

The Congress for the New Urbanism
 Spring Board Meeting Minutes
 16 May 2007, 1:30 - 4:00 pm
 Philadelphia

Present: Hank Dittmar, Zach Borders, Ellen Dunham-Jones, Katharine Kelley, Victor Dover, Todd Zimmerman, Steve Maun, Ray Gindroz, Jim Murley, Stephanie Bothwell, Andres Duany, Dhiru Thadani, Doug Kelbaugh, John Norquist, Doug Farr, Dan Slone, Norman Garrick, Susan Mudd, Jacky Grimshaw

Absent: Roxanne Qualls, Mike Krusee, Judy Corbett

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of the Winter Board meeting minutes
3. CEO Report, John Norquist
4. Treasurer's Report, Stephanie Bothwell
5. Strategic Plan, John Norquist
6. LEED-ND, Susan Mudd and Doug Farr
7. Initiatives Update, Heather Smith
8. PERSI Proposal, Doug Farr
9. 2030 Challenge Update, Doug Farr and Tony Sease
10. California's SB 375, Jim Murley and Jacky Grimshaw
11. Board Nominations, Roxanne Qualls

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Approval of the Winter Board meeting minutes

Hank discussed the length of the board notes and asked for the decision to provide shorter minutes with longer notes be followed. The shorter minutes should contain the action items. *The board approved the minutes.*

3. CEO Report, John Norquist

- Board Meeting Schedule:

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| Fall 2007 | October 19-20, 2007 in Austin |
| Winter 2008 | February 29 - March 1, 2008 in Seaside. |
| Spring 2008 | June 27-28, 2008 in Chicago. |
| Fall 2008 | October 3-4, 2008 in Denver |
| Winter 2009 | March 6-7, 2009 in Chicago |
| Spring 2009 | Dates TBD by Congress dates in Denver |
| Fall 2009 | October 2-3, 2009 in Atlanta |
- By midnight on Monday, May 14 there were 1246 registrants. Membership is at an all time high of 3,234.
- Taking the next steps with the Institute of Transportation Engineers to compile the comments on the recommended practice and come out with a final document on context-sensitive solutions for urban thoroughfares.
- CNU now has four full-fledged chapters. Just added Illinois and DC, along with Florida and New England.

4. Treasurer's Report, Stephanie Bothwell

Stephanie introduced Adam Bilsky, CNU's new Administration and Finance Director. She reported that CNU is in a good spot financially, \$300k right now. But this number doesn't reflect the CNU XV income and expenses. Stephanie also reminded board members about annual gift collection.

The board approved the Treasurer's report, subject to an updated version of the budget once CNU XV accounting is complete.

5. Strategic Plan, Hank Dittmar, John Norquist

Hank briefly explained the process of the strategic plan and described today's discussion as the last effort before the plan is announced on Saturday, May 19, 2007. Handouts will be provided for members on Saturday morning. Discussion about implementation, staff workloads and chapter adoption of the strategic plan. Later, the board decided that transit should be explicitly mentioned in the Strategic plan. The handout developed for the Saturday morning plenary was changed to reflect these edits.

Media Campaign Hank believes CNU needs to engage in a well-funded media campaign complemented by market-research and proposed collecting money from ourselves to compile a war chest, roughly \$1 million/year. Steve Maun stated that the campaign will need more traction to bring in developers. Having a product to show to our members could help gain traction for the voluntary assessment for the media campaign. Todd recommended a three-step process: reach an understanding on settlement patterns with partners; develop a plan for a product; and send out the letter with a specific, tangible objective.

Discussion about whether additional research is needed versus assembling existing information, what specific forms the media would take, and partnering with other groups, NRDC, Governor's Institute, Transportation.

