



OVERVIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE
FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION

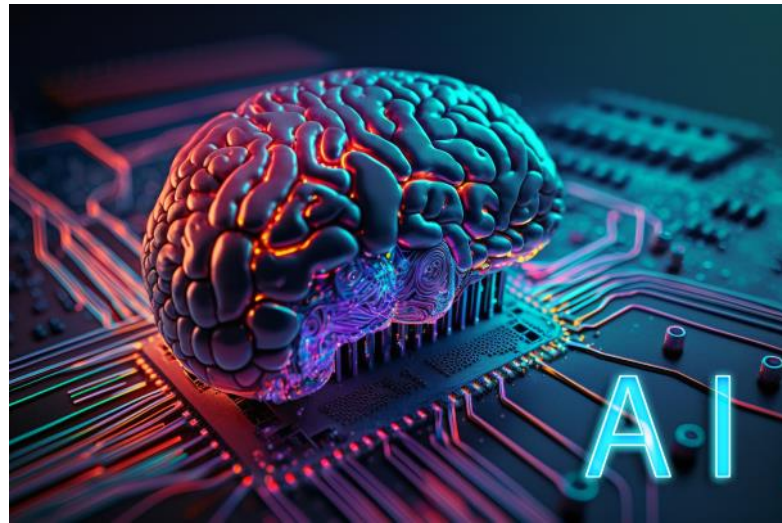
DEVELOPING FLORIDA'S PLANNING PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1951

The Future is Here - Part 1

Authored by Doug Kelly, AICP, Doug serves as a land development manager with ETM, Inc. and has previously held the position of President at FPZA.

Embarking on my first full-time planning role after completing my graduate studies at the University of Florida, I found myself as a development plans reviewer for Volusia County, FL in 1990. At that time, GIS technology was in its early beginnings, and I was the sole staff member tasked with site plan review in the planning and zoning division. My tenure coincided with an invaluable opportunity, under the guidance of Don Sikorski, the planning and zoning director, I attended every DRC meeting for over two years, representing our division alongside three other department heads. This immersive experience proved to be an invaluable education, offering insights into the nuances of development review and engineering processes that eclipsed my previous five years of learning. Coming from an undergraduate background in architecture and having worked for six years as an architectural designer for a residential developer in Gainesville during college, joining an organization freshly recognized with APA-FL's Best Large Scale Comprehensive Plan accolade felt like the perfect fit.

Over time, I observed that while much of the development review process could seem repetitive, it remained undeniably crucial. After seven years serving in this capacity across two jurisdictions, I transitioned to the private sector, joining Canin and Associates in Orlando. This new chapter saw me on the opposite side of the table, responsible for preparing development applications spanning multiple jurisdictions throughout Central Florida in the ensuing years. More recently, my team of planners assumed roles as on-call planning consultants for over a dozen communities in Florida, providing general planning and site plan review services as needed. I have always held immense admiration for the land planners and engineers working in this realm, especially amid Florida's exponential growth, often with a leaner staff than in previous years.



In 2023, my fascination with the intersection of artificial intelligence and site plan review was piqued when I submitted an apartment project for development review in Altamonte Springs, FL. Our project marked the inaugural site plan to undergo AI review following the city's partnership with AutoReview.AI, initiating AI-powered, automated site plan review for development and landscaping plans. Altamonte Springs proudly claimed the title of the first city in Florida to implement automated review of such plans, integrating the software into the city's development review process.

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies into various industries has ushered in significant advancements in efficiency, accuracy, and cost-effectiveness. One such stride is the integration of AI in the site plan review process. In this two-part article, we will delve into the benefits, challenges, and future prospects of employing AI in site plan reviews.

