Candidate to be Included on Slate

Michigan Chapter

Board Member at Large

Megan Masson-Minock

137359

Position Statement:

Planning professionals and elected and appointed officials face unique challenges today. With uncertain times, a statewide housing gap, and an often-volatile public, options that satisfy communities are hard to find. However, planners, working with elected and appointed officials, continually find and implement good answers to sticky questions. Michigan Association of Planning's work, providing tools and connections, is essential to our continued ability to face the next challenge.

As a consultant, I have a unique portfolio of food policy work at the county and state levels layered with service to a wide range of communities. My career has included working with two of the larger planning companies in Michigan, as part of a two-woman firm, and as a sole practitioner. My clients have ranged from rural townships to small towns to larger cities. I have also led niche projects, such as drafting the first version of MAP's Community Engagement Toolkit and food systems work with the Center for Regional Food Systems (CRFS) at Michigan State University. With CRFS, I co-facilitated a new network of local food councils from every region in Michigan, which influenced policy at the state and county level. Last but not least, I taught a graduate level planning class at my alma mater, an experience which undoubtedly made me a better planner. Thanks to these experiences, I have seen firsthand the power of networks, how policy and education needs to be scaled to urban, suburban, and urban contexts, and how change really happens at the local, county and state levels.

I would be honored to serve on the MAP Board of Directors. If elected, I commit to add value to MAP's vital work for our communities and our profession by tailoring education for all contexts, pushing for partnerships in policy work, and strengthening the networks within the organization itself.

Work Experience

2023-Present: Carlisle Wortman Associates, *Principal*

2017-2023: Carlisle Wortman Associates, Senior Associate & Planner

2008-2017: ENP & Associates, *Principal & Planner*

2007-2012: University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning,

Intermittent Lecturer

2004-2008: M&M Planning, Owner

2000-2004: McKenna Associates, Principal Planner, Senior Planner, Planner

Education

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 2000

Master of Urban Planning

Bates College, Lewiston, Maine 1994

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

Affiliations / Memberships

- Michigan Association of Planning
 - Member since 2000, Food Systems Planning Policy Ad Hoc Committee
- American Institute of Certified Planners, #018679
- American Planning Association

- Food Systems Division & Women in Planning Division
- Form-Based Code Institute Certification
- National Charrette Institute Certification
- Co-facilitator of Michigan Local Food Council Network (2015-2021)
- International development work (Washington, DC & Ukraine, 1994-1998)