9.7 Professional Development (Shires)

Shires reported that he will work to organize the next board meeting in Ames in January.

*\*Nichols joined the meeting at 11:36 am.*

9.8 Outreach / Advocacy Program (Schroder/Tiedemann)

Tiedemann reported that they will be engaging other organizations on activities that may be able to collaborate on in the fall during the conference.

Schroder reported that they are continuing to engage other organizations.

9.9 Legislative and Policy Program (Van Steenhuyse)

Van Steenhuyse reported that APA will be hosting a State Legislative Summer in Richmond, VA. in December. He also reported that the annual Design Professionals Day on the Hill will take place in January. He will be working with AIA for more information. He plans to find ways to have more planners engage with their law makers.

9.10 Recognition / Awards Program (Cowell/Bothell)

Bothell reported that they sent a press release with the 2019 award winners and that the award presentation is now available on the chapter website. The chairs also have photos of the event and are available if anyone is interested.

9.11 Public Relations / Communication Program (Seabert)

Seabert reported that Facebook activity is steady. She asked to continue to send her items to share. Next newsletter will be going out in early January.

9.12 University of Iowa Graduate Program (Begay)

Begay reported that students are taking advantage of the activities of the chapter. Begay also reported that the students are planning a road trip to Detroit, MI in March. Finally, requested that the Student Chapter information on the chapter website to be updated with student organization information.

9.13 Iowa State University Undergraduate Program (Hertaus)

Hertaus reported that students are involved in a number of plans around the State of Iowa such as the City of Ames comprehensive plan and the state bike plan. The student club is working on ways to boost enrollment in the program. Hertaus mentioned that the students had in the past had organized a Firm Crawl and are interested in re-organizing an event in the spring around the Des Moines area.

9.14 Iowa State University Graduate Program (Runkel)

No report.

9.15 County Planning and Zoning Officials of Iowa (VandeLune)

No report.

9.16 Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association (Land)

No report.

**10.0 Other Items Not on the Agenda**

**11.0 Upcoming Board Meetings**

The September meeting is scheduled in Ames on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of January at 10 a.m. in Ames.

**12.0 Adjournment of the Board Meeting**

*Mullinex adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.*

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Dylan Mullenix, AICP  
President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Madeline Sturms, AICP  
Vice President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_







# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

American Planning Association Iowa Chapter

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# APA IOWA LEADERSHIP

## Board Officers (as of December 2019)

- President: Dylan Mullenix, AICP, Des Moines Area MPO
- Vice President: Madeline Sturms, AICP, City of Pleasant Hill
- Secretary: Tony Filippini, AICP, Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority
- Treasurer: Zach Young, AICP, Des Moines Area MPO
- Immediate Past President: J. Ben Champ, AICP, City of Pleasant Hill

## Executive Board Members (as of December 2019)

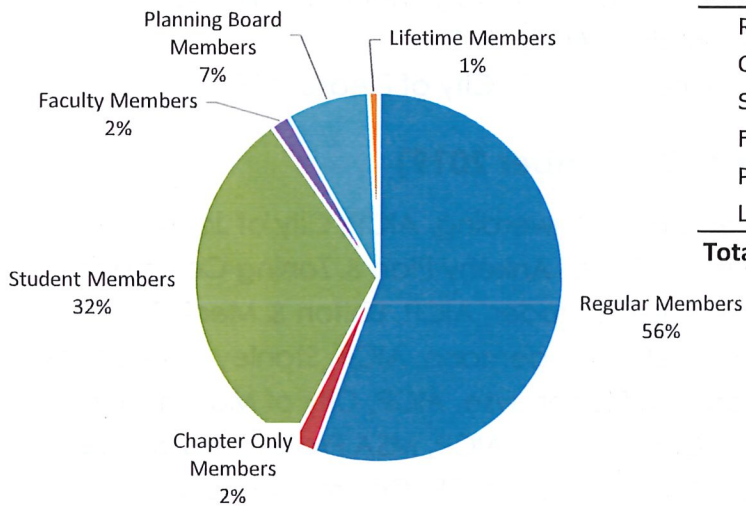
- Professional Development Officer: David Wilwerding, AICP, City of Johnston
- Planning Board Member: Trina Flack, City of Ankeny Plan & Zoning Commission
- Advocacy & Outreach Co-Chair: Rose Schroder, AICP, Bolton & Menk, Inc.
- Advocacy & Outreach Co-Chair: Melissa Tiedemann, AICP, Stanley Consultants
- Legislative Program Chair: Steven Van Steenhuyse, AICP, City of Mason City
- Chapter Development Co-Chair: Chris Janson, AICP, MSA Professional Services
- Chapter Development Co-Chair: Anne Russett, AICP, City of Iowa City
- Recognition & Awards Co-Chair: Charlie Cowell, AICP, RDG Planning & Design
- Recognition & Awards Co-Chair: Emily Bothell, AICP, City of Iowa City
- Communications Program Co-Chair: Liesl Seabert, AICP, IEDA
- Professional Development Chair: Chris Shires, AICP, Confluence
- At-Large Representative: Amber Lynch, AICP, City of Des Moines
- At-Large Representative: Jim Holz, AICP, MSA Professional Services
- At-Large Representative: Charlie Nichols, AICP, City of Cedar Rapids
- University Representative: Francis Owusu, Iowa State University
- University Representative: Charles Connerly, University of Iowa
- University of Iowa Graduate Student: Leon Begay
- Iowa State University Undergraduate Student: Julia Hertaus
- Iowa State University Graduate Student: Sarah Runkel
- County Planning & Zoning Officials: Bret Vandelune, Polk County
- Iowa Floodplain & Stormwater Management Officials: Mark Land, Snyder & Assoc.

