

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**APA-IA Chapter Board Meeting**  
**Friday, September 17, 2021**

**1.0 Call to Order**

President Dylan Mullenix called the meeting of the American Planning Association Iowa Chapter to order at 10:00 am during a virtual meeting using Zoom as a result of social distancing recommendations due to coronavirus.

**2.0 Roll Call**

Executive Board

*Officers*

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

*Professional Development Officer*

|   |                  |  |
|---|------------------|--|
| + | David Wilwerding |  |
|---|------------------|--|

*Planning Board Member*

|   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| + | Trina Flack |  |
|---|-------------|--|

*University Representatives*

|   |               |                       |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| + | Lucie Laurian | University of Iowa    |
| + | 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              |
| + | Charlie Cowell        | Recognition / Awards              |
| + | Emily Bothell         | Recognition / Awards              |
| + | Liesl Seabert         | Public Relations / Communications |

*At-Large Members*

|   |                |  |
|---|----------------|--|
|   | <i>Vacant</i>  |  |
| + | Alexis Fleener |  |
| + | Jim Holz       |  |

*Liaisons (non-voting)*

|  |                 |                                     |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | Leon Begay      | University of Iowa Graduate         |
|  | Ashlyn Daniels  | Iowa State University Undergraduate |
|  | Andre LaFontant | Iowa State University Graduate      |
|  | Bret VandeLune  | County Planning / Flood Officials   |
|  | Mark Land       | Floodplain / Stormwater Management  |

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

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

#### **4.0 Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

##### 4.1 Approval of Agenda for Friday, September 17, 2021.

Mullenix asked for any amendments to the agenda and a motion for approval of the agenda as amended.

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

##### 4.2 Approval of the Amended Minutes, as read, from Friday, May 21, 2021

Motion by Van Steenhuyse, seconded by Sturms. Unanimous Approval.

##### 4.3 Approval of the Minutes, as read, from Friday, July 16, 2021

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

#### **5.0 APA Iowa Membership Forum/Input**

Mullenix opened the floor for membership input. No discussion.

#### **6.0 Presentations**

#### **7.0 Business Items**

##### 7.1 Ratification of APA-IA Election Results

Mullenix indicated that the election occurred in August and was administered by APA-IA with four people running unopposed and explained that the action needed is to ratify the results. Holz asked if Mullenix could go through the results. Mullenix reviewed the results.

*Motion by Holz, seconded by Tiedemann. Unanimous Approval.*

##### 7.2 Consideration of Re-appointment of Frances Owusu as Executive Board Member Representing Iowa State University.

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

##### 7.3 Consideration of Appointment of Student Representatives from the University of Iowa and Iowa State University.

Mullenix asked who the representatives would be. Laurian indicated that Tanner Osing would serve as the student representative from the University of Iowa. Owusu indicated that the undergraduates from ISU are in the process of electing someone and would let the Board know when the election has been concluded. Motion to approve appointment of Osing as U of I representative.

*Motion by Owusu, seconded by VanSteenhuysen. Unanimous Approval.*

#### **8.0 Discussion Items**

##### 8.1 DEI Training Debrief

Mullenix indicated that he thought the training went well and asked where we go from here and for feedback. Young asked what the DEI's debrief was like. Mullenix indicated that the DEI Committee was disappointed that not everyone could attend, overall seemed happy, and wanted to determine next steps. Laurian indicated that we should recruit people of color and look at examples. Owusu indicated that he found the first day useful and couldn't attend the second day due to a prior commitment and suggested that we look around for best practices. Sturms indicated that she thought the training was well done and encouraged the Chapter to continue the work of the DEI Committee.

## 8.2 2021 APA-IA Conference in Des Moines

Sturms stated that the closing of registration was two weeks away and registration is currently low and encouraged everyone to register.

## 8.3 APA-IA Board Meeting Attendance (Virtual/In-person)

Mullenix opened the conversation about virtual vs. in-person board meetings. Micheel outlined the data of pre-Covid vs. post-Covid board member attendance. Mullenix asked for additional input. Cowell indicated that he was supportive of the idea of doing most virtual and a couple in-person at the University. Fleener and VanSteenhuysen both voiced support for virtual and some in-person. Holz indicated that a good time to have an in-person meeting would be at the same time as the day on the hill so that more members could attend the day on the hill. Sturms recapped by saying that she heard in-person for the planning session (November) and the day on the hill in May and the rest virtual and what she would support.