...continued on page 4

IN THIS ISSUE:

3

A Word
from the
President

5

Save the
Date 2024
FPZA
Conference

6

2024 FPZA
Conference
Session
Schedule

7

Call for 2024
FPZA
Conference
Sponsors

10

Spring
Regional
Forum
Recap

11

2024 FPZA
Conference
Registration
Form

14

Student
Scholarship
Application

15

Member Spotlight:
Michael Hanson,
AICP Candidate

16

BOD Meeting
Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Daniel Smith, AICP
 Director of Community Affairs
 City of Marco Island
 50 Bald Eagle Drive
 Marco Island, Florida 34145
 239-389-5021 phone
dsmith@cityofmarcoisland.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Katie LaBarr, AICP
 Principal, Planning
 Stantec
 6920 Professional Parkway
 Sarasota, Florida 34240
 941-907-6900 phone

VP MEMBER SERVICES

Jamie Schindewolf
 Senior Planner
 City of Bradenton
 101 Old Main Street
 Bradenton, Florida 34205
 941-932-9426 phone
jamie.schindewolf@bradentonFL.gov

VP FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Jeremie Chastain, AICP
 Senior Planner
 Hole Montes
 6200 Whiskey Creek Dr,
 Fort Myers, FL 33919
 239-254-2027 phone
jeremiechastain@hmeng.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Joseph Quinn, AICP
 Senior Project Manager
 Water Resource Bureau
 Southwest Florida Water Management District
 2379 Broad Street
 Brooksville, Florida 34604
 352-796-7211, ext. 4421 phone
joe.quinn@swfwmd.state.fl.us

STATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Elijah Brown, Florida Atlantic University

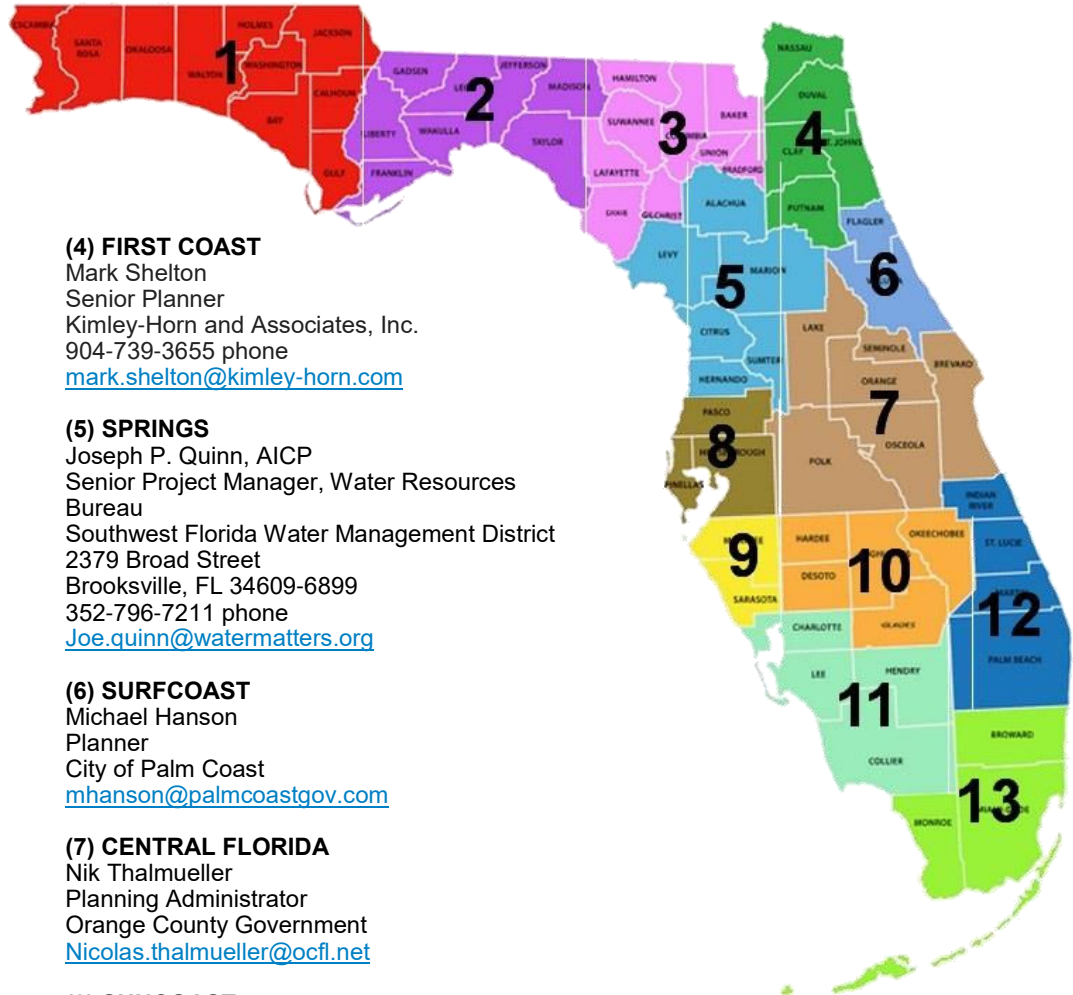
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Suzanne Neve
 Florida Planning & Zoning Association
 P. O. Box 568544
 Orlando, Florida 32856
info@fpza.org