## Executive Board Members Whose Terms Expired in 2019

- Planning Board Member: Dave Tallman, Shive Hattery
- Communications Program Co-Chair: Seana Perkins, AICP, Polk County
- At-Large Representative: Amber Lynch, AICP, City of Des Moines
- University of Iowa Graduate Student: Chanel Jelovchan
- Iowa State University Undergraduate Student: Bridge Williams

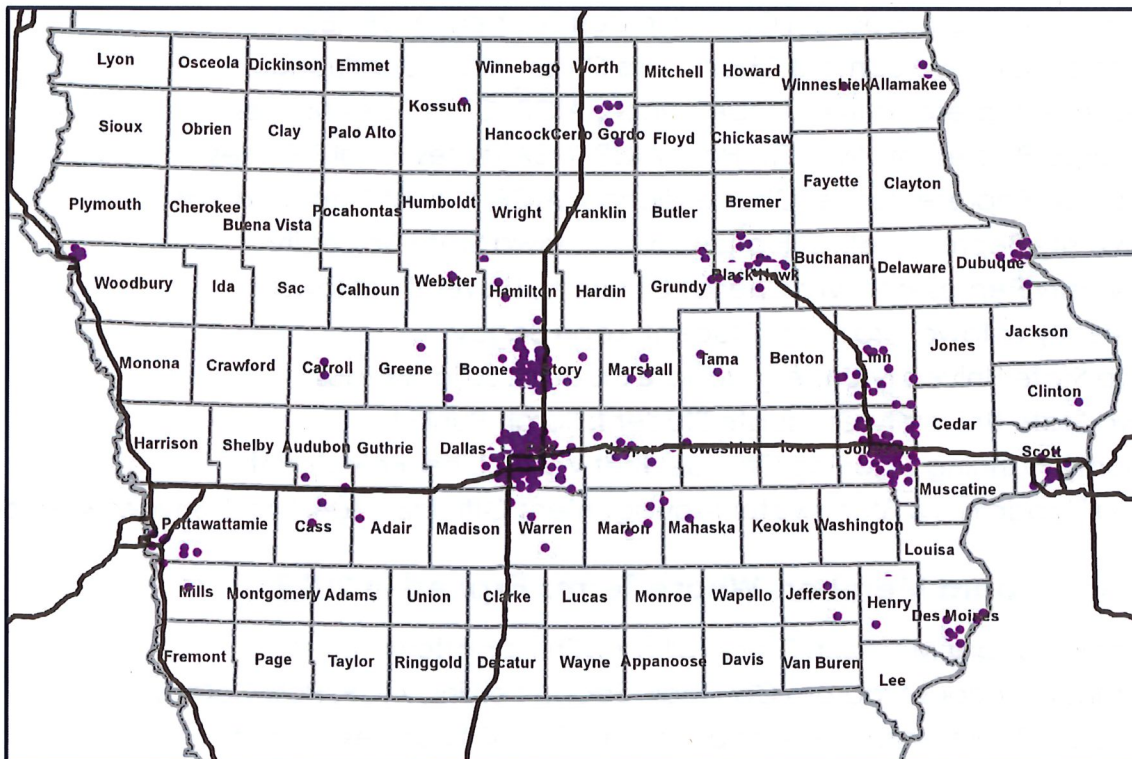
# MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

## Membership by Type



Membership Category	Number
Regular Members	271
Chapter Only Members	8
Student Members	111
Faculty Members	8
Planning Board Members	34
Lifetime Members	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>437</b>

## Member Distribution



Data as of November 2019



# CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

## Administrative Support

In September 2019 the APA Iowa board agreed to retain paid administrative support for the first time. The board retained the services of firm Sickels & Associates, an Indianola based company who will provide approximately 10 hours of assistance per month. These services will include financial management services, meeting management and event coordination, and advisory services to help carry out APA Iowa's policies.