## 8.4 APA-IA Board Meeting Attendance

Mullenix kicked-off discussion of in-person vs. virtual Board meetings. One idea is to hold some amount of virtual meetings and some in-person throughout the year. Holz encouraged hybrid meetings and in-person meetings.

## **9.0 Officers Reports**

### 9.1 President (Mullenix)

Mullenix asked members to look at the annual work plan to determine if we accomplished what we said we were going to accomplish. Mullenix discussed the Chapter President's Council meetings. Mullenix also discussed the response to the call for additional DEI members that came in the form of the email with a request to form a Biblical Ethics in Planning Committee to offset the DEI Committee. Mullenix responded by indicating that the DEI Committee is how we are meeting the APA ethical requirements and National APA's guidance. Mullenix asked for feedback from the group. There was some discussion about whether or not APA has a responsibility to specific religious groups, allowing people to voice unpopular opinions, educational opportunities, and micro-aggressions. Mullenix indicated that we may want to have a vote on drafting a statement from APA-IA stating the organization supports LBGTQ, etc.

### 9.2 Vice President (Sturms)

No report.

### 9.3 Immediate Past-President (Champ)

No report.

### 9.4 Secretary (Micheel)

Micheel indicated that a kick-off meeting occurred for the updates to the by-laws and discussed how the process will move forward. Mullenix indicated that we do still have a vacant At-Large position and has been holding off on filling it until the recommendations from the by-law committee are in.

### 9.5 Treasurer (Young)

Chapter Treasurers Report – *Attachment-*  
Young indicated that the Treasurer’s Report was included in the agenda packet and provided highlights from the Report.  
*Motion to receive and accept the Treasurer’s Report by Holz, seconded by Sturms. Unanimous Approval.*

### **10.0 Executive Board Reports**

#### Professional Development (Wilwerding)

Wilwerding stated that two individuals were signed up to take the AICP exam in November and the AICP certification process is being streamlined.

#### Planning Board Member (Flack)

No report.

#### University of Iowa (Laurian)

Laurian indicated that the program lost international students that couldn’t get admittance into the country. Laurian also asked for help getting the work out about planning as a profession. Schroder, Holz, Cowell, and Owusu offered to help.

#### Iowa State University (Owusu)

Owusu mentioned that he is encouraging ISU students to attend the APA-IA Conference because it is in close proximity to ISU and encourage the group to pay attention to the ISU lecture series.

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

Holz indicated the it would be a good idea to have a booth at the Iowa League of Cities conference. Fleener encourage people to sign up for the mentor match.

#### Chapter Development Program (Janson/Russett)

No report.

#### Professional Development (Cowell)

No report.

#### Outreach / Advocacy Program (Schroder/Tiedemann)

– No report

#### Legislative and Policy Program (Van Steenhuyse)

Van Steenhuyse mentioned that he hasn’t heard anything from APA National on a new policy guide. VanSteenhuysse also mentioned that he would not be able to attend the Policy and Advocacy conference and working on the conference session with Tom Cope.

#### Recognition / Awards Program (Bothell/Shires)

No report.

#### Public Relations / Communication Program (Seibert)

Seibert indicated that the next newsletter will come out the week after the conference.

#### University of Iowa Graduate Program (Position vacant)

Not present.

Iowa State University Undergraduate Program (Daniels)  
Not present.

Iowa State University Graduate Program (LaFontant)  
Not report.

County Planning and Zoning Officials of Iowa (Van de Lune)  
No report.

Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association (Land)  
Land reported that he appreciated the conversation that the group had about DEI.  
IFSMA has the fall conference soon.

**11.0 Other Items Not on the Agenda**

**12.0 Upcoming Board Meetings**

The November meeting is scheduled for Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. Location - Zoom

**13.0 Adjournment of the Board Meeting**

*Mullenix adjourned the meeting.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dylan Mullenix, AICP  
President

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Madeline Sturms, AICP  
Vice President

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