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OVERVIEW

DEVELOPING FLORIDA'S PLANNING PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1951



FPZA 2015 STATE CONFERENCE RECAP

BEYOND THE BEACHES...GROWING TOURISM AND THE ECONOMY

The 2015 FPZA State Conference was held in Downtown Bradenton June 10th - June 13th. Much like the conferences over the last couple years, this year's conference touched on continuing and expanding upon the post recession economic recovery.

The motto for this year's conference was "Beyond the Beaches, Growing Tourism and the Economy," and provided attendees with multiple sessions tailored towards capitalizing on economic opportunities for local communities beyond the archetypical beach based tourism that Florida is known for. Those in attendance were provided with sessions that highlighted diversification of local economies, while capitalizing upon preexisting community history and character.

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY JUNE 10TH

The first day of the 2015 Conference took place at the Hampton Inn & Suites, the host hotel for the Conference which was recently restored and returned to a hotel use for the first time in 30 years. The sessions were tailored towards the ideas of preservation of and capitalization of community history and heritage in planning the futures for local communities.



Session 1: Restoration and Rebirth of Bradenton's Historic Downtown Hotel

The first session of the 2015 Conference was led by Will Robinson, Esq., from Blalock Walters. Mr. Robinson provided a historic review of the Hampton Inn and Suites hotel, formerly known as the River Grande Hotel. Initially opened in 1925, the host hotel was one of the first structures in downtown Bradenton to have electric lights and was the choice destination for a number of early 20th Century celebrities. Mr. Robinson provided first day attendees with an overview of the restoration and historical preservation efforts which went into the project. The projects approach to public-

private partnerships serves as a great case study for future projects of this type.

Session 2: Leveraging Heritage for Our Future

The final of the two first day sessions was led by Cathy Slusser and John McCarthy. The two are local historians from Manatee and Sarasota Counties, respectively, and focused their talking points around the roles that heritage can play in shaping a community's identity.

The session focused on local case studies in Sarasota and Manatee Counties, but provided concrete examples of how every community can utilize aspects of their own heritage and history as their inspiration in planning for a sustainable and prosperous future.

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OVERVIEW

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

I had the honor of being sworn in as President this past June at the 63rd Annual FPZA State Conference that was hosted by our Gulf Coast Chapter in Bradenton. I must let you all know that before I stepped up to the podium to be sworn in, I observed that many of our past presidents were in attendance, and I had the distinct pleasure of recognizing them for their past and continued service. I know they will all be a great resource for me as I undertake my responsibilities as the incoming President.



I want to pass on a big thank you to the 2014-15 State Executive Board members, including Arlene Hunter, Kevin McCarthy, and Paula McMichael, for their service in their respective leadership roles. And of course, our Immediate Past President, Courtney Mendez, who has already been helping me chart my course for my 2015-16 term. With that said, I will be leaning on the 2015-16 State Executive Board members, including Arlene Hunter, Alexis Crespo, and Helen LaValley. We have also been fortunate to have a strong commitment from our college students, such as Branden Roe, who stepped up to be our Newsletter Editor this past year. In addition, I look forward to working with our newly appointed student representative, Jamie Schindewolf.

I also want to say a special thank you to Brady Woods. It was my honor and pleasure to present Brady the President's Award of Outstanding Service at the conference. Brady has served our organization in a number of capacities, including a term as State President. There isn't enough room to list all of his contributions that were recognized by this award. Brady is moving west to California, and we will miss him greatly, but wish him all the success with his future endeavors.

I could not start my presidency without a word about the conference. A great job by our Gulf Coast Chapter and the conference committee for pulling it off with great style, that included many educational, interesting, and yes, entertaining sessions. I can say for the first time at a conference session anywhere I have ever attended, popcorn and beer were served, and it all fit in with the session topic! Again, thank you to all involved in making this conference a success. Well done!

As we move forward into this next year, my goals are to work with our members to strengthen our chapters, with a particular focus on increasing membership. As we all are painfully aware, this country has experienced one of the worst recessions going all the way back to the Great

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OVERVIEW

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Depression of the 1930s. The key cause for this latest downturn was the bust of the real estate boom that hit our state quite hard. Employment for planners in both the private and public sector suffered, and with that, membership took a downward trend that has persisted to today. However, the economy is now on the mend and activity in the real estate sector has been ramping up, especially in our urbanized areas.

The opportunity is here for us to begin to reverse that downward trend in membership. So how do we do that? The first area I want to start with is to work with our traditionally strong chapters to begin regain their membership. The next area is to pursue opportunities reactivating dormant chapters. I want to challenge those involved at the chapter level to look at ways to become more active, through such things as luncheon programs, ice breakers, annual awards program, etc., which are the ways to attract new or returning members.

My next goal is to continue Immediate Past President Courtney Mendez's challenge from her Presidency to the chapters to look at ways to provide a public service to our communities. This could be a social service activity, such as helping out with Habitat for Humanity, or an environmental activity such as helping out with a local clean-up event. I will look to our awards committee to be sure to include factors such as increasing membership and undertaking a service activity as key criteria for choosing our annual Chapter of the Year award in this next year.

As for upcoming events at the state level, the First Coast Chapter will host our next regional forum on Friday, September 18th in Jacksonville with the quarterly board meeting on the Saturday morning of that weekend. The topic will be "Implementing the DRI State Coordinated Review" in response to recent legislative action on the DRI program. I want to pass on a big thank you to First Coast for stepping to host the 2016 State Conference. More information, including the dates, will be forthcoming so you can mark your calendars. Additionally, the Surfcoast Chapter has stepped up to host a regional forum and state board meeting for the first quarter of 2016, and Central Florida has volunteered to do the same for the second quarter of 2016. More on the planning for those two regional forums will be forthcoming as well.