## 2020 Work Plan

In November 2019 the APA Iowa board held a strategic planning session, facilitated by Terry Berkbuegler with Confluence, to help refine the 2020 work plan. Board members reflected on the work accomplished throughout 2019 and identified new priorities for 2020. Among the priorities for 2020 are increased engagement of students and young professional, hosting more professional development opportunities outside of central Iowa, and expanding the profile and influence of the chapter.

## New Website

Over the last few years APA national has assisted chapters and divisions transition to a new, free website platform. In 2019, APA Iowa transitioned to this new platform, which was formally launched at the APA Iowa Annual Conference in October. The new website is easier to manage, has better integration with the materials offered by APA national and with APA member accounts, and provides more functionality such as the ability for members and their employers to post jobs directly to the site. The new website can be found at [iowa.planning.org](http://iowa.planning.org). Special thanks to Seana Perkins for working with APA to transition the chapter's website to the new platform.

## Chapter Elections

APA Iowa held its biennial elections earlier in summer 2019 for board positions that will run from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Current office holder of President (Dylan Mullenix, Des Moines Area MPO), Vice President (Madeline Sturms, City of Pleasant Hill), and Treasurer (Zach Young, Des Moines Area MPO) were reelected for a second term. Bill Micheel, City of Cedar Rapids, was elected as the chapter's new Secretary and will replace Tony Filippini, Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority, who chose not to run again. Past President Ben Champ, City of Pleasant Hill, will continue in that role to round out APA Iowa's officers for 2020-2021.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## AICP Exam Results

In the May 2019 and November 2019 testing windows, 12 planners passed the AICP exam; 6 through the traditional process and 6 through the AICP Candidate program. Iowa's planners continue to excel when it comes to passing the AICP exam. In the May test, APA Iowa members taking the AICP exam had a 100% pass rate for the traditional process compared (national pass rate of 63%) and a 66% pass rate for the AICP Candidate program (national pass rate of 56%). In November, APA Iowa members had a 33% pass rate (national rate of 62%) for the traditional process and an 80% pass rate (national rate of 55%) for the AICP Candidate program.

### New AICP Members

- Vanessa Fixmer-Oraiz
- Laura Kessel
- Brandon Melton
- Maggie Murray
- Stephanie Schrader
- Christopher Widmer



### New AICP Candidate Members

- Nicole Behrens
- Kellen Gorman
- Danielle Propst
- Luke McClanahan
- Jane Reasoner
- Zhi Chen





## CM Offerings

In 2019, APA Iowa offered 74.75 hours of CM opportunities to members, compared with 63 hours offered in 2018. The majority of these (52.75 hours) were offered directly by APA Iowa. Other were offered by partnerships with the University of Iowa (8 hours), the Iowa Section of the Urban Land Institute (6 hours), the Tomorrow Plan Speaker Series (4.5 hours), the Bi-State Regional Planning Commission (3 hours), and the Iowa Environmental Council (1.5 hours).

## CM Partnership Policy

APA Iowa is a registered CM Provider through the American Planning Association and provides this service so that AICP members have ability to receive CM credits throughout Iowa, including APA Iowa events and conferences. APA Iowa frequently partners with other groups and organizations to co-sponsor training events so those events can qualify for CM credits. To partner with other groups to offer CM credits, APA Iowa must follow the guidelines set forth in the [CM Provider Toolkit](#). To help ensure these guidelines are followed, in 2019 APA Iowa adopted a [CM Credit Approval Policy](#) to provide guidance for such situations.

## APA National Conference

APA Iowa had a strong turnout at the APA National Conference held in San Francisco. Sixty-five APA Iowa members attended the conference, including sixteen students. APA Iowa partnered with Iowa State University and the University of Iowa to hold the All Iowa Reception, which was attended by approximately 50 people. Additionally, numerous student groups participated in the poster contest.





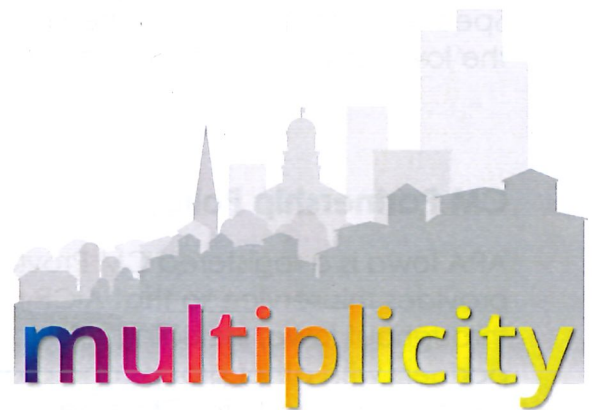
## 2019 APA Iowa Annual Conference

APA Iowa held its annual chapter conference in Iowa City from October 9-11th. Just over 250 attendees participated in the conference. 48 AICP CM credits were available at the conference. New APA CEO Joel Albizo was in attendance and was highly complementary of the chapter and the quality of the conference.