'OVERVIEW' EDITOR

Branden Roe
 941-323-8204 phone
broe@broomfield.org

CHAPTER CONTACTS

**(4) FIRST COAST**

Mark Shelton
 Senior Planner
 Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
 904-739-3655 phone
mark.shelton@kimley-horn.com

(5) SPRINGS

Joseph P. Quinn, AICP
 Senior Project Manager, Water Resources
 Bureau
 Southwest Florida Water Management District
 2379 Broad Street
 Brooksville, FL 34609-6899
 352-796-7211 phone
Joe.quinn@watermatters.org

(6) SURFCOAST

Michael Hanson
 Planner
 City of Palm Coast
mhanson@palmcoastgov.com

(7) CENTRAL FLORIDA

Nik Thalmueller
 Planning Administrator
 Orange County Government
Nicolas.thalmueller@ocfl.net

(8) SUNCOAST

Diane Chadwick, AICP
 Principal
 Stantec Consulting Services
 777 South Harbour Island Boulevard, Suite 600
 Tampa, Florida 33602
 813-223-9500 phone
diane.chadwick@stantec.com

(9) GULFCOAST

Hannah Sowinski, AICP
 Planner II
 Sarasota County Government
 941-861-5000 phone
hsowinski@scgov.net

(11) CALUSA

Jeremie Chastain, AICP
 Senior Planner
 Hole Montes
 6200 Whiskey Creek Dr,
 Fort Myers, FL 33919
 239-254-2027 phone
jeremiechastain@hmeng.com

(12) GULFSTREAM / (13) SOUTH FLORIDA

Jim Barnes
 Village Manager
 Village of Wellington
 12300 Forest Hill Boulevard
 Wellington, Florida 33414
 561-753-2504 phone
jbarnes@wellingtonfl.gov

(1) NORTHWEST - VACANT
(2) APPALACHEE - VACANT
(3) SUWANNEE - VACANT
(10) HEARTLAND - VACANT

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greeting members,

Summer is just around the corner and the Florida Planning and Zoning Association is gearing up for our June 2024 FPZA conference. I want to thank the Calusa Chapter for providing us with such a great location at the Sunseeker Resort in Charlotte Harbor June 5-7. Please make your reservation soon because the rooms

are going fast. The FPZA conference provides a significant role in providing education to the planning community, discussing strategies, best practices, and identifying solutions to the challenges facing new development, and redevelopment in Florida communities. They also provide continuing education units when you participate.

I remember my first planning conference right out of college in Chicago. It really was not a choice to get involved, but a requirement by the city that employed me. It was expected that I, as a young professional, would get involved early, providing leadership later in my career.

Ironically, stormwater and flooding were the hot topic at the time due to high volume rain events the previous year. The education I received, and the strategies that were discussed, are still some of the tools I use today in Florida.

My last message is that I hope you get involved. Become a leader and help in educating the Florida planning community, both young and old.

My time is about up as president, and it's getting almost time to pass the gavel. Please step up and make a difference. If not you then who?