To conclude, I want to thank all who participated in our most recent conference. I challenge all of you all to get involved, if you not already involved locally in your chapter. If you are involved, think of ways we can make your chapter even stronger. It was not that long ago I was a member of our organization in name only. I was challenged to take up a leadership role in my local chapter, and I can tell you, it has been an extremely rewarding experience. I am open to all who have ideas and, most importantly, how to get them accomplished. So please feel free to contact me at jthomson@volusia.org or call me at 386-736-5942.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING 2015 STATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATE LEVEL SPONSORS:



**DONALD A. NEU, AICP
NEU CONSULTING, LLC**

DAY 2 SESSIONS

DAY 2: THURSDAY JUNE 11TH

Session 3: Regional Economic Development

The first session of the second day of the 2015 Conference lived up to this year's motto of "beyond the beaches," as attendees were introduced to a number of strategies aimed at encouraging job creation and capital investment in the Gulfcoast region. The strategies that were discussed were easily translatable to other communities and regions across the state. The standing room only crowd was able to hear Karen Stewart, CECD, of Manatee County, Jeff Maulsby of Sarasota County and Ruth Buchanan, CECD of the City of North Port share stories about their own respective community's unique and individual experiences within the Gulfcoast Region.

Session 4A: Sarasota/Manatee MPO Long Range and Mobility Plan

Michael Maholtz and David Hutchinson from the Sarasota/Manatee MPO along with Nick Lepp from Renaissance Planning provided an update on the Sarasota/Manatee MPO's 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. Branded the Strategic Mobility Plan, talking points included the integration of multimodal plans into the LRTP, as well as the use of a 10-15 year planning horizon to facilitate more tangible discussions, and decision making toward targeted economic development areas and development hotspots in the two county area.

Session 4B: Law & Order: E.V.U.

Law & Order: E.V.U. (Ethical Victims Unit) was led by the always educational and equally amusing Jim Barnes, AICP CEP, CPRP. The session covered a review of the AICP Code of Ethics, a review of real-life examples of ethical dilemmas from Florida headlines to illustrate the concepts being discussed, as well as a series of ethical 'what-ifs' with a backdrop theme of the Seven Deadly Sins.

Session 5A: Growth in the Gulfcoast

John Osborne, AICP, the Planning Official with Manatee County, and Allen Parsons, AICP, Planning Division Manager with Sarasota County provided conference attendees with a post lunch discussion on the growth occurring in the Gulfcoast area. The discussion covered the growth plans of the two counties, as well as a discussion of growth trends and conditions on the ground in comparison to what had been set forth in the respective plans. The discussion also included talking points on what the future of growth in Manatee and Sarasota Counties is looking like presently.

Session 5B: Microbreweries: Where Do They Fit?

Microbreweries continue to gain in popularity across the State of Florida, and the nature of these facilities are unique in how they blend aspects of manufacturing, entertainment, drinking facilities, and tourism into a single operation. Courtney Mendez, AICP from the City of Sarasota, Brady Woods from the City of Bradenton and Jeremy Joerger, the owner of JDubs Brewing Company in Sarasota lead a forum for attendees to get better acquainted with the use itself and how the facilities are treated in various jurisdictions.

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON

PAUL A. BLACKLETTER

President, Suncoast Aquatic Nature Center Associates (SANCA)

Paul Blackletter was the 2015 Luncheon Keynote speaker. Mr Blackletter is a fifth-generation Manatee County resident, and oversees the development of Sarasota County's Nathan Benderson Park. Paul is responsible for creating one of the finest rowing and sporting destinations in the world. Paul attended the University of Arkansas while training and participating in the US Army, and earned a Bachelors of Arts degree in Urban Planning from the University of South Florida. He and his wife have two daughters, both are currently attending colleges in Florida.



Nathan Benderson Park was the focal point of Paul's presentation, as the 600-acre community park is slated to become North America's premier 2,000-meter sprint rowing course and Regatta Center. The park is one of a handful of sites in the United States that is identified as having all of the natural attributes that make up a premier rowing and recreational facility. Over \$40 million have been committed to the facility's development, including 2,200 meter racing lanes and straight shorelines, coaching lanes, wave attenuation, a multi-function boathouse and athlete training center, starting huts, finish towers, spectator grandstands as well as a state-of-the-art boat maintenance and testing facility.

Prior to his appointment at SANCA, Paul was the executive director of planning for Benderson Development, where his duties included due diligence, land use approvals, community and government liaison, board presentations and project management on a range of projects. Paul has a 10-year background of extensive international travel, having identified, visited and researched the top rowing venues, aquatic centers and events around the globe.

As a result, Nathan Benderson Park has developed the facilities and partnerships to host over 40 major local, national and international events yearly, and has won a number of bids for renowned championship events including: the NCAA National Championships, World Cup Pentathlon, and the World Rowing Championship. In addition, under Paul's watch the rowing facility has become the winter training home for multiple collegiate rowing teams including Harvard, Yale and Columbia. The community park offers the perfect destination for a range of championship and recreational events, vendor opportunities, and so much more for the region, beyond the beaches.

AFTERNOON KEYNOTE

DAVID DIXON

Senior Principal, Stantec—Boston, MA.



David Dixon was the afternoon Keynote speaker to close out the second day of the 2015 conference. David has lead a wide range of significant projects in North America for public, private and institutional clients. His commitment to enhancing quality of life and economic opportunities for urban communities is a consistent theme in all of his work. David often speaks throughout the

country on a range of urban design issues, including smart growth, downtown revitalization, practices of integrating new urban growth into historic urban environments as well as sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods.