Left: APA CEO Joel Albizo addresses conference attendees during his keynote.

Below: Iowa City's Robert Miklo leads a mobile tour of downtown Iowa City.



PLANNING FOR COMMUNITIES IN A STATE OF CHANGE

### Conference Planning Committee

- Madeline Sturms, City of Pleasant Hill
- Kent Ralston, MPO of Johnson County
- Emily Bothell, MPO of Johnson County
- Charlie Cowell, RDG Planning & Design
- Katherine Dostart, City of Des Moines
- Alexis Fleener, Southwest Iowa Planning Council
- Tracy Hightshoe, City of Iowa City
- Dylan Mullenix, Des Moines Area MPO
- Anne Russett, City of Iowa City
- Rose Schroder, Bolton & Menk, Inc.
- Liesl Seabert, Iowa Economic Development Authority
- Chris Shires, Confluence
- Danielle Sitzman, City of Iowa City
- Sarah Walz, City of Iowa City
- Chris Widmer, City of Pleasant Hill
- David Wilwerding, City of Johnston
- Zach Young, Des Moines Area MPO

## 2020 Upper Midwest APA Conference

Preparations have begun for the Iowa Chapter to host the 2020 Upper Midwest Conference which will be October 14-16, 2020, at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. In 2019 APA Iowa worked to secure the venue and dates and to begin marketing the event.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

APA Iowa recognized several organizations and individuals at the 2019 APA Iowa Conference in Iowa City. Award winners included:

- Best Practice Award: ReZone Cedar Rapids – City of Cedar Rapids
- Environmental Planning Award: East and West Nishnabotna River Watershed Plan – East and West Nishnabotna River Watershed Management Coalition, JEP Consulting Group, and Golden Hills RC&D
- Implementation Award: Affordable Housing Action Plan – City of Iowa City
- Urban Design Award: The Square Streetscape Master Plan – City of Indianola and Bolton & Menk, Inc.
- Grassroots Initiative Award: Trails to a Wonderful Life – Rotary Club of Denson and Snyder & Associates, Inc.
- Transportation Planning Award: Bike Share System – City of Cedar Rapids
- Transportation Planning Award: Davenport GO – City of Davenport, RDG Planning & Design, and Alta Planning + Design
- Economic Development Planning Award: Dyersville Downtown Plan – City of Dyersville and RDG Planning & Design
- Student Poster Contest:
  - First Place: Megan Schott and Nate Bauer, University of Iowa – Block by Block Flood Recovery Study: The Nonprofit Response in Cedar Rapids, IA
  - Second Place: Tunazzina Binte Alam, University of Iowa – Determination of Prime Bus Stop Locations: A Case Study of Khulna City Corporation Area, Bangladesh
  - Third Place: Harrison Freund, University of Iowa – Understanding Heat Vulnerability in Iowa City: Identifying At-Risk Populations and Areas





## Iowa Great Places

APA chapters are encouraged to have a state-level Great Places Program. Rather than create its own, APA Iowa has partnered with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs to recognize the State's Great Places Program. APA Iowa helps promote the program and recognize Iowa Great Places designees. Additionally, APA Iowa has a representative on the review committee that selects designees.

In 2019, two new Great Places were recognized:

- City of Lake View
- Clive Greenbelt

The following projects received grant funding through Iowa Great Places in 2019:

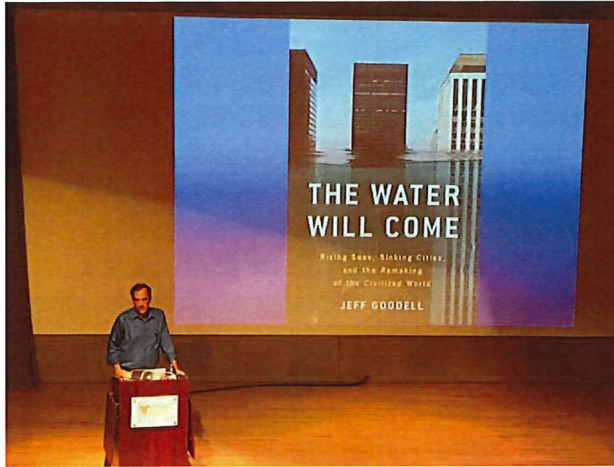
- City of Maquoketa – Maquoketa Trails: Pathways for the Community, \$218,200
- City of Dubuque – Mathias Ham House Campus Restoration, \$285,762
- City of Decorah – Iconic Stone Structures, \$155,000
- Malvern Area Betterment Association – Malvern City Entrance Beautification, \$40,525
- City of Burlington – Downtown Riverfront Improvements, \$300,000



# IOWA GREAT PLACES

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

## PARTNERSHIPS



### The Tomorrow Plan Speaker Series

The Tomorrow Plan Speaker Series hosts national thought-leaders who share ideas, insights, and inspiration with regional influencers to advance the sustainable development of Greater Des Moines. APA Iowa joined the speaker series board in 2018. In this role, APA Iowa has been able to get the free events approved for AICP CM credits.

