

Regional Planning Board

233 South Wacker Drive ♦ Suite 800, Sears Tower ♦ Chicago, IL 60606 ♦ 312-454-0400 (voice) ♦ 312-454-0411 (fax)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 21, 2006, 9:30 a.m.

Cook County Conference Room

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Mayor Gerald Bennett of Palos Hills and Chair of the Regional Planning Board, called the meeting to order at 9:40 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

Frank H. Beal, (Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020)

Zenovia Evans (Mayor, Riverdale)

Elliott Hartstein (President, Buffalo Grove)

Al Larson (President, Schaumburg)

Marilyn Michelini, (President, Montgomery)

Raul Raymundo (Executive Director, Resurrection Project)

Andre Rice (President Muller and Monroe Asset Management)

Rae Rupp Srch, (Former President, Villa Park)

Dan Shea (McHenry County Board Member)

Mike Smith-Vice Chair (Mayor, New Lenox)

Non-Voting Members

Stephen Schlickman, (Executive Director, Regional Transportation Authority, CATS)

Ed Paesel, (Executive Director, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, NIPC)

Others present included:

Bruce Christianson, Lake County

Tom Cuculich, DuPage County

Mike Walczak, NWMC

Harold Henderson, Chicago Reader

Pat Higgins, WCMC

Doug McLaughlin, Metra

Chalen Hunter, NWMC

Rick Curneal, DMMC

Gordon Smith, IDOT

Peter Skosey, MPC

Joyce Hollingsworth, Chaddick Institute

Daniel C. Seglin, CDOT

Nicole Donnelly, MPC

Vickey Smith, Southwest Conference of Mayors
Kermit Wies, CATS
Jackie Grimshaw, CNT
Nancy Firfew, Chicago Metropolis 2020
Alan Mammoser
Les Nunes, IDOT
Jim LaBelle, Chicago Metropolis 2020
Ellis W. Sanderson, DNR/OWR
Gary R. Clark, DNR/OWR
D. Stone DNR
Ricca Stone
Holly Smith, Kane and Kendall Counties
Amanda Eichelkraut, RTA
Sherry Kane, NIPC
Karen Greenbaum, CCA
Tom McKone, CCA
Loraine Tyson, Mayer, Brown, Rowe, and Maw
Sarah A. Sheehan, Chaddick Institute
Kylie Weller, Chaddick Institute

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

3.0 Approval of Minutes May 10, 2006

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2006 board meeting was made by Member Rupp Srch, seconded by Member Larson but could not be voted on because a quorum was not present.

4.0 Executive Director's Report

4.1 Reaffirmation of contract approvals

Randy Blankenhorn stated that because these items were not listed on the agenda, the board needs to reaffirm the vote on the following:

- 2007 UWP Funds
- Financial Forecasting for 2030 RTP with RTA
- Council of Mayors

Because a quorum was not present, the board could not vote on this matter. It was reviewed and discussed, to be voted on later.

4.2 Naming of NIPC as RPB Fiscal Agent

Randy Blankenhorn stated the RPB needs the NIPC Commission to act as the fiscal agent in order to conduct business. The commission has been acting as such and doing some hiring for the board but they wish to have affirmation on the record.

Because a quorum was not present, the board could not vote on this matter. It was discussed and reviewed, to be voted on later.

4.3 Staffing

Randy Blankenhorn had two announcements regarding Executive Deputy Directors: Deputy Director of Research and Analysis will be Kermit Weis, active director of planning at CATS. Deputy Director of External Affairs, (handling communications, outreach, and intergovernmental affairs) will be Gordon Smith, of IDOT

4.4 Survey

Civic Consulting Alliance worked with Bola Delano on a survey of central agency issues. No analysis has occurred to date, but the information obtained will be useful. Analysis will be conducted and presented to the board in the future.

5.0 Committee Reports and Status of Action Plan Goals

5.1 Transition Committee

Randy Blankenhorn offered a committee briefing on behalf of Committee Chairmen Nigel Telman. Randy Blankenhorn stated the committee has been working on staffing issues and the next issue on their agenda is funding. CCA will share some initial thoughts on this subject later in the meeting.

5.2 Executive Committee

Chairmen Bennett stated the committee met yesterday by teleconference to go over the agenda for today. As Chair, Mayor Bennett wanted to note it is critical to have a majority seated at the meeting to vote on the essential tasks. The report must be prepared by September and there are several action items to vote on. Member Rupp Srch asked if legislative issues were discussed on the teleconference. Chairman Bennett responded no.