David is an advocate for many aspects of community-building, and especially know for initiating a national dialogue on density as an essential tool for revitalizing urban communities. He has chaired the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) Regional and Urban Design Committee and its National Sustainability Task Force.

His work over his professional career has been recognized a number of times, including awards from the Congress of New Urbanism and the Society for College and University Planning. In 2007 David received the AIA's highest honor for achievement in the public sphere, the Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture. Mr. Dixon coauthored with Lance J Brown FAIA, *Urban Design for an Urban Century: Shaping more Livable, Equitable, and Resilient Cities*.

The lecture discussed strategies that we as planners and policy makers can use to improve quality of life, foster community and simultaneously save money. American demographics and personal values have undergone dramatic changes that have created an era of opportunity for downtown cities and suburbs unlike anything since the Great Depression. David's lecture spoke on efforts ongoing in Boston as well as the current experiences in regards to planning the Tampa Bay Lighting walkable waterfront district . The lecture spoke on the real potential for development both within the city as well as the suburbs and some best practices on how to pursue it through combined leadership, land control, strong design and patient capital.

DAY 3 SESSIONS

DAY 3: FRIDAY JUNE 12TH

Session 6A: Mobile Walking Tour: Bradenton Riverwalk

The final day of the conference opened with the opportunity for attendees to take a walking tour along the Bradenton Riverwalk, a 1.25 mile linear park that runs along the Manatee River in Downtown Bradenton. The Riverwalk opened in October 2012, and was a \$6.9 million project, with more than \$1 million of that coming from grant funding. Led by design team members, Bill Waddil, PLA, AICP and James Pankonin, PLA, LEED AP from Kimley-Horn, the tour highlighted the process and design factors that have contributed to the Bradenton Riverwalk becoming a transformative project for the City.

Session 6B: AICP Ethics Case of the Year

Valarie Hubbard, FAICP, LEED AP led the 2015 Conference's final ethics session and provided an interactive session where participants were tasked with applying their experience and knowledge of the AICP Code of Ethics to identify ethics violations and alternatives to avoid questions of unethical decision-making. The session also included a brief overview of the Code of Ethics.

Session 7A: Mobility Planning and Alternative Impact Fees

Ryan Chapdelain, AICP from the City of Sarasota, Steve Tindale, P.E., AICP, and Christopher Keller, AICP of Tindale Oliver led a mid morning session discussing the impacts of mobility and impact fees on the 2008 update of the City of Sarasota Comprehensive Plan. The discussion highlighted the need for planners to identify a jurisdiction-wide strategy for enhancing mobility for all users, not just automobiles. Additionally the session discussed multimodal impact fees and strategies being applied locally and regionally to address concurrency and transportation in a more holistic and comprehensive manner.

Session 7B: Nature and Cultural Tourism, and Park Planning

In 2011 Sarasota County was named home to the #1 beach in the United States by "Dr. Beach", and again named the #1 beach in 2015 by TripAdvisor. While Siesta Key is proud to recognize that honor, speakers Patrick Calhoun, Mike Sosadeeter, RLA and Tracy Mullins, MS, AICP, from Sarasota County were quick to point out that the theme of "beyond the beaches" held true even in a place with a nationally recognized beach. This session discussed the bounty of recreational opportunities within Sarasota, and across the entire state, and identified planning tools available to capitalize on these opportunities. The speakers made clear that each municipality and region will need to identify and asses their own individual demographic and market demands in order to capitalize on natural and cultural tourism opportunities that are not just implementable but also sustainable. Local projects were discussed as case studies of the success of the discussed approach.

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DAY 3 SESSIONS

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Session 8A: Tools for Success: Downtown Sarasota and the Rosemary District

Steven Stancel of the City of Sarasota, Joel Freedman, AICP, of Freedma Consulting and Development, LLC, John Moran of the Downtown Improvement District and Ian Black of Ian Black Real Estate kicked off the afternoon sessions of the final day of the conference with a discussion regarding investment and redevelopment efforts within the City of Sarasota. The discussion highlighted the efforts by the City to utilize planning and policy tools, including strategic public spending to capture the upswing in economic investment in the post recession recovery. The session included discussions about small and large scale projects including the \$11 million parking garage and \$120 million Westin Hotel and Condo projects in the Downtown and Rosemary Districts of Sarasota.

Session 8B: Creative Placemaking and the Successes of Realize Bradenton

The second early afternoon session was led by Johnette Isham of Realize Bradenton. Realize Bradenton is a nonprofit organization that provides innovative strategies for economic growth that seek to activate creative placemaking through compelling place branding and positive stakeholder engagement. Realize Bradenton was recently a recipient of the Knight Cities Challenge Award, while provided the organization with a means to execute tactical urbanism through "Pop-ups for a Purpose." The session illustrated the power of placemaking with examples from Downtown Bradenton including: an artist live-work district, the Riverwalk, the Farmers' Market, cultural events, millennial activation and much more, including samples of locally brewed beer from Darwin Brewing Company of Bradenton and organic non-GMO popcorn from Peacorn, an organic popcorn pop up shop promoting local economies and organic sustainable food practices.

Session 9A: Legal/Legislative Update

One of the final two sessions of the 2015 Conference was led by Mark Barnebey, Esq. of Blalock Walters, PA., and was a review of the key planning and land use law cases that have come about in the year since the previous conference. Mr. Barnebey's discussion touched on key cases within Florida as well as nationally, and addressed recently adopted Legislation within the State of Florida impacting planners.

