

## MEETING NOTES • URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE • APA NY METRO CHAPTER

**MEETING DATE:** November 16, 2015

**ATTENDEES:** Chris Riale (Co-Chair), Katie Theis (Co-Chair), Michele McInnes, Chris Rhie, Cristina Ungureanu, Greg Haley, Renee Schoonbeek

### AGENDA:

1. Meeting Notes August / September
2. Updates
3. Policy / Public Review
4. Social Media Strategy
5. Upcoming Events
6. Potential Programming
7. Interact / Engage with other professional organizations
  - Penn Station Working Group (MAS/RPA)
8. Next steps / Action items

1. Meeting Notes

Draft notes of the committee meetings in August and September are approved without comments.

2. Updates

A meeting of the committee chairs and EC will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> to further discuss communication between the committees and the Executive Committee. The Urban Design Committee makes the following recommendations:

- Recognize the ***reciprocal relationship between the committees and EC***; together the committees and EC contribute to the success of the chapter as membership organization;
- Develop a ***protocol for the selection of session proposals for the annual chapter meeting***; describe the process, define criteria and form a diverse and representative selection committee;
- Set ***deadlines for the review and approval of proposed position statements in response to current events***, so that the Chapter can publish its position in a timely matter.

Katie, Chris Riale and Chris Rhie plan on attending (or calling into) the meeting.

Chris Rhie mentions that his idea for a discussion of new technology in the planning practices was picked up by his colleagues and Buro Happold hosted a “Cities Talk” event on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

3. Policy / Public Review

No new items to discuss. Katie is finalizing the draft comments of the zoning for affordability and quality proposal and will send it around to the various committees.

4. Social Media Strategy

Renee wrote a blog post on the panel led by Katie and Chris Riale at the Chapter's annual meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Michele has two requests for blogs outstanding. Katie suggests a blog to recap this year's committee activities and ask for feedback and ideas for next year.

Renee thinks we need to make more of an effort to grow our LinkedIn group.

Michele and Victoria have not discussed the idea for an Instagram account.

5. Upcoming Events

No date for the Chapter's holiday party yet.

6. Potential Programming

Greg would still to organize an event with a focus on industrial design in relationship to urban planning and design.

For now, we assume the Staten Island event will take place late April/early May.

Renee would like to organize a walking tour and discussion of the recent transformation of the Williamsburg waterfront in June.

Cristina proposes an event with a focus on community engagement in urban planning and design. Ideally the format would be interactive. Ideas for possible speakers: Center for Urban Pedagogy, Pratt Center for Community Development and Coro New York Leadership Center. Chris Riale would be interested in learning about effective ways to organize a design charrette. Katie thinks we should co-host with the diversity committee. We are aiming for an event in February/March.

7. Interact / Engage with other professional organizations

Renee spoke with Mike Ernst of MAS and Wendy Pollack of RPA about the status of the Penn Station Working Group and to find out how the committee could participate in this effort. As it turns out, the group has been dormant and MAS and RPA are contemplating next steps. Renee will check back in with Mike and Wendy in a couple of weeks.

8. Next Steps / Action Items

No meeting in December. The January meeting will be rescheduled to Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup> because of Martin Luther King Day. Moving forward the committee meetings will be held at HNTB's office at the Empire State building, 57<sup>th</sup> floor, 350 5th Avenue.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

#	Action:	Who:	When:
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1	Delegate a committee member to help oversee redesign chapter's website	Chris Rhie	pending
2	Participate in discussion of ways to improve communication between committees and EC	Katie/Chris Riale/Chris Rhie	11/18/15
3	Submit blog posts planning professionals	Michele	December
4	Submit blog post about committee activities in 2015	Victoria	December
5	Contact chair student relations committee about blog post by student	Katie	1/19/16
6	Follow up MAS/RPA about Penn Station Working Group	Renee	1/19/16
7	Develop idea for event about industrial & urban design	Greg	1/19/16
8	Investigate the use of Instagram to increase committee's social media presence	Michele/Victoria	1/19/16
9	Develop idea for event focused on community engagement	Cristina	1/19/16
10	Develop idea for committee CM-event about new developments Staten Island	Victoria	Spring 2016
11	Plan/coordinate walking tour Williamsburg, Brooklyn	Renee	June 2016
12	Develop offering technical assistance to non-profits	Cristina	TBD

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday January 19, 2016, 6:00 PM