

# **Atlantic Association of Planning Technicians**

## **Annual General Meeting**

June 18, 2009

Centre of Geographic Sciences, Lawrencetown

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### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mike Thompson, President  
Scott LeBlanc, Vice President  
Jami Fay, Membership Chair  
Marlene Clements, Treasurer  
Melissa Bonin, Secretary  
C. Keith Saunders  
Amanda Bent  
Mike Donnelly  
Justin Penny  
Michel Melanson  
Nick Zinck  
Drew Milton  
Mark Hebert  
Dave Raymond  
Alden Thurston

### **MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was moved by Mike Thompson and seconded by Alden Thurston that the minutes of the June 12, 2008 Annual General Meeting be approved.

### **Motion Carried**

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

*Letter to NSCC to match scholarship:*

It was felt that a letter requesting that the NSCC match the AAPT scholarship amount might be beneficial to help better promote the planning program and the scholarship.

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### *Ed Symons Presentation about COGS curriculum changes:*

- New program in 2009-10 with 5 concentrations at the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and a new 3<sup>rd</sup> year advanced diploma option.
- FOUNDATION YEAR
  - YEAR 2 CONCENTRATIONS – Cartography, Community & Environmental Planning, Remote Sensing, GIS, Interdisciplinary.
  - ADVANCED DIPLOMA – Cartography, Remote Sensing, Marine Geomatics, GIS, Business Geomatics, Interdisciplinary
  - EDUCATION WITHOUT BOUNDARIES – continuing education with online/teacher facilitated mix education, working on joint partnership to get masters in geomatics
- Courses for the first year will be a broad overview to help students decide which concentration to go with. Also, a more flexible curriculum was felt to make retaining students easier and could make switching programs easier.
- There will be a meeting early fall to talk about courses for each 2<sup>nd</sup> year concentration. The weighing of skills required and getting the right mix will take place to help determine course/module delivery.
- The development of an online ‘intro to GIS’ course will take place over this year.
- Discussion was held on what numbers would be required to keep a program running and what marketing would take place to help promote the program and brand the school.
- The association expressed interest in helping with the role of creating the 2<sup>nd</sup> year planning curriculum. It was decided the AAPT education committee will assist with input.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been sent to Service Nova Scotia from the AAPT president, Mike Thompson requesting a \$2000 contribution for this year’s workshop and a letter was returned from Brant Wishart granting that request.

A thank-you letter was also received from an upcoming second year planning student, Mandy Burgess, who received one of the \$500 AAPT scholarships.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Jami Fay reported a balance of \$7798.96 which didn’t yet include deposits from the workshop fees or withdraws of workshop expenses.

Trevor Robar is our first corporate member who will have his link on our AAPT website.

**It was moved by Alden Thurston and seconded by Scott LeBlanc that the financial report be accepted. Motion carried.**

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### NEW BUSINESS

#### AAPT By-Law Amendments

No written comments were received from membership after proposed amendments were sent via notification on the list server to membership. Discussion was held regarding the reasoning for the removing of the API notations. Further discussion was held regarding the review of the daccum chart and it was felt that it would be a good time for the education committee to review/rewrite at the time of aiding with the 2<sup>nd</sup> year curriculum review. **The motion was made by Alden Thurston to approve the by-law amendments. Jami Fay seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

#### Scholarship Update

There had been a lot of discussion regarding the number of, the timing of and amount of the scholarship and nothing had been settled on since the association was waiting for confirmation of the new curriculum. There has been talk of raising the amount to \$1000 for 2 scholarships. Currently the association gives 2 @ \$500. The intent of the scholarship is to sway students into the planning program. Discussion was held about getting the NSCC to match the AAPT's amount and also see if NSCC would advertise the scholarship on the website. **The motion was made by Mike Donnelly to direct the AAPT President, Mike Thompson to send a letter to the NSCC Dean to request they match AAPT's scholarship amount and to request that they promote the scholarship by posting it on their NSCC website. Keith Saunders seconded the motion. Motion carried.** The letter would say that AAPT could have a \$1000 scholarship that they are looking for matching with and would like presence on the NSCC website to properly market the planning program.

#### Next Year Workshop & Topics

There was discussion held about possibly changing the workshop venue to the Halifax area to try and bump up workshop attendance next year. Dal or SMU could be asked, and Bruce Hicks also mentioned (at a later time) that any NSCC facility could be available and have GIS programs installed in the labs. A topic suggested was satellite/LIDAR imagery: the costs, what's available, pros/cons, etc.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following nominations for the Executive were brought forward as follows:

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President – Mike Thompson

Vice-President – Scott LeBlanc

Secretary – Melissa Bonin

Membership Chair – Jami Fay

Treasurer – Marlene Clements

Nova Scotia Representative – Alden Thurston

PEI Representative – Rodney Blanchard

New Brunswick Representative – Rodney Blanchard

Newfoundland Representative – Alton Glen

Education Committee members:

Mark Hebert

Ed Symons

C. Keith Saunders

Marlene Clements

**NEW – Mike Donnelly**

All positions were filled by acclamation.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.