Session 9B: Agriculture and the City

The second of the final sessions of the 2015 Conference related to the recent resurgence of local food production. The session broke down the technicalities of "locally" grown/produced food and detailed ways that people are reconnecting with their food sources including farmers' markets, farm-to-table programs, agricultural tourism. The session also provided attendees with an overview of positive social and economic impacts that these types of programs can provide.

SINCEREST CONDOLENCES

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that we notify our members of the loss of Past President Woodrow Lee Pitre, PhD. Past President Pitre passed away on July 24, 2015.

Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, and a Citrus County area resident since 1989. Lee became President of FPZA in 1998, and was an active member before and after his presidency. In addition to being a Past President of FPZA, he was also affiliated with the Florida Democratic Party, Loyal Order of Moose, and the Lions Club. Lee was a Naval and Air Force Veteran and active member of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Past President Pitre is survived by his wife of 52 years, Janice; his two children, Eric and Virginia; his sister Jeanne; and two grandchildren Hannah and Sophia.

Our collective hearts are heavy with sorrow, and the Florida Planning and Zoning Association would like to express our deepest condolences to Lee's family, friends, and peers in this time of mourning. Past President Pitre will be greatly missed, but he has left all he touched with a treasure trove of memories.

WHO BELONGS TO THE FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION?

WOMEN AND MEN WHO ARE...

Planning professionals - public and private zoning staff, transportation engineers, land-use lawyers, expert witnesses, members of the Florida Bar, city, county and state-elected officials, members of local planning and zoning boards, university professors, architects, landscape architects, housing professionals, real estate agents, transportation specialists, surveyors, marketing professionals, communications directors, graphic artists, students of land planning, public relations professionals...and more.

FOR A CHANCE TO NETWORK WITH LIKE-MINDED PROFESSIONALS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, WHY NOT JOIN US?

Call the state office of FPZA at (407) 895-2654 for chapter membership within Florida and your local community. Visit our website at www.FPZA.org.

2015 FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

The FPZA Awards define the standard for innovative approaches to land development and public/private sector planning statewide. For decades, the awards program has been the centerpiece of FPZA's intention to identify and promote best practices in planning. FPZA was pleased to accept so many phenomenal entries this year, and is overjoyed to be able to recognize so many commendable projects.

INNOVATION

CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS & WALDROP ENGINEERING
DESIGN STANDARDS FOR LARGE RETAIL, BONITA SPRINGS



ARLEEN HUNTER, LINDSAY RODRIGUEZ AND ALEXIS CRESPO WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

The City of Bonita Springs and Waldrop Engineering are the 2015 Innovation Award winners for their amendment to the City of Bonita Spring's Land Development Code to create unique, community-specific design standards that address impacts and design quality of retail exceeding 40,000 square

feet, including "big box" stores. The project undertook an innovative, 'holistic' approach, provided collaboration with retailers and developers, included requirements for civic space, transit stops and other pedestrian oriented requirements.

OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENT
RYAN COMPANIES & STANTEC
AMAZON FULFILLMENT CENTER, RUSKIN

DIANE CHADWICK AND BRYAN DEVLIN
WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

Ryan Companies and Stantec are the recipients of one of the two 2015 Outstanding Development Awards for the Amazon Fulfillment Center in Ruskin, Florida. The \$200 million project is located on an 80-acre parcel and consists of 1.1 million square feet of development, 2,500 parking spaces, 90 truck bays, and 140 trailer parking stalls. The design and permitting package was completed in 3.5 months, achieved through communication and collaboration with the Tampa-Hillsborough EDC and Hillsborough County Government for a 'Fast-Track Project Delivery Method'.



OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENT
BROOKS HEALTH, ETM, & PROSSER
BROOKS BARTRAM PARK CAMPUS,
JACKSONVILLE

SHALEN ESTES, ETM WITH FPZA
PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

Brooks Heath, ETM & Prosser are the 2015 winners of the Second Outstanding Development Award for their Brooks Bartram Park Campus in Jacksonville, Florida. This is a 115-acre "continuum of care" model development, that incorporated small homes for seniors focusing on efficient land use approaches while establishing an independent style of living, the project placed a heavy emphasis on the preservation of the natural vegetation on site.

OUTSTANDING REDEVELOPMENT
BARTOW CRA & CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BARTOW CRA PLAN

ERIC LABBE AND PATRICIA STEED WITH
FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

The Bartow CRA and Central Florida Regional Planning Council were the recipients of the 2015 Outstanding Redevelopment Award for their Bartow CRA Plan. The CRA Plan was the product of public outreach and professional planning efforts that sought to redevelop Bartow through the preservation of community heritage, existing historical structure and sites, economic and cultural development tailored towards revitalizing downtown, and the creation and protection of vibrant neighborhoods.



GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE
CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING
COUNCIL
HEARTLAND 2060 - BUILDING A RESILIENT
REGION

PATRICIA STEED AND JENNIFER CODO-
SALISBURY WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN
THOMSON

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council was the recipient of the 2015 Grassroots Initiative Award for their Heartland 2060: Building a Resilient Region project. The Heartland

2015 FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

Region consists of DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Okeechobee, and Polk Counties. The project assessed current assets, opportunities, challenges and trends in a range of issues including Environment and Natural Resources, Transportation, Education, Workforce, and Economic Development. This assessment was then used in drafting a series of goals and key questions that figure to be major components of the establishment of the Heartland region as resilient and sustainable for the short, medium and long term horizons.