5.3 Public Participation Committee

Committee Chairman Hartstein stated the Public Participation Committee received over 240 applications from people interested in participating in the CAC. This committee was committed to regional representation. The applications were evaluated and initial recommendations were distributed to the board. The committee wishes to recommend the board approve the 33 people selected by the Public Participation committee to serve on the CAC. These 33 people are diverse in geography, background, race, ethnicity, as well as profession. There will be an orientation for the CAC prior to the next board meeting, and they will be invited to the board meeting as well as a meet and greet luncheon following the meeting with board members.

In terms of other items, the Public Participation would also like to recommend renaming of the RPB to CMAP, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. The logo was presented to the board with committee recommendation for approval.

The committee is also recommending a newsletter beginning in August involving input from the Executive Director, Chairman, and committee updates. In order to acquaint people with CMAP this Committee would like to encourage public appearances by board members. Member Rupp Srch asked what the length of term for CAC appointees would be, Member Hartstein stated we have discussed one year appointments with reappointment possibility. Member Rupp Srch requested that the

acknowledgement for CAC appointment be signed by the board member who represents the same area.

5.4 Planning and Priorities Committee

Member Larson stated there was a detailed presentation by CTA on capital projects. There was a discussion of an express service from Block 37 to O'Hare and at this time they do not see the need for federal funds for this project. The crisis they will be experiencing is there is no state capital at this time and the concern is without state dollars the possibility exists to lose federal money as well. EPA is backing away from its contractual relationship from the FTA process. The Committee asked Ron Thomas and staff to come back with some modeling on how the RPB can be involved. The Committee invited METRA to be involved in the next meeting. Member Rupp Srch added there was a great deal of discussion on the water quality issue. Member Schlickman asked if with the federal match issue there was discussion of using toll credits stating it is not money on paper but it is money in hands. Member Schlickman stated it is his understanding that there is enough toll credit to cover all projects; the problem is that it only covers 80% of the costs.

6.0 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Water Supply Grant

Debbie Stone, Illinois Dept of Natural Resources
Ellis Sanderson
Gary Clarke, Director of DNR

Mr. Clarke stated they are here to discuss the opportunity for collaboration. The recommendation of this committee coincides with state task force that we need more water supply planning in the state. The committee did get an audience before the governor's staff and that resulted in administrative support for this effort. Executive Order 1 calling for water planning. Along with this came a budget and in our budget is one million dollars and a three year commitment for a five year budget. 1.5 million Of this budget goes to regional planning agencies in the area. This committee is here to speak with CMAP about opportunities. They are interested in following the Texas model where support comes from local and regional interest. The demand can not be met with current supplies. This committee met with CMAP staff and we are interested in partnering you, forming a regional group. Randy Blankenhorn stated the RPB appreciates the donors coming to us with this opportunity. It is an opportunity to build lasting relationships. Our organization has expertise to share as a staff as well as a board. The board members can assist in getting the right people on board. Member Larson asked if it addresses water quality as well as supply. Gary Clarke stated you can't deal with quantity without water quality. We will be looking at quality as a future limitation for quality. This is an interagency effort involving the IEPA. Member Larson stated he favors CMAP's involvement. Member Shea asked for details on the timeline. Gary Clarke stated we would like to have a grant written by the end of the year. Member Rupp Srch asked what our responsibilities would be at this point. Randy Blankenhorn stated they are looking to us to coordinate and provide technical assistance where appropriate. Member Hartstein requested examples of the types of grants. Gary Clarke offered an example. The first year we have \$400,000 for

a regional agency and hope agencies like CMAP will develop proposals to be awarded. Randy Blankenhorn stated we have the ability to contract within the state of Illinois. Member Paesel suggested the staff should start thinking about stakeholders.

7.0 Renaming the RPB

Tom Garritano presented the new name and logo to the board and thanked everyone for their input and assistance. Chairman Bennett extended a thank you to staff for all of their efforts.

Because a quorum was not present, the board could not vote to approve the new name. The name and logo were favorably discussed and reviewed, to be voted on later.

8.0 Citizens' Advisory Committee

Because a quorum was not present, the board could not vote to approve the CAC committee members. This matter will need to be voted on at a later date.

9.0 Governance

Randy Blankenhorn stated the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is supportive but not in favor of redesigning of the MPO. The CATS policy committee is not supportive of any redesigning and wants to ensure they have simultaneous committee and staff support on transportation issues. The NIPC commission is concerned with the role it now plays and believes the form in which it exists today needs to change while ensuring the functions carry on.

Randy continued to say he wants people to examine the functional relationships and decision making processes. He believes we are getting closer to a philosophical agreement regionally.