### Planning Healthy Iowa Communities

APA Iowa continues to be a proud supporter of Planning Healthy Iowa Communities, a collaborative effort led by APA Iowa and the Iowa Public Health Association with a grant from the APA Planners4Health initiative. Planning Healthy Iowa Communities works to bring together representatives from planning, public health, and environmental health to help identify ways these organizations can work to



encourage more physical activity, healthier food choices, a more thoughtful built environment, and an enhance natural environment.



APA Iowa provides a scholarship through the Planning Healthy Iowa Communities collaborative to help connect public health representatives to the planning community. In 2019, Kelli Gerdes, the Health Promotions Manager for Cerro Gordo County Public Health Department and a member of the Iowa Public Health Association received this scholarship via an essay contest. The scholarship provided free registration and accommodations at the 2019 APA Iowa Conference in Iowa City.



# LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS

## State Advocacy

APA Iowa annually develops a state legislative agenda and engages in the Iowa legislative process when necessary. Periodic updates are made throughout the legislative session to APA Iowa members about planning-related legislation making its way through the legislature. When necessary, APA Iowa works to educate legislators on the potential planning-related impacts of pending legislation. APA Iowa also participates in Design Day on the Hill along with partner organizations such as the American Institute of Architects, American Association of Landscape Architects, and the Green Building Council.

APA Iowa's Legislative and Policy Chair, Steven Van Steenhuyse of Mason City, leads the chapters legislative efforts. In December 2019, Steven attended a State Legislative Summit, organized by APA, in Richmond, VA. The summit brought together legislative liaisons from 28 chapters to learn from each other about best practices in legislative advocacy and to learn more about legislative issues anticipated in 2020. Steven's travel was provided in part by a grant from APA national.

## Federal Advocacy

APA Iowa representatives also engage with peers on a national level regarding planning-related legislation. Each September, APA Iowa's President as well as the Legislative and Policy Chair travel to Washington, D.C., to participate in APA's Policy and Advocacy Conference. This trip also allows APA Iowa to engage Iowa's congressional representatives about planning issues as part of an APA Planners Day on the Hill. In 2019, Steven Van Steenhuyse, APA Iowa's Legislative and Policy Chair, met with several members of Iowa's congressional delegation or their staffs to discuss national planning issues, such as affordable housing, and to apprise them of planning projects in Iowa.



## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2019

APA Iowa operates on a calendar year schedule, January to December. The following tables summarize APA Iowa's finances in 2019. As noted, APA Iowa's net income was \$5,855.14.

<b>Program Revenues</b>	<b>Amount</b>
APA Membership Dues Rebate	\$12,711.18
APA IA Conference Revenue	\$52,650.05
Grants (FY 2018 carryover)	\$3,700.00
All Iowa Reception – University Share	\$1,200.00
Interest Earned	\$5.45
Other	\$168.14
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$70,434.82</b>

<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Professional Fees	\$2,226.25
Insurance	\$390.00
Software	\$787.20
Equipment	\$137.78
Office Supplies	\$13.35
Travel	\$7,102.11
CM Dues/Subscriptions	\$2,508.00
Sponsorships – Expense	\$2,000.00
Grants – Expense	\$525.00
National Conference Expenses	\$1,895.71
Conference Expense	\$52,456.00
Lunch and Learns	\$44.45
Misc. Events	\$938.42
Unbudgeted Expenses	\$5,265.69
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$76,289.96</b>



American Planning Association  
**Iowa Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*





## **APA Iowa 2020 Work Plan**

The American Planning Association Iowa Chapter (APA Iowa) is a membership organization of approximately four hundred professional planners, planning educators, planning commissioners and planning students from across the state of Iowa. APA Iowa's mission is to strengthen planning to create thriving communities. We do this through celebration, advocacy, relationships, and education of our members and communities.

This document outlines APA Iowa's work plan for 2020. We intend to work with our partners at the state and national level to complete the following tasks.