INFRASTRUCTURE

JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, ETM, & PARSONS BRINKERHOFF
JTA ROUTE OPTIMIZATION INITIATIVE

CARL WECKENMANN WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON



The Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA), ETM and Parsons Brinkerhoff were the 2015 recipients of the Florida Planning and Zoning Association's Infrastructure Award for their JTA Route Optimization Initiative. This project was a strategic reworking of Jacksonville Transit from the ground up, the results were extended service (earlier and later routes), dramatic reduction in headways, and significant increases in ridership, especially on weekends. The initiative led to a renaming of JTA routes to numbered routes, an industry standard, the standardization of distances between stops along routes, the doubling of late night service, and increase in weekend routes from 1 to 10 individual routes.



OUTSTANDING PLAN
FLORIDA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT LAB & PASCO COUNTY
VISION 19: A CATALYST FOR CHANGE IN THE HARBORS, PASCO COUNTY

JEREMY CRUTE, TODD ENGALA, LINDSAY STEVENS AND JENNIFER MALONE WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

The Florida Planning & Development Lab and Pasco County were the 2015 winners of the Outstanding Plan Award for their Vision 19 Plan. Vision

19: A Catalyst for Change in the Harbors was a two phase project carried out by individual teams of graduate students in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida State University. Phase I of the project was centered around data

collection and research pertaining to the socio-economic and demographics of the Harbors area in West Pasco County. Phase II of the project focused on the identification of two specific focus areas, a detailed analysis of the existing development regulations, opportunities and challenges for the focus areas, and culminated in the creation of specific redevelopment strategies for the two focus areas located along U.S. 19. The team proposed a number of redevelopment strategies including the adoption of form based code principles, a riverwalk promenade structure, traffic calming measures streetscaping plans, and much more.

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER

SURFCOAST CHAPTER

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON, BECKY MENDEZ, HELEN LAVALLEY AND SCOTT ASHLEY



The recipients of the 2015 Outstanding Chapter Award was once again, the Surfcoast Chapter. The Surfcoast Chapter serves Flagler and Volusia Counties. The chapter board and general members worked hard to hold regular educational and social events, including the January Regional Forum which had more than 50 attendees. The Chapter has seen a 20% increase in membership.

OUTSTANDING PLANNING STUDENTS

MATRELL EVERETT, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA



JAY HABANSKY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
ISSAC PINCKNEY, FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
JUSTIN STIELL, FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON, JUSTIN STIELL (FSU), ISSAC PICKNEY (FAU), AND MATRELL EVERETT (USF).

Each year FPZA provides the students of Florida's state universities with the opportunity to attend the annual conference to immerse themselves in the hot topics of planning within the state, as well as the opportunity to network with planning professionals from across the state. For the second year in a row, four students were awarded the Outstanding Student Award, representing four state universities. This year's winners included three second year Masters students and a Junior undergraduate student. The students all

2015 FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

wrote compelling essays on Florida's future, and received high recommendations.

OUTSTANDING JOURNALIST

JAN THORNBURG

The recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Journalist Award is Jan Thornburg. Jan is the City of Sarasota's Senior Communications Manager, and has more than 10 years of experience in local government. Prior to her joining the City of Sarasota's staff in 2004 she had nearly 20 years of experience in television broadcasting. Jan was a pioneer in integrating social media into public sector information within the Tampa Bay area, and has managed to leverage social media platforms for specific messaging and outcomes.



OUTSTANDING ELECTED OFFICIAL

MANATEE COUNTY COMMISSIONER BETSY BENAC

COMMISSIONER BETSY BENAC WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

The recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Elected Official is Manatee County Commissioner Betsy Benac. Commissioner Benac is an At-Large County Commissioner and the 2015 Chairwoman of the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Benac brings tremendous planning expertise to the dias, as well as a love for the Community and civic service. Prior to her election to the Board of County Commissioners, Commissioner Benac graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Environmental Psychology, and had extensive experience in the public and private sectors, including more than a decade with the Manatee County Planning Department.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE

BRADY WOODS

BRADY WOODS WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

As all of those in attendance of the 2015 State Conference found out, Mr. Brady Woods has relocated to California following the conclusion of the 2015 State Conference. In recognition of the extraordinary



service that he has given in his time with FPZA, Brady Woods was awarded the 2015 President's Award of Outstanding Service. Brady Woods has been a long time member of the Florida Planning and Zoning Association, has served many years on the State Board of Directors, including his role as the 2012-2013 President. Brady was the State Conference Chair for the highly successful 2014 State Conference, and was the Fundraising Co-Chair for this year's conference. In addition to his involvement with the State Board, Brady has shown outstanding dedication and professional service to the Central Florida and Gulf Coast Chapters.

GEORGE W. SIMONS, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD

MARY GIBBS

MARY GIBBS WITH FPZA PRESIDENT JOHN THOMSON

Each year FPZA awards the George W. Simons, Jr. Memorial Award to a planning professional who represents the spirit and character of George W. Simons Jr. The George W. Simons, Jr. Memorial Award is the Florida Planning and Zoning Association's highest achievement.



The 2015 recipient of the George W. Simons, Jr. Memorial Award is Mary Gibbs. Mary Gibbs recently retired from her position as the Lee County Community Director after 24 years. In total, Mary had worked for Lee County for more than 31 years, and was previously employed with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Her 35 years of experience in Southwest Florida has been a reflection of the characteristics espoused by George W. Simons, Jr.

Mary's support, encouragement and manpower dedicated to FPZA has been paramount to the vitality of the Calusa Chapter. Mary has been a member of FPZA in 1982, and was a Charter Member of the Southwest Chapter of the FPZA in 1982, now named the Calusa Chapter. Mary has held board positions for the Southwest Chapter, has been an instrumental member supporting numerous conferences in the region as well as a valuable recruiter for planners and zoners to participate in FPZA events locally and state wide.

