

COMMITTEES

The Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) could not accomplish a fraction of what it does without the dedication and commitment of a cadre of committee members and volunteers. With the expert assistance of some half-dozen working committees, and scores of volunteers, we program and run our events like clockwork; produce essential research, policy, and legislative position statements; and craft new planning and zoning law changes. Take a look at what our professional committee members and volunteers accomplished in 2006 – 2007:

Law Committee

Consumed throughout 2005 and 2006 with drafting the unified planning and zoning enabling acts, the law committee shifted gears this year to focus on shepherding the planning act through the stakeholder review process and the Senate. It passed the Senate on February 27, 2007, but has not yet been introduced in the Michigan House. The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (MZEA), Public Act 110, became law on July 1, 2006, and corrective language was drafted and analyzed by our committee members in winter 2006-2007. The corrective amendments were not finalized as of the end of this fiscal year.

Government Relations Committee

A board committee, and MAP's policy research and drafting entity, its role and function were overhauled this year. Previously a staff committee, it was restructured to align more closely with the board, whose primary role is as a policy making body. The committee produced two new policies for board adoption: Historic and Cultural Resources and Schools and Local Government. Efforts during spring 2007 focused on research for MAP policies on energy and rural redevelopment and planning, issues that the board may take up as super topics in the next fiscal year.

Scholarship Committee

Charged with coordinating MAP's Annual Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing, this committee identifies the event facility, solicits sponsorships, and selects the scholarship recipients. Launched in 1994 by MAP members Larry Bauman and Mike Banus to honor their dear

friend Mike Manore, the event has raised almost \$70,000 in 13 years and granted \$33,000 in scholarship funds to students studying planning in Michigan and training for appointed and elected officials. This year's event raised \$5,400.

Information Resources

Responsible for developing and revising the Association's publications, the information resources committee had a burgeoning year. The committee increased its membership two-fold and took leadership from a new chair. With renewed energy and enthusiasm, the committee is finalizing the *Zoning Board of Appeals Toolkit*, a companion publication to the 2003 *Planning Commissioners Toolkit*, including user-friendly "cut-sheet" style topic pages and custom graphics.

Education Committee

Revamped this year to step up the educational offerings for professional planners, the education committee is responsible for developing MAP's education programming including identifying learning objectives, intended audience, potential speakers, and program content. The committee focused on developing new methods to deliver educational programs to meet AICP continuing education requirements.

Conference Committee and Host Committee

This committee is responsible for development of the annual conference, including identification of session topics, securing and identifying speakers, selecting conference locations, and various on-site responsibilities at the conference. This year, the conference committee developed subcommittees to offer more mobile tours, improve the exhibit hall, and assist staff with the best local resources.

Student Conference Committee

A new committee, composed of students and professors, created the program for the first annual student conference, determined topics, selected speakers, arranged facilities and refreshments, and marketed the event. This is a student managed and implemented event and is an excellent opportunity for students to network with colleagues from other universities.