Daniel J. Smith, A.I.C. P
Florida Planning and Zoning Association President

ABOUT THE FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION

The Florida Planning and Zoning Association was founded in 1951, during the national conference of the American Planning and Civic Association held in Miami. Frank F. Stearns, then Director of Planning for the City of Miami, set up a special meeting for those interested in forming an active State Association. Approximately thirty people attended that historic meeting, representing most of the populated areas of the State.

The purposes of the Association are: to promote cooperation among official planning and zoning boards or commissions, civic bodies, citizens, technicians and students interested in planning and zoning in the State of Florida; to cultivate and stimulate interest in planning and zoning by local governments; to encourage the observance of sound planning and zoning practices; to furnish information, advice and assistance to its members and provide a medium for exchanging information, advice and assistance among them; to engage in research and issue publications on planning and zoning and related matters; to promote and encourage the sound development of land, water and natural resources and the elimination of air and water pollution; and to educate the public and elected and appointed officials in matters pertaining to planning and zoning.

WHO BELONGS TO THE FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION?

MEN AND WOMEN 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?

Visit our website at www.FPZA.org.



THE FUTURE IS HERE CONTINUED

...continued from cover page

Spoiler alert, three potential benefits of employing AI in site plan reviews include:

Enhanced Speed and Efficiency: AI algorithms can swiftly analyze vast volumes of data, including Land Development Codes (LDCs), comprehensive plans, and building codes, significantly reducing the time required for site plan reviews. This acceleration can expedite project approvals, ultimately reducing time-to-market for construction projects.

Improved Accuracy: AI systems excel at detecting errors and inconsistencies in site plans, often overlooked by human reviewers, particularly during the initial plan submittal cycle. By minimizing errors early in the process, AI ensures compliance with regulations and standards, reducing the likelihood of costly rework and delays.

Time/Cost Savings: Automating site plan review processes with AI translates to substantial time and cost savings for government agencies and consulting firms alike. Companies like ETM, Inc., and others are spearheading efforts to utilize AI for quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) before plan submission to local governments or agencies. By streamlining workflows and reducing errors, planning departments can allocate resources more efficiently and allow staff to focus on more analytical endeavors.

It is crucial to acknowledge that the effectiveness of AI algorithms hinges heavily on the quality and availability of data. Engineering site plans often involve complex spatial data, which may be incomplete or inconsistent between plans. Ensuring data accuracy and accessibility is paramount for the successful implementation of AI in site plan reviews. Adhering to regulatory requirements, legal standards, intellectual property rights, and ethical guidelines is essential to prevent legal issues and maintain public trust.

Leveraging AI for engineering site plan review is sure to offer numerous benefits, including enhanced speed, accuracy, and ultimately cost savings. However, addressing challenges related to data quality, interpretability, and compliance will be crucial for realizing the full potential of AI in this domain. By adopting a proactive approach and collaborating with various stakeholders, organizations can harness the power of AI to streamline site plan review processes and drive innovation in the planning, regulatory and engineering industry.

Planning is inherently a collaborative profession, bridging disciplines such as engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, and government agencies. Establishing partnerships and knowledge-sharing initiatives can facilitate the exchange of best practices and expedite innovation in the development and urban planning field.

The Future is Here – Part 2

In our next issue of the FPZA Overview magazine we will spotlight local governments in Florida that have integrated AI into their site plan review process and offer insights into their experiences.

urban design studio

Urban Design
Land Planning
Landscape Architecture

LA0001739

610 Clematis Street, Suite CU02
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
561-366-1100
www.udsfloida.com

FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HOSTED BY: FPZA'S CALUSA CHAPTER

 [FPZACALUSA.ORG](https://www.fpzacalusa.org)

 [FPZACALUSA](https://www.instagram.com/fpzacalusa)

Adventure Awaits

JUNE 5-7, 2024

Sunseeker Resort

CHARLOTTE HARBOR

REGISTRATION & CONFERENCE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE SOON