We congratulate Mary Gibbs, the 2015 recipient of the George W. Simons, Jr. Memorial Award, and thank her for her many years of dedication to planning in Southwest Florida in addition to her dedication to the Florida Planning and Zoning Association. With her recent announcement of retirement, we wish Mary the best in her future endeavors, Lee County will undoubtedly miss the experience and passion she brought to her position and the county as a whole.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE
FOLLOWING 2015 STATE CONFERENCE
ASSOCIATE LEVEL SPONSOR:



CALL FOR ARTICLES

Would you like an opportunity to share an opinion, review or analysis of a current planning topic of personal or state interest?

We are looking for contributions for upcoming issues of the Overview. One time or recurring contributors are welcome. Contributions can include, but are not limited to: news articles, press releases, analytic reviews and narratives, legal briefs and reviews. The views expressed in the Overview are those of the Editor or other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Florida Planning & Zoning Association. Articles may be edited to conform to space and/or style requirements, and may be reserved for use in later issues if appropriate.

If you are interested in submitting a contribution, or would like additional information, please contact:

Branden Roe
Overview Editor
branden.m.roe@gmail.com,
(941) 323-8204.

MEMBER PROFILE

JAMIE SCHINDEWOLF, MSP

Q. WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY?

A. I was born in Illinois, across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, but my family spent a month on Longboat Key every summer until 1999 when we moved to Bradenton permanently.

Q. WHAT COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DID YOU ATTEND/GRADUATE FROM? PLEASE LIST YOUR DEGREE(S) AND IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIALIZED TRAINING.

A. I graduated from the University of Florida in 2011 with a Bachelors degree in Sociology with a minor in Sustainability Studies. I graduated from Florida State University in 2013 with my Master's in Urban Planning, and am currently enrolled in doctoral studies at FSU.

Q. HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN FPZA AND HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER?

A. I became involved with FPZA in 2012 as a recipient of the Outstanding Student Award. After the hospitality shown at the conference by the membership, it was clear that FPZA was a professional organization I wanted to continue to be involved with. I believe I have been a member since then.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT POSITION AND AREA (S) OF EXPERTISE?

A. I am a doctoral candidate in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida State University (I have completed my coursework and exams and am now working on my dissertation) specializing in Land Conservation & Environmental Planning and Regional Land Use Planning.

Q. WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?

A. I've spent twenty years volunteering with sea turtle patrol on Longboat Key during turtle nesting season, performing tasks like marking off nests and conducting excavations after a hatching. I have participated in a number of sprint distance triathlons and am hoping to get back into training now that I am settled in Florida indefinitely. I am also interested in cat rescue and enjoy playing planning-related video games.

Q. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE DOING NOW IF YOU HADN'T CHOSEN YOUR CURRENT PROFESSION?

A. Growing up I always wanted to be a meteorologist, so maybe I would be chasing tornadoes! More realistically, I probably would have gone to law school and would be starting a legal career, likely in environmental law.



Q. IF A NEW COLLEGE GRADUATE ASKED YOU FOR ADVICE ABOUT YOUR FIELD, WHAT WOULD YOU TELL THEM?

A. I would tell them to be sure to take courses that will give them tangible tools for doing planning work—GIS courses, publishing type programs, even website or app design. I think its long been realized that the traditional methods of public engagement often leave involved parties a bit dissatisfied; coming into the workforce with skills to enhance how planners engage with clients (be they the public, developers, homeowners, whoever) can help create more desirable planning outcomes and possibly prevent disenchantment and cynicism. I think I didn't fully grasp the political challenges of planning until I got involved in planning processes outside of school, from attending public meetings to undertaking public sector internships. I'm sure I have plenty more to learn as I move forward in the field!

Q. WHAT PERSONAL GOALS WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACHIEVE (BEFORE YOU RETIRE)?

A. On a grandiose level, I want to be Leslie Knope to a Florida municipality. Or mayor. Or both. Realistically, I see myself in a public sector planning position, where I hope to foster an inclusive planning environment where citizens feel truly involved in an open government process. Otherwise, I would love to someday work for a land trust or in public land acquisition for land conservation.



Implementing DRI State Coordinated Review

September 18, 2015, NEFRC, Jacksonville

In 2014, the Legislature eliminated the mandatory Development of Regional Impact review, streamlining the planning concept to “state coordinated review”. Join your distinguished presenters for an examination of what this means for Florida, the mechanics of testing the new review process, and what we expect to gain from this method of regional planning. The presenters will provide insight from the state, regional, local, private and legal perspectives.

Friday, September 18th

12:30 – 1:00 *Registration*

1:00-1:15 PM *Welcome*

FEATURED PANEL DISCUSSION

1:15-1:45 PM **Brian Teeple**
Executive Director, NEFRC, Jacksonville

1:45-2:15 PM **Bill Killingsworth**
Director, DEO Tallahassee (*invited*)

2:15-2:30 *Networking Break*

2:30-3:00 PM **Bob Rhodes**
Attorney at Law

3:00-3:30 PM **Tony Robbins,**
Senior Planner, Prosser Hallock

3:30-4:00 PM Q/A session and wrap up

Join FPZA for the Quarterly Regional Forum, hosted by the First Coast Chapter



Location: Northeast Florida Regional Council
6850 Belfort Oaks Place
Jacksonville, Florida

Enjoy the convenient location within the Region!

