Executive Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes
December 16, 2020
11:30 AM – 100 PM

ATTENDING: Adam Chapdelaine, Vice President; Sam Seidel, Treasurer; and Sandra Hackman, Secretary.

Committee Members: Shirronda Almeida, Karen Canfield, Tom Daniel, John DePriest, Yolanda Greaves, Moe Handel, Jarred Johnson, Taber Keally, Steve Olanoff, George Proakis, Courtney Rainey, Jennifer Raitt, Vandana Rao, Lauren Shurtleff, Mayor Yvonne Spicer, and Elaine Wijnja

Past Presidents: Keith Bergman (voting) and Buzz Constable (not voting)


Vice President Chapdelaine called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM and stated that this meeting of the Executive Committee is being conducted remotely via video conference consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020. The meeting is also being live streamed to YouTube for the public.

Mr. Chapdelaine called the roll. The following members responded present: Shirronda Almeida, Keith Bergman, Karen Canfield, Adam Chapdelaine, Tom Daniel, John DePriest, Yolanda Greaves, Sandra Hackman, Moe Handel, Jarred Johnson, Taber Keally, Steve Olanoff, George Proakis, Courtney Rainey, Jennifer Raitt, Vandana Rao, Sam Seidel, Lauren Shurtleff, Mayor Yvonne Spicer, and Elaine Wijnja.

Mr. Chapdelaine welcomed our two new ex officio members - Courtney Rainey (DEP) and Lauren Shurtleff (BPDA).

Approval of Minutes
Mr. Chapdelaine asked if there were any questions or comments about the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of October 21, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Canfield and seconded by Mr. Keally:
IT WAS VOTED:
To approve the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of October 21, 2020 as submitted.

No: None.
Abstain: None.

Report of the Treasurer
Mr. Seidel presented the Report of the Treasurer. He summarized the Income Statements for September and October 2020. He noted that the numbers for both months are good. Our revenue for September was higher than expected. Our cumulative overhead rate was slightly higher than our approved rate. However, we hit all our budgeted numbers in October. This is all good news particularly in light of COVID and we hope to continue to be financially solid given our conservative budget and the current rate of grants and contracts.

Mr. Seidel asked if there were any questions. There being none, he asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Canfield and seconded by Mr. Keally:

IT WAS VOTED:
To accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.

No: None.
Abstain: None.

Report of the Executive Director
Mr. Draisen provided a few highlights from the current Executive Director’s Report that covers mid-September through mid-December. The full report will be emailed to the Executive Committee and has been posted to MAPC’s website at https://www.mapc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020_12_ExDir-Report_December_FINAL.pdf.
**Somerville Arts Space Risk Assessment**
The Arts & Culture Department is helping Somerville to assess risks to art spaces. The team will research the criteria and indicators that can reliably identify the risk of redevelopment or repurposing of existing art spaces; whether an artist’s income, race, or tenure in their career affects their access to existing art spaces; and what municipal programs or policies can support the resiliency of art spaces that are facing displacement.

**Marblehead Climate Vision Adopted**
The Marblehead Board of Selectmen adopted a Climate Vision that outlines climate mitigation strategies developed with community input through a survey and a virtual visioning session hosted in June. The Vision commits the town to achieving net zero emissions by 2040, 10 years before Massachusetts’ statewide target. The Marblehead Climate Vision lays out several high-level strategies to achieve that goal, including electrifying buildings and transportation, expanding biking and walking infrastructure, and fixing gas leaks.

**COVID Response Communications**
The Communications team played a crucial role in disseminating COVID-19 resources and information: sharing state resources and reopening updates on social media and the MAPC website; blogging about the Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition’s role in COVID response; and planning and advertising webinars on COVID testing methods, shared streets opportunities, and housing protections. Communications staff also worked closely with Government Affairs to design and publicize a letter to Governor Baker from mayors and public health leaders calling for emergency funding for local health departments.

**Accelerating Climate Resiliency Grant**
MAPC operates the Accelerating Climate Resilience program, with funding from the Barr Foundation, to help municipalities to advance climate adaptation strategies. MAPC has reviewed the grant applications received in October and has selected 11 proposals for funding totaling $700,000 in the FY2021 grant cycle. Special congratulations to Darci Schofield for helping to create and implement this program across two grant cycles.

**Report of the Legislative Committee**
Mr. Bergman reported that the Legislative Committee met last Wednesday, December 9. He thanked the Government Affairs team for the great briefing they gave the Legislative Committee last week and said the Legislative Committee unanimously supports the 2021 – 2022 Legislative Priorities before the Executive Committee today.

**MAPC State Legislative Priorities of the 2021 – 2022 Session**
Ms. Weyant said that over the past several months, we have held meetings with our subregions, municipal officials, MAPC Managers and Directors, and other allies and stakeholders to get a sense of what our priorities should be for the next legislative session. We have also kept in contact with legislators given that the current session has not ended. We have provided a memo outlining the new priorities we will be asking the Executive Committee to adopt today.
We would like to file legislation in the following topic areas: building code and building decarbonization, transportation climate resiliency, regional plan initiatives, open meeting law and town meeting, housing and environmental revenue (HERO), and policing reforms.

After Ms. Weyant and her team responded to questions from the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee members thanked the Government Affairs team. Ms. Raitt noted that she believes the work on the building code and building decarbonization are critical. She also said that the open meeting law legislation should be tied to greater attention to broadband inequity across the state.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Raitt and seconded by Mr. Handel:

IT WAS VOTED:
To adopt MAPC’s State Legislative Priorities of the 2021 – 2022 Session as recommended by the Legislative Committee and outlined in the memos presented.

No: None.
Abstain: Courtney Rainey, Lauren Shurtleff, Vandana Rao, and Elaine Wijnja.

Update and discussion COVID-19 Response and Recovery Efforts
Ms. Davis provided an update on MAPC’s COVID-19 efforts.

In the immediate term, with rising case counts and hospitalizations, we have been convening municipal leaders who have been placed in the untenable position of having to balance economic recovery with rollbacks for public health. Kudos to Mayor Spicer, Mayor Walsh, Mayor Curtatone, and Mr. Chapdelaine – all represented on our Executive Committee – for their leadership.

The City of Boston, along with a number of other communities, have announced rollbacks and we are encouraging Governor Baker to consider additional rollbacks. We are also pushing for as much relief as possible for small businesses, including federal relief, existing state funds, and urging the Legislature to pass the Economic Development Bond Bill.

We are also working on medium-term systems we need until most people are vaccinated and we reach herd immunity. This includes wastewater testing and pool testing for schools.

Next Executive Committee Meeting
The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, 2021 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Other business not known at the time of the posting of the agenda
There being no other business, Mr. Chapdelaine asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Adjournment of Meeting
On a motion duly made by Mr. Handel and seconded by Mr. DePriest:

IT WAS VOTED
To adjourn the Executive Committee meeting of December 16, 2020 at 12:56 PM.

No: None.
Abstain: None.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Anderson, Operations Manager