2024 FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION SCHEDULE



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

11:00 AM Registration Opens

NOON Opening Luncheon
Speaker: Charlotte County
Commissioner Bill Truex

1:30 PM Sometimes a Word is Worth a
Thousand Pictures: Writing and
Presentation Skills for Professional
Planners

Let's Talk About Privilege

Wellen Park Mobile Tour

3:30 PM Ethics Game NightGreen Infrastructure and Low-
Impact Development**6:00 PM** Opening Reception at the Hotel

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

7:30 AM Breakfast & Networking**8:30 AM** Compatibility Challenges of
Land Uses Around Airports

Gamifying Charettes

Policy Tools for Placemaking
at Any Scale**10:30 AM** Utilizing Technology for
Development ReviewIt's in the Sauce - Secret
Ingredients of a Great PlaceResiliency Planning and
Implementation

NOON Keynote Speaker Luncheon
Speaker: Jim Heid, FASLA author
of *Building Small: A Toolkit for
Real Estate Entrepreneurs, Civic
Leaders and Great Communities*

1:30 PM Planning to Keep SafeCatalysts of Change:
Transforming Communities
Through Collaboration

Babcock Ranch Mobile Tour

3:30 PM Live Local: A Year In ReviewLeadership in Florida's Resilient
Cities and Counties**6:00 PM** Sunset Cruise Reception

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

7:30 AM Breakfast & Networking**8:30 AM** Keeping Calm in the Courtroom

Can Placemaking Work for You?**10:30 AM** Timely Trends or Fleeting
Fads? You Decide.Building Resilient
Communities—Lessons
Learned from Hurricane Ian**NOON** Awards Luncheon
Speakers: FPZA State Board**2:00 PM** FPZA State Board Meeting

INFORMATION

- Sessions are 90 minutes
- There are 30-minute breaks between sessions with snacks and coffee
- Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free options are available for most meals and snacks by default; let us know if you have special dietary needs.
- Meals will be buffet-style
- Full dinners will not be served at the receptions

ABOUT THE OVERVIEW

The Overview is a quarterly newsletter published by the Florida Planning and Zoning Association. The contents of these newsletters include contributions from our members across the state. The issues are published in the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall following the quarterly Board of Directors meetings.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Overview offers an opportunity for contributions from our members 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, the Overview Editor at broe@broomfield.org.

*Adventure
Awaits*

FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION

Who We Are: The **Florida Planning and Zoning Association (FPZA)** is a 501(c)3 that promotes cooperation among official planning and zoning boards or commissions, civic bodies, citizens, technicians, and students interested in planning and zoning in the State of Florida. FPZA is comprised of twelve chapters throughout Florida. Every year, the state FPZA committee chooses one chapter to host the annual conference. This year, the conference will be hosted by the **Calusa Chapter**, whose jurisdiction includes Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Lee Counties.

Why Donate: Your tax-deductible sponsorship supports an educational event while increasing your visibility to planning professionals, civic leaders, and other like-minded individuals and organizations. Sponsorship of the Annual FPZA state conference is a worthwhile way to promote your business or organization and further the sound planning principles of the FPZA. Additionally, the FPZA Calusa Chapter will tag all sponsors on the FPZA Calusa social media accounts and send you a conference sponsor logo for your Instagram or website!

Conference Information

Theme: Adventure Awaits! *Overcome. Plan. Grow. Innovate.*

Location: Sunseeker Resort, Charlotte Harbor

Dates: June 5-7, 2024

Expected Attendance: 150

How to Donate: Sponsorship registration can be completed online at www.FPZAcalus.org or via the form on page 3 with a check made payable to **Florida Planning and Zoning Association** mailed to:

Hole Montes, a Bownman Company
Attn: Jeremie Chastain
950 Encore Way
Naples, FL 34110

Digital media used for print and promotional materials must be sent in high-resolution JPG or PNG to info@fpzacus.com. To ensure sufficient time for inclusion of your information in the conference's printed materials, complete your sponsorship registration before **April 12, 2024**.