### **Engage and Increase Membership**

- Administer a survey of members to determine service needs and member satisfaction [Chapter Development](#)
- Cross-reference membership roster with other data sources
  - Graduate lists from ISU and Iowa [Students/University Reps](#)
  - COGs [At-large Member](#)
  - MPOs/RPAs [At-large Member](#)
- Engage students to increase chances they become members
  - Send specific survey to students to determine needs/awareness/satisfaction [Students/Chapter Development develop](#)
  - Target specific outreach to students for all events [Professional Development Chair/Admin](#)
  - Begin hosting 'firm crawls' with student clubs in both central Iowa (for ISU) and corridor (for U of Iowa) students [Advocacy/Students](#)
  - Ensure strong ties to university faculty on board to ensure link to students [Faculty](#)
  - Contact graduating class members to encourage them to remain APA members [Chapter Development](#)
  - Continue holding mentor match program at the conference [At-Large](#)
  - Participate in job fairs at state universities [Advocacy](#)
  - Speak at Iowa State and University of Iowa about APA IA [President/PDO](#)
- Better follow-up with chapter-only members to ensure they renew
  - Send letter when chapter only members join to highlight benefits [President](#)
  - Send letter when year is up to encourage them to renew membership [President](#)
- Develop content outlining member benefits [Chapter Development/At-Large Member](#)
  - Revisit what is available to all vs. just members
- Engage Planning & Zoning Boards
  - Partner with ISU Extension to support P&Z trainings [Prof. Dev./Faculty/Planning Board](#)
  - Conference outreach to P&Z members
  - Add information about P&Z membership and rates to the chapter website

### Expand the Profile and Outreach of APA Iowa

- Administer the chapter awards program [Awards](#)
  - Formalize the Great Places winners; treat the same as APA IA award winners [Awards, At-Large](#)
  - Identify opportunities to highlight award winners (e.g., at Day on the Hill, in newsletter, etc.) [Awards, At-Large, PR](#)
  - Mentor award winners to encourage their application for national awards [Awards](#)
  - Increase emphasis on local planner recognition to help with future FAICP candidates [Awards, At-Large](#)
- Inventory allied organizations and regularly make contact to identify opportunities to collaboration [Outreach/Legislative/Prof. Dev.](#)
  - Legislative support/advocacy assistance
  - Professional development/training
  - Technical assistance offerings
  - Other?
- Administer formal communication channels and encourage planners to share successes through these channels [PR, At-Large, Secretary](#)
  - Quarterly newsletter
  - Social media
  - Chapter website
- Facilitate the Planning Healthy Iowa Communities initiative and be the host for the Active Living Iowa committee [Outreach/John P.](#)
- Explore the development of a technical assistance activity to coincide with the annual conference [Prof. Dev/Outreach/Planning Committee](#)
- Enhance the chapter's legislative involvement [Legislative](#)
  - Develop a legislative agenda prior to the start of the state legislative session
  - Participate in Day on the Hill activities (see professional development section)
  - Schedule Governor Proclamation for October Planning Month to coincide with the 2020 Upper Midwest Planning Conference

### Administer the Business of the Chapter

- Oversee the contract with the Chapter Administrator [Pres/VP](#)
- Maintain chapter finances [Treasurer/Admin](#)
- Develop the 2021 budget and work plan [Treasurer/Officers](#)
- Develop and provide documentation to APA showing compliance with the Chapter Performance Criteria [Pres](#)
- Define and document roles and responsibilities of APA IA board members [Pre/VP](#)
- Document policies and procedures [Officers/Admin](#)
- Facilitate periodic reporting of work plan activities by board members [Secretary](#)
- Develop a year-long sponsorship program [Treasurer/Prof. Dev/Outreach/Admin](#)

## Encourage Professional Development

- Assist planners seeking AICP and AICP Candidate certification [PDO](#)
  - Ensure adequate training for the chapter Professional Development Officer.
  - Maintain a library of materials and resources to share with candidates.
- Host Professional Development Events
  - Put out a calendar of all events early in the year [Admin](#)
  - Host Upper Midwest Conference in Des Moines [Admin/Planning committee](#)
    - Engage Wisconsin and Minnesota early [President](#)
    - Engage other organizations like ULI and CoZo in planning/program [Outreach/Engagement Chairs](#)
    - Be more proactive in identifying sessions based on feedback from last conference [Planning Committee](#)
    - Logistical arrangements [Admin](#)
  - Host at least 3 professional development opportunities outside of central Iowa
    - Identify topic(s) and speakers [Outreach/Engagement, Prof. Dev.](#)
    - Secure locations [Admin](#)
    - Market the event [PR](#)
    - Evaluation opportunities for sponsorships and/or partnerships with allied organizations [Prof. Dev/Outreach/Admin](#)
  - Participate in Design Professional's Day on the Hill
    - Provide a professional development opportunity in conjunction with the event to increase attendance [Legislative/Prof. Dev.](#)
    - Provide more training/information in lead up to event [Legislative, PR, At-Large member](#)
    - Incorporate Great Places and award winners into programming to show legislators the impact planning has [Legislative, At Large, PR, Awards](#)
  - Host Networking Events
    - Foster monthly/quarterly networking events throughout the state (Omaha/CB, central Iowa, Corridor, and Mason City area already exist – encourage similar in Dubuque, Cedar Falls/Waterloo, Sioux City, and Quad Cities) [Chapter Development, At-Large](#)
    - Tie to Divisions – happy hours with facilitated discussions led by planners on a topic of their choosing that would incorporate divisions [Chapter Development, At-Large, Prof. Development](#)
  - Other
    - Firm crawls with students (see engagement section) [Advocacy/Students](#)
    - Discuss with ISU Extension any support we can provide with P&Z trainings [Prof. Dev./Faculty/At-Large](#)
    - Be open to “pop-up” events as they present themselves (pop-up’s may not be on 2020 calendar)