In conclusion, the redesignation of the MPO will not be included in the September recommendations. A mechanism for transportation decision making will be defined. The board's committee structure will be designed to allow for input similar to the NIPC commission. Chairman Bennett stated the Executive Committee makes that recommendation to the board and asked for questions. Member Schlickman informed the board that the CATS Policy Committee stated that communications on this matter have been good. Keeping that in mind, it is important for the CATS Policy Committee to understand the issue of committee structure as it is their desire to continue with the existing structure. Member Schlickman continued to state he believes with further discussion on this point he believes something similar can be developed. Member Paesel stated there will be a follow up meeting, and to their credit the commissioners in attendance realized that their role will likely seek to exist. Their concern was ensuring that programs outside transportation have advocates in the current committee structure.

Member Beal stated that both NIPC Commission and CATS Policy Committee had excellent discussions and he is in support of Randy's statement. Member Beal stated he is concerned that the reaction to the report in September maybe "is all you have done merge staff and rename NIPC?". Chairman Bennett stated he understands that point completely, while at the same time the reality of the merger is how the board foresees this organization developing. The reality of what the organization can be effective dynamic and visionary, the MPO issue will be reexamined. It is a significant accomplishment to merge two agencies while maintaining current work flow. A major component will be the Mayor's Council and the involvement of other agencies and those partnerships are key. Member Raymundo asked if it possible in the foreseeable future to have both CATS policy committee and this board voting on issues. Randy Blankenhorn stated it has to do with the status of the MPO and this board regarding transportation issues. Staff work will come directly to this board and policy committee. On the approval side, this board will approve a plan if it is consistent with the regional vision, then it will go to CATS Policy Committee for the MPO approval. Member Raymundo asked if the NIPC Commission ceases to exist in this model. Randy Blankenhorn stated that in its current form that is a possibility but that will not occur before legislative action in the spring. Member Paesel continued to state that until the legislation is amended, NIPC still has statutory functions as a board and still has a budget to approve that involves the merger of NIPC and CATS staff. Member Hartstein stated this board does not want to interrupt current efforts and if the intention is to require approval by both boards we need to ensure there are adequate processes in place to handle a situation in which the boards do not agree. Randy Blankenhorn agreed, but does not believe that situation will ever arise. Randy stated it would be a good idea to have an intergovernmental agreement in place between the two boards. His concern is that the opportunity to use federal transportation funds can not be missed. Member Rupp Srch stated there is a need for very good communication and information.

10.0 Vision and Mission

Jill Leary stated the following information was developed by building and expanding on the material created in the September retreat. Jill stated that it is her recommendation the board has a 2-3 hour working session to continue September's session and develop a vision statement with the help of Joyce Hollingsworth. Member Hartstein stated he thinks it would be beneficial to have materials ahead of time so board members can be prepared to discuss and use time most effectively. Member Rupp Srch asked if this was to be completed by September. Chairman Bennett answered yes and said that the committees have been working on these action items and none of these items are new. The vision statement has been well identified and outlined and there are no surprises in this material. Jill Leary recommended next Wednesday or Thursday June 28th or June 29th. Joyce Hollingsworth agreed, saying this needs to be done sooner than later so there can be substantive material in the report for stakeholders to review. Member Rupp Srch stated that legislative issues are going to arise one week is not enough time to formulate all of this. Chairman Bennett suggested meeting next month immediately following the RPB meeting. . Member Larson stated he would prefer a separate date, July 14 at 9:00 am was

proposed. The board agreed. Member Paesel has a question about number 7, the role of advocacy. Randy Blankenhorn stated advocacy is involved in all aspects.

11.0 Funding

Presentation

Karen Greenbaum presented recent findings on funding issues to the board. Karen stated she sees the formula for success involving having the right mission and vision, and more staff. Karen stated the voluntary contributions need to become mandatory. The current number of contributions, as of last week, was in the \$900,000's, the lowest in recent years. Ideally higher grants would be the goal as well as a stable base of funding that would reduce the operating cost to obtain grants might also ease the burden of obtaining grants.

Randy Blankenhorn stated this work is meant to be thought provoking; it is not a formal recommendation. It was meant to give the board ways to look at funding options that exist. A member of the audience asked if this presentation will be posted on the website, Tom Garritano stated it already was. Member Hartstein stated this is a short time period, and again a good deal of work. Being able to show this information and having discussions about what we want to do is important. Chairmen Bennett commented this is the type of background information that he was previously discussing for the vision session. Member Raymundo asked if there was a recommendation of what the local funding should be. Karen Greenbaum stated not at this time.