Adventure Awaits

SUNSEEKER RESORT
CHARLOTTE HARBOR
JUNE 5-7, 2024

FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP TIERS

HOSTED BY: FPZA CALUSA CHAPTER

\$5,000

DIAMOND

Head Honcho

- Two (2) full conference registrations
- Exhibitors booth space
- Optional 1-hour Session
- X-Large sponsor logo on all promotional materials
- Full-page ad in the FPZA Overview newsletter

PLATINUM

Park Ranger

- One (1) full conference registration
- Optional 1-Hour Session
- Exhibitors booth space
- Large sponsor logo on all promotional materials
- Half page ad in the FPZA Overview newsletter

\$2,500

\$1,000

GOLD

Troop Leader

- Exhibitors booth space
- Medium sponsor logo on all promotional materials
- Quarter page ad in the FPZA Overview newsletter

SILVER

Arts & Crafts Captain

- Small sponsor logo on all promotional materials
- Business card size ad in the FPZA Overview newsletter

\$500

\$250

BRONZE

S'mores Wrangler

- Small Sponsor logo on all promotional materials

*Adventure
Awaits*

FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION

Register online at FPZACalusa.org!

Paper Registration

Don't forget to attach your check made out to FPZA per the information provided on Page 2 or Venmo us your sponsorship @FPZACalusaChapter!

Select Sponsorship Level

- ☐ Diamond
- ☐ Platinum
- ☐ Gold
- ☐ Silver
- ☐ Bronze

Do you want to use the optional Conference Session?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, topic: _____

Contact Information

Contact Name _____

Organization Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

Contact Email _____

Website _____

Thank You! On behalf of the Florida Planning & Zoning Association (FPZA) and FPZA Calusa, thank you for sharing our organization's goal to cultivate and encourage best planning and zoning practices through your sponsorship of the 2024 State Conference.

SPRING REGIONAL FORUM RECAP

The Surfcoast Chapter hosted the Spring Regional Forum at the historic courthouse in downtown DeLand on Friday, April 12, 2024. Mr. Chris Carmody, our featured speaker, presented the 2024 Legislative Update. Lunch was provided for the 40 attendees.

Mr. Carmody is a governmental relations attorney with the Gray Robinsonn law firm and has experience that includes representation before the Florida legislative and executive branches. Chris also practices in land use, construction and sports law.

The presentation was very comprehensive and included a short summary of the Governor's key staff and the Senate, House and local leaders, along with their priorities. He discussed the budget and the fortunate departments and/or programs that received the funding. This session 1902 bills were filed and as of the event date, only 325 had passed. The bills this session included, but were not limited to,

affordable housing, environmental, local governments and workforce development.

Some newly passed state and local regulations of interest that will be watched for their impacts and implementation, include vacation rentals, homeless camp regulations, property insurance tax relief, the Live Local Act, and the annual adjustment to Homestead Exemption increase.



DESIGN WITH COMMUNITY IN MIND

stantec.com

*Adventure
Awaits*

FPZA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION FORM

Port Charlotte, FL from June 5 to 7, 2024

Register online: [HERE](#)

Attendee Information

Use Page 2 if registering multiple attendees from one organization.

First Name	Last Name
Name and Title for Badge	
Employer/School	
Address	
City	State Zip
Email	

FULL CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE	EARLY REG. FEE	LATE REG. FEE	#	TOTAL
FPZA Member	\$375	\$450		
Non-member	\$450	\$500		
Group Rate (4+ Attendees)	\$325	NA		
Student –Full Conference ¹	\$200	\$250		
SINGLE-DAY ATTENDANCE				
Wednesday	\$150	\$200		
Thursday	\$200	\$250		
Friday	\$150	\$200		
EXTRAS ²				
Mobile Tour #1	\$50			
Mobile Tour #2	\$50			
Mobile Tour #3	\$50			
Wednesday Evening Reception	\$50			
Thursday Keynote Luncheon	\$75			
Thursday, Off-site Reception	\$50			
Friday, Awards Luncheon	\$75			
TOTAL # OF ATTENDEES:				
TOTAL # MOBILE TOURS:				
TOTAL # EXTRAS:				
TOTAL FEES: \$				
¹ Student rates may be reduced by \$100 if student volunteers a minimum of 4 hours. Volunteers must be able to attend volunteer organizational meeting prior to the event which will have a virtual attendance option.				
² Mobile Tours Require registration prior to the event to ensure availability. Tours may be added at registration if openings exist for an additional Fee.				