American Planning Association  
Iowa Chapter

## APA Iowa 2020 Legislative Agenda

*Making Great Communities Happen*

The American Planning Association Iowa Chapter (APA Iowa) is a membership organization of approximately four hundred professional planners, planning educators, planning commissioners and planning students from across the state of Iowa. Please find below APA Iowa's state legislative priorities for ~~2019~~2020. This is not an exhaustive list of critical planning policies important to APA Iowa, but rather reflects items ~~anticipated to~~that may be considered during the ~~2018-upcoming~~ legislative session. For more information, please contact APA Iowa Legislative Program Chair Steven Van Steenhuyse, AICP (svansteenhuyse@masoncity.net, 641-421-3626). For more information about APA Iowa, please visit [www.iowa-apa.org](http://www.iowa-apa.org).

Policy Item	APA Iowa Position
<del>Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Reform</del> Economic Development	Recognizes that <del>TIF</del> tax increment financing is an important tool for local governments and supports the flexibility provided under current law. <u>Supports legislation, policies, programs, and funding that allow communities to attract and sustain quality jobs that provide livable and equitable wages to the workforce.</u>
Water Quality and Conservation	Supports funding and programs that facilitate and encourage nutrient reduction in Iowa's water bodies and improve Iowa's water quality. Furthermore, APA Iowa supports watershed-level planning that address urban and rural water quality, flood mitigation, and water recreation.
Smart Planning Principles	Supports comprehensive planning and the Smart Planning Principles outlined in Iowa Code, and opposes any legislation to remove or weaken the practice of sound planning in Iowa's communities.
<del>Enhance Iowa Funding</del> Recreation and Cultural Programs	Supports programs and funding or incentives that encourage economic development <u>and provide a higher quality of life to attract and retain residents.</u> This includes support and additional funding for the Enhance Iowa program, <del>and that program's Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT), River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT), and Sports Tourism funds</del> <u>historic preservation, and cultural programs such as Iowa Great Places.</u>
Brownfield/Grayfield Redevelopment	Supports efforts and funding to enhance the Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment programs to encourage sustainable development and to revitalize blighted and distressed areas.
Minimum Wage	<u>Supports a statewide increase to the minimum wage to ensure equity in economic development efforts as well as to ensure income thresholds for social services are not disproportionate across the state.</u>
Local Control of Planning Issues	Believes local jurisdictions should have control on planning issues and opposes <del>state</del> legislation that mandates regulations or limits local planning and zoning powers. Examples <del>issues</del> include <del>the</del> regulation of adult oriented businesses, residential occupancy restrictions, firework legalization, and cellular tower/small cell placement.
Livable Communities	Supports state policies that seek to improve quality of life by promoting development of safe, accessible, and vibrant environments. Policies could address sustainable land use, mixed use developments, multigenerational and affordable housing, alternative transportation, and efforts to help residents age in place.
Housing	Supports increased investment in affordable housing programs, including the State Housing Trust Fund, Workforce Housing Tax Credits, and other programs that <u>provide quality housing for low and moderate income families, reduce barriers to homeownership, and</u> support the modification of homes to help people age in place.



American Planning Association  
**Iowa Chapter**

## ***APA Iowa 2020 Legislative Agenda***

*Making Great Communities Happen*

Policy Item	APA Iowa Position
<u>Environmental Sustainability and Climate</u>	<u>Supports state policies that encourage and incentivize use of sustainable energy from renewable sources, programs that prevent or mitigate the impacts of climate change, and programs that protect the environment.</u>





American Planning Association  
**Iowa Chapter**

## **APA Iowa 2020 Legislative Agenda**

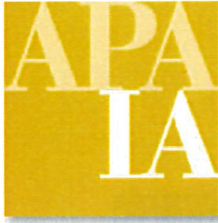
*Making Great Communities Happen*

The American Planning Association Iowa Chapter (APA Iowa) is a membership organization of approximately four hundred professional planners, planning educators, planning commissioners and planning students from across the state of Iowa. Please find below APA Iowa's state legislative priorities for 2020. This is not an exhaustive list of critical planning policies important to APA Iowa, but rather reflects items that may be considered during the upcoming legislative session. For more information, please contact APA Iowa Legislative Program Chair Steven Van Steenhuyse, AICP ([svansteenhuyse@masoncity.net](mailto:svansteenhuyse@masoncity.net), 641-421-3626). For more information about APA Iowa, please visit [www.iowa-apa.org](http://www.iowa-apa.org).