12.0 By-Laws

Member Rupp Srch stated that the By-Laws were put together very well and appreciated that suggestions were taken into consideration. Member Rupp Srch offered some final comments including content on page 9 regarding By-Law changes. Board members are usually sent changes 30 days instead of 14. Member Raymundo stated that he shared the same concern regarding Executive Committee developing and making recommendations but language should include the final review and approval is with the RPB. Chairman Bennett stated it is the belief of this board that no final decision be made without inclusion of the full board. Loraine Tyson stated that could be an addition at the end of the By-Laws. Member Schlickman restated Member Rupp Srch's concern that full discussions take place. Member Larson stated he doesn't see the issue and sees the language as clear including the full board in decision making. Chairman Bennett affirmed the Executive Committee is committed to being open and is aware it does not have the power to vote without informing the entire board. Member Smith stated this is common amongst committee structure. Loraine Tyson stated she can make the recommended changes. On page 7 article 4, Member Hartstein stated it should read the CAC "makes recommendations to the board". Member Beal noted that jurisdiction issues are noted as the charge of the Executive Director, and stated that should be changed to Executive Committee. Member Beal also asked if there is vacancies on the board, does the 4/5 apply to the 15 or to the members currently on the board. Member Rice stated that the By-Laws read a board member will oversee CAC meetings; it was his belief that it was to be

independent. Chairmen Bennett stated that was discussed in the Executive Committee meeting.

13.0 Appointment of a Nominating Committee

Because a quorum was not present, the board could not vote to appoint a nominating committee. This issue will be voted on at a later date.

14.0 Other Business

At this point in the meeting Member Calvin Jordan joined in via speakerphone. His presence in the meeting related in a quorum being present. The issues discussed earlier in the meeting to be voted on were revisited.

- A motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2006 board meeting was made by Member Rupp Srch, seconded by Member Larson, and passed unanimously.
- A motion reaffirming contract approvals was made by Member Hartstein, seconded by Member Larson and passed unanimously.
- A motion to name NIPC as RPB Fiscal agent was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Rupp Srch and passed unanimously.
- A motion to rename the RPB the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning was made by Member Michelini, seconded by Member Larson and passed unanimously.

Member Beal asked if being recognized as the RPB under state law would present a problem. Randy Blankenhorn stated business will be conducted under the name of RPB.

CAC

- A motion to approve the CAC Committee Members was made by Member Hartstein, seconded by Member Michelini, and passed unanimously.
- A motion to adopt the By-Laws, including the recommended changes made at this meeting (creating a nominating committee of geographic areas, changes in role of executive committee to make it clear they are making recommendations, CAC representation will changed to liaison, and 30 days will be given for by law changes) was made by Member Rupp Srch, seconded by Member Michelini and passed unanimously.
- A motion to appoint Member Evans, Member Michelini, and Member Raymundo to a nominating committee to meet and discuss candidates for Chairman, reporting back to the board in July, was made by Member Shea, seconded by Member Beal and passed unanimously.

15.0 Public Comment

Chairman Bennett opened the floor for public comment.

Jackie Grimshaw, CNT

With regards to the CAC, looking at the gender and geography is good but what isn't discussed is expertise. Is that type of expertise represented? Member Hartstein stated that the committee was mindful of expertise as well, but the key is the intention of this committee was not to service interest groups. Our hope is that they are there to

look at the big picture. Chairman Bennett added that it is important to keep in mind that the RPB will be open to discussions with agencies at anytime. Member Hartstein stated that the CAC is a work in progress. Jackie Grimshaw would like to announce that CNT does a lot of original research and has been looking at transportation at the cost of housing. On June 29 there will be a presentation of their latest research at the Fannie Mae Offices at 1 N. Wacker at 8:00 am. See their website, cnt.org, for more information. Lastly, Ms. Grimshaw asked if any further recessions of federal transportation funds by Congress were to be expected. Randy Blankenhorn stated he believes there will be one more.

Pat Higgins of WCMC asked if a mandatory contribution model required legislation. Randy Blankenhorn stated he believes it would.

16.0 Next Meeting: July 12, 2006

17.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Member Smith, seconded by Member Rupp Srch, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah A. Sheehan

**Sarah A. Sheehan
Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development**

Approved by unanimous vote on July 12,2006, noting the following corrections: Under the heading of *Planning and Priorities Committee* (page 3) Mr. Stephen Schlickman clarified “. . . there was discussion of using toll credits stating it is not real money . . .” “the problem is that it only covers 80% of the costs, effectively reducing the project by 20%.” The word rescissions (recessions) under the heading of **Public Comment** by Jackie Grimshaw was misspelled.

/stk