Please register by Monday September 14, 2015
Earn up to 1.5 AICP/CM credits

REGISTER NOW! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fpza-educational-seminar-quarterly-forum-tickets-18096603428>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 13, 2015

HAMPTON INN, BRADENTON FL

President Thomson called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

The following were present:

BRADY WOODS – GULF COAST
HELEN LAVALLEY – SURFCOAST
PAULA MCMICHAEL – CALUSA
RANDY GALLUP – FIRST COAST
DIANE CHADWICK – SUNCOAST
JOHN THOMSON – SURFCOAST
KATHLEEN THOMPSON – GULF COAST
COURTNEY MENDEZ – GULF COAST
PAUL WIECZOREK – SPRINGS
BRANDEN ROE – STUDENT
ARLEEN HUNTER – CALUSA
ALEXIS CRESPO – CALUSA
THAD CROWE – FIRST COAST
SCOTT STUART – CENTRAL FLORIDA
RACHEL LAYTON – GULF COAST
SHARON TARMAN – GULF COAST
JOE QUINN – SPRINGS
JAMIE SCHINDEWOLF – STUDENT



The 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 FPZA Board of Directors (From left to Right):

Helen LaValley, 2015-2016 VP - Membership Services; **Alexis Crespo**, 2015-2016 VP - Financial Affairs; **Arleen Hunter**, 2015-2016 President Elect; **Paula McMichael**, 2014-2015 Immediate Past President; **Courtney Mendez**, 2015-2016 Immediate Past President; **John Thomson**, 2015-2016 President

(Not Pictured: **Kevin McCarthy**, 2014-2015 VP - Financial Affairs)

WANDA CLASSE ATTENDED AS ADMINISTRATOR

Immediate Past President Mendez handed President John Thomson the official FPZA gavel.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Thomson welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Introductions were made by each individual stating their name and chapter/state affiliation.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Wanda Classe distributed Agenda, Membership Numbers and Balance Sheet stating that the minutes of the March 21, 2015 meeting were emailed to everyone. Thad Crowe made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed. Sharon Tarman seconded the motion; approved.

The Membership Report showed 479 as the total number of members: 155 individual members, 314 members from 75 agencies, two students, four honorary students, two Past President Emeritus and two paid Past Presidents Emeritus. Wanda stated that the chapter dues checks were being given out at this meeting and the chapter membership list would be emailed to the chapters.

The report showed the May 31, 2015 bank

balances to be \$49,726.27 compared to the May 31, 2014 balance of \$52,596.40. She stated that the chapter checks given out today were written in June so these checks are not reflected in the balances shown. She stated that FPZA still owed the Gulf Coast Chapter a few thousand in conference registration fees.

Wanda also stated that it is customary for dues invoices to go out following the conference. She stated that if any chapter wanted to change their dues for the coming year to let her know now. All dues will remain the same for the coming year.

She also reported that FPZA has a lot of old paperwork and asked for approval to scan documents and destroy the paper. Arleen Hunter made a motion to allow any paperwork that was older than 10 years to be scanned and paperwork destroyed. Paul Wieczorek seconded the motion; approved.

VP FINANCIAL AFFAIRS REPORT

In the absence of Treasurer Kevin McCarthy Wanda Classe distributed a budget report for January – May 2015 as was sent to her by Treasurer McCarthy. In review, Wanda was asked to change the conference income to Conference Credit Card Registration Revenues. In review it was also pointed out that there was no amount in the budget column for the awards.

It was determined that the expense section of the report was not aligned correctly to show the proper budget for certain line items. Rachel Layton made a motion to accept the financial reports contingent on these stated corrections being made. Courtney Mendez seconded the motion; approved. Wanda will make the changes to the report and send out to those in attendance.

Wanda also stated that she is still waiting on chapter year end reports to that she can file the 2014 tax return.

Alexis Crespo will be taking over as Vice President Financial Affairs.

VP MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

Arleen Hunter stated that she has added 35 people to LinkedIn and five endorsements since the last meeting. Arleen will transition her duties over to Helen LaValley.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT

John Thomson stated that he will be transitioning his duties to Arleen Hunter. He stated that Marion County has a new Director who appears to want to become active in FPZA.

There were questions asked regarding the Professional Development Officer in each

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

OVERVIEW

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

chapter. It was stated that each chapter should have one but it has been a couple of years since this list has been updated. Arleen will contact each chapter and make sure they have a designated person and that person sends her any program description they are submitting for credits prior to actually submitting them to the APA. Paula McMichael will send Arleen information on registering someone as a PDO with APA and the last list of chapter PDOs that she has.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Thomson stated that his main goals for the year were membership and community service. He asked each chapter to place an emphasis on increasing their chapter members. Courtney Mendez volunteered to assist Suncoast Chapter and Diane Chadwick also stated that she would help. Scott Stuart stated that he thought a line should be drawn between FAPA and FPZA. In this discussion, Scott was asked to put down his points and counterpoints in an article for the newsletter. This article should also benefit the chapter with their membership growth.

President Thomson also announced that there were vacancies to be filled for Presidential Appointees. He stated that he asked both Branden Roe from Calusa and Jim Barnes from Gulfstream to serve and they both accepted. He encouraged directors to seek volunteers from their chapters.

He also asked the chapters to come up with their own local community service project that was not related to planning.

STUDENT OUTREACH

Branden Roe introduced Jamie Schindewolf to the group as the student he is recommending for the position of Student Representative. Branden announced that he has graduated and will be a full member of the Calusa Chapter on renewal. Paul Wiczorek made a motion for Jamie to be the Student Representative. Paula McMichael seconded the motion; approved. Jamie was welcomed and will serve as a go-between the colleges and FPZA.