6. LEED-ND, Susan Mudd, Doug Farr

Susan discussed the current status of LEED-ND. 371 applicants for the pilot phase. All of the projects are to be let in and the committee will pick a focus group of 60 projects who will get expedited review and will be used as flagships to test the issues. Susan stated that no applicant has heard from the partnership about the pilot phase yet. Letter will go out but there are lots of caveats. Cannot say that they are certified, offering confidentiality. The announcement is expected in the coming two weeks.

Susan asked that members continue to pass along projects that may not meet prerequisites. They are still working on issues with urban waterfronts, wetlands, and stormwater prerequisites.

The board also discussed the following items:

- Number of prerequisites
- Cost/fees of pilot phase review
- Enforcement and withdrawing certification if built projects do not match plans
- Public adoptions, governments adopting LEED-ND as a precondition to entitlement
- Writing the code version of LEED-ND for municipalities
- Lack of site plans in pilot application
- Using the checklist without applying (and paying for) certification.

7. Initiatives Update, Heather Smith

Heather explained that CNU is continuing to focus on initiatives instead of standing task forces. She described the New Initiatives Forum taking place during the congress, which calls for new ideas and helps get working groups started. She also described the activities the various initiative groups are undertaking during the congress.

Discussion touched on the following items:

- The timing of the New Initiatives Forum within the conference schedule
- Comprehensive Plan initiative and content of a potential book

- Coordination between the strategic plan and the initiatives
- Summary of the London Transportation Summit, Nov. 12-14, 2007
- Summit model: funding, staff time, sponsored by chapters, coordination with Congress locations, coordination with other topics to avoid siloization.
- Board advisors have been selected for the Austin Congress, Hank, Mike and Andres.
- CNU is looking into responding to an RFP via the EPA to address emergency responder issues. This coincides with part of the strategic plan.

Discussion on future Congresses:

- How content is generated for the Congress program: balancing between call for ideas, local host committee, board advisors, and CNU staff.
- Process of passing knowledge from one local host committee to the next and including future local host committee earlier in the process.

8. 2030 Challenge Update, Doug Farr

Doug Farr brought forth a memorandum of understanding for board approval on undertaking a multi-year national campaign to reduce climate change with Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) and the Surface Transportation Policy Partnership (STPP). Discussion about the connection with the re-up of the 2009 transportation bill, current research out of Princeton, connection with strategic plan, USGBC's Greenbuild conference in November, and proposals for a sequel to Al Gore's Inconvenient Truth.

The board approved the proposal with Hank's friendly amendment, adopt in concept for purposes of negotiation with the partners and staff work to match up with strategic plan. Questions about contracts will be run through the executive committee.

Hank will write Al Gore with John's editorial about urbanism as a convenient solution.

9. California's SB 375, Jim Murley and Jacky Grimshaw

The regional sub-group for the strategic plan discussed this bill. It was brought to their attention by Tom Adams via Peter Calthorpe. Peter asked for CNU support on this. Discussion about what is known about the specifics of this legislation and applicability with other states. General concept of the bill is to "reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote smart growth through transportation funding and regulatory incentives."

Jim Murley motioned that CNU support this legislation in concept and encourage replication because it reflects principles we support. Jacky seconded and the board approved. John will write a letter to Tom Adams reflecting this support.

10. PERSI Proposal, Doug Farr and Tony Sease

Tony Sease described Practice, Education and Research for Sustainable Infrastructure, or PERSI and advocated that CNU join PERSI as a member organization. PERSI seeks to advance and incorporate concepts and knowledge of sustainability into the standards and practices used throughout the life cycle of infrastructure systems. Discussion about the level of opportunity CNU could have to shape the dialogue. Governing structure is set up so that each organization has one vote each. Membership dues are \$2,000 a year.

The board approved CNU's membership in PERSI, noting that this represents an important opportunity to work with and negotiate with these important standard-setting organizations.

11. Board Nominations

There is one vacancy on the board. Paul Crawford is recovering, but predicts that he won't be able to make meetings.

*The board authorized the nomination committee to work on filling this vacancy.
Meeting adjourned.*