Policy Item	APA Iowa Position
Economic Development	Recognizes that tax increment financing is an important tool for local governments and supports the flexibility provided under current law. Supports legislation, policies, programs, and funding that allow communities to attract and sustain quality jobs that provide livable and equitable wages to the workforce.
Water Quality and Conservation	Supports funding and programs that facilitate and encourage nutrient reduction in Iowa's water bodies and improve Iowa's water quality. Furthermore, APA Iowa supports watershed-level planning that address urban and rural water quality, flood mitigation, and water recreation.
Smart Planning Principles	Supports comprehensive planning and the Smart Planning Principles outlined in Iowa Code, and opposes any legislation to remove or weaken the practice of sound planning in Iowa's communities.
Recreation and Cultural Programs	Supports programs and funding or incentives that encourage economic development and provide a higher quality of life to attract and retain residents. This includes support and additional funding for the Enhance Iowa program, historic preservation, and cultural programs such as Iowa Great Places.
Brownfield/Grayfield Redevelopment	Supports efforts and funding to enhance the Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment programs to encourage sustainable development and to revitalize blighted and distressed areas.
Local Control of Planning Issues	Believes local jurisdictions should have control on planning issues and opposes legislation that mandates regulations or limits local planning and zoning powers. Examples include regulation of adult oriented businesses, residential occupancy restrictions, firework legalization, and cellular tower/small cell placement.
Livable Communities	Supports state policies that seek to improve quality of life by promoting development of safe, accessible, and vibrant environments. Policies could address sustainable land use, mixed use developments, multigenerational and affordable housing, alternative transportation, and efforts to help residents age in place.
Housing	Supports increased investment in affordable housing programs, including the State Housing Trust Fund, Workforce Housing Tax Credits, and other programs that provide quality housing for low and moderate income families, reduce barriers to homeownership, and support the modification of homes to help people age in place.
Environmental Sustainability and Climate	Supports state policies that encourage and incentivize use of sustainable energy from renewable sources, programs that prevent or mitigate the impacts of climate change, and programs that protect the environment.







DATE: January 10, 2020  
TO: APA Iowa Chapter  
SUBJECT: Treasurer's Report  
FROM: Zach Young, MRTPI, AICP  
APA Iowa Chapter, Treasurer

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## APA-Iowa Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2019

	<u>Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking (6230)	<u>39,809.11</u>
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$39,809.11</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$39,809.11</u>

### FY 2019 Budget

#### Budget Variance Report: End-of-Year

REVENUE	BUDGET	ACTUAL
APA Dues Rebate	\$12,000.00	\$12,711.18
Conference Income	\$43,425.00	\$52,650.05
Grants	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00
Planner4Health	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Call to Action	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
All Iowa Reception - University Share	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$5.00	\$5.45
Other Revenue	\$500.00	\$168.14
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$60,830.00</b>	<b>\$70,434.82</b>

**FY 2019 Budget**

**Budget Variance Report: End-of-Year**

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
Professional Fees	\$2,700.00	\$2,226.25
<i>Legal/Accounting/Tax Preparation</i>	\$1,700.00	\$850.00
<i>Web Consulting</i>	\$1,000.00	\$1,376.25
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$400.00	\$390.00
Software	\$720.00	\$787.20
<i>QuickBooks</i>	\$720.00	\$787.20
Equipment	\$500.00	\$137.78
Office Supplies	\$200.00	\$13.35
Postage/Freight	\$50.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$8,375.00	\$7,102.11
<i>Lodging</i>	\$4,000.00	\$3,744.95
<i>Food</i>	\$1,275.00	\$586.00
<i>Transportation</i>	\$1,500.00	\$1,751.16
<i>Registration</i>	\$1,100.00	\$1,020.00
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$500.00	\$0.00
CM Dues/Subscriptions	\$1,254.00	\$2,508.00
Training/Continuing Education	\$500.00	\$0.00
Sponsorships – Expense	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Grants – Expense	\$3,700.00	\$525.00
<i>Planner4Health</i>	\$2,500.00	\$525.00
<i>Call to Action</i>	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
National Conference Expenses	\$1,800.00	\$1,895.71
<i>All Iowa Reception</i>	\$1,800.00	\$1,895.71
Conference Expense	\$36,220.00	\$52,456.00
Iowa APA Metro Planner's Lunch Meetings	\$250.00	\$0.00
Lunch and Learns	\$250.00	\$44.45
Local Advocacy	\$50.00	\$0.00
Misc. Events	\$300.00	\$938.42
Unbudgeted Expenses	\$0.00	\$5,265.69
<i>Chapter Administrative Services</i>	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
<i>2020 Conference Venue - down payment</i>	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
<i>Fraudulent Charge</i>	\$0.00	\$65.69
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$59,269.00</b>	<b>\$76,289.96</b>

<b>Revenues Less Expenditures for the FY</b>	<b>\$1,561.00</b>	<b>-\$5,855.14</b>
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