OVERVIEW

Branden Roe will continue as editor. The next deadline for articles is July 3, 2015 for a conference publication. Jamie Schindewolf will be profiled. Scott Stuart will write the article on FAPA and FPZA. Other articles will include the president's message, summaries of conference

sessions, scholarship recipient's articles and conference sponsors

2015 CONFERENCE REPORT

Kathleen Thompson recognized the committee members for the conference. Approximately 75 registered for the conference. She stated that it would take a couple of weeks to tally the financial side because she was going on vacation

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Conference will be hosted by the First Coast Chapter. The exact date has not been determined but will be around the same time as held each year. It is currently being planned around Downtown Jacksonville. Thad Crowe will again serve as Awards Committee Chair with Paul Wiczorek, Arleen Hunter, Branden Roe and Courtney Mendez as committee members. Paul Wiczorek announced that he would again sponsor the Hospitality Suite. Calusa chapter will host the 2017 Conference.

The quarterly forums/board meetings will be held:

September 18-19, 2015 - First Coast

The forum will be held September 18 and will serve as the chapter's yearly educational event. They are tentatively planning overnights at the Hilton Garden Inn in Deerwood Park and the group dinner will be at Brio's in St. John's Town Center.

January 2016 – Surfcoast**March 2016 – Central Florida Chapter****June 2016 – First Coast/Conference****CHAPTER REPORTS**

- **Calusa Chapter** – They are planning a happy hour event in July and are planning an Ethics session for the future. They have already started planning the 2017 Conference.
- **Central Florida** – Scott Stuart reported they have had a lot of turnover in their leadership and now have new board members in place. They are still holding monthly luncheons with good attendance.
- **First Coast** – They are having quarterly luncheons and approximately 20 attend. The luncheons also offer 1 ½ credits.
- **Gulf Coast** – Sharon Tarman stated that

the chapter had been focusing on the conference. They are struggling with attendance at their lunch meetings.

- **Springs** – Joe Quinn is the new chapter president and they are currently focusing on rebuilding the chapter.
- **Suncoast**– Diane Chadwick will work with Courtney in trying to get the chapter more active.
- **Surfcoast** – Helen LaValley reported that the chapter continues to hold monthly lunches. They are trying to get different accreditations at the meetings: July – Urban Chickens, August – Member Appreciation social at a microbrewery, September – Ethics. She stated that painting or clean-up would probably be their community service project. They are currently in a membership- drive. If a member joins at a meeting, they get to attend one event at no charge.

OTHER BUSINESS

President Thomson acknowledged and thanked Brady Woods for his service to FPZA stating that he will be sincerely missed but wished him much success in his endeavors in California.

Paul Wiczorek made a motion to make Thad Crowe a Past President Emeritus. Rachel Layton seconded the motion; approved.

ADJORN – with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP

FPZA will extend a complimentary membership, for up to one year, to current members who have been laid off or lost their job due to the economic situation. Please contact the FPZA Office at (407) 895-2654 or info@fpza.org, or the VP of Member Services, John Thomson, at jthomson@co.volusia.fl.us for more information.

OVERVIEW

MEMBERSHIP IN FPZA

DUES

TO JOIN THE FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION, IDENTIFY A CHAPTER CONTAINING YOUR LOCATION ON THE LIST AT LEFT. REFER TO THE CURRENT LIST OF CHAPTER DUES BELOW TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE DUES AMOUNT. THESE AMOUNTS INCLUDE BOTH STATE AND LOCAL DUES.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Chapter	State Dues	Local Chapter Dues	Total Dues
Apalachee	\$50	\$10	\$60
Calusa	\$50	\$20	\$70
Central Florida	\$50	\$20	\$70
First Coast	\$50	\$35	\$85
Gulfcoast	\$50	\$15	\$65
Gulfstream	\$50	\$15	\$65
Heartland	\$50	\$10	\$60
Northwest	\$50	\$10	\$60
South Florida	\$50	\$10	\$60
Springs	\$50	\$10	\$60
Suncoast	\$50	\$20	\$70
Surfcoast	\$50	\$25	\$75
Suwannee	\$50	\$10	\$60

GROUP MEMBERSHIP (MINIMUM FOUR INDIVIDUALS)

Chapter	State Dues per Person	Local Chapter Dues per Person	Total Dues per Person
Apalachee	\$40	\$8.00	\$48.00
Calusa	\$40	\$15.00	\$55.00
Central Florida	\$40	\$20.00	\$60.00
First Coast	\$40	\$23.00	\$63.00
Gulfcoast	\$40	\$12.00	\$52.00
Gulfstream	\$40	\$15.00	\$55.00
Heartland	\$40	\$7.00	\$47.00
Northwest	\$40	\$7.00	\$47.00
South Florida	\$40	\$7.00	\$47.00
Springs	\$40	\$8.00	\$48.00
Suncoast	\$40	\$13.00	\$53.00
Surfcoast	\$40	\$23.00	\$63.00
Suwannee	\$40	\$7.00	\$47.00

- ♦ To find out the chapter you will belong to, visit the [FPZA website](#).
- ♦ Return your application form with payment to:
FPZA
Post Office Box 568544
Orlando, Florida 32856-8544
Fax: (407) 895-2654
- ♦ For questions call (407) 895-2654 or email fpza@bellsouth.net

A NOTE ABOUT AGENCY DUES:

The minimum number of individuals for a group is now four, but there is no longer a maximum number; you may add an unlimited number of additional people to your overall group. You now also have the option to pay a group rate for a combined group with members of different local chapters or for combinations of professional staff and board/commission members, rather than the previously separate categories.

Type of Membership Applying For: Individual Agency (minimum four reps) Student (copy of i.d. required)

Name: _____ Email: _____

Company: _____ FPZA Chapter: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

If Agency, list additional names and email addresses below (minimum four per agency):

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____