Additional Attendees

First Name Last Name

Name and Title for Badge

Email

First Name Last Name

Name and Title for Badge

Email

First Name Last Name

Name and Title for Badge

Email

First Name Last Name

Name and Title for Badge

Email

First Name Last Name

Name and Title for Badge

Email



Register Online @ FPZAcalus.org
Email Completed Registration PDF to info@FPZAcalus.com

Mail Registration to:
Hole Montes, a Bowman Company
Attn: Jeremie Chastain
950 Encore Way
Naples, FL 34110



Our purpose is to inspire people to be outside and engage in the community around them.



Open the Outdoors

www.rviplanning.com

PLANNING | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | PARKS & OPEN SPACE DESIGN
ZONING & ENTITLEMENTS | DIGITAL INNOVATION

2024 FLORIDA PLANNING AND ZONING ASSOCIATION OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD APPLICATION



This is a competitive merit-based award open to all students currently enrolled in a Florida College/University urban planning undergraduate, graduate, or certificate program. Application essays and letters of recommendation will be reviewed and scored by a panel based on alignment with the mission of the Florida Planning and Zoning Association. Winning essays may be published in whole or in part within FPZA publications including the FPZA website. For more information regarding FPZA and its mission, visit www.fpza.org.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name:

School:

Major:

Level: (circle one) Graduate Undergraduate

Year:

Contact Information:

Permanent Mailing Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Student Scholarship Award recipients receive paid conference registration and two nights hotel stay for the FPZA State Conference being held **June 5-7, 2024**, at the **Sunseeker Resort in Charlotte Harbor**, Florida. Recipients are expected to attend conference sessions and events, and provide volunteer conference assistance. The awards will be presented at a luncheon to be held on June 7th. The awarded students will be candidates for the student representative to serve on the State Board.

ESSAY TOPIC: Please answer the following questions in 500–1,000 words total.

- **What attracted you to the field of planning?**
- **How would you describe Florida fifty years from now?**
- **How does your education prepare you for this future, and what role do you think you will serve as a professional?**

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: Please attach a letter of recommendation from a professor/instructor to this application and mail it or scan and email it to the contact listed at the bottom of this application.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Submittals must be e-mailed no later than April 1, 2024, and recipients will be notified soon after that. Recipients are expected to attend the state conference.

Submit completed application, essay and letter of recommendation to info@fpza.org

Questions should be directed to info@fpza.org

MEMBER PROFILE: MICHAEL HANSON, AICP CANDIDATE

Q. WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY?

A. Minnesota.

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

A. Minnesota State University, Mankato. I have a Bachelor of Art and Masters of Public Administration.

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

A. My employer signed me up for FPZA in 2022.

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

A. I'm currently a Planner II at Volusia County where I work with our Planning Activity and serve as a project manager for various planning applications the county receives. I'm at an interesting point in my career as I'm transitioning from Volusia County to the City of Palm Coast over the next couple of weeks where I'll be a planner there as well.

Q. WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?

A. I enjoy sports (football, hockey, and baseball), attending stage theatre productions, and reading about scientific theories and advancements, especially those in astrophysics as I'm also a sci-fi geek.

Q. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE VACATION DESTINATION?

A. I'd say my favorite vacation, which was also my honeymoon, was in Negril, Jamaica.

Q. WHAT BOOK DID YOU READ LAST?

A. Not including the many board books that I read each night to my 19 month old daughter, we also like story time with classic novels, or at least I like to think she enjoys listening to them. The last one we completed was Peter Pan by James Matthew Barrie. We're currently working through Mark Twain's The Prince and the Pauper.

Q. IF GIVEN THE CHANCE, WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE FOR A DAY?

A. I don't think I'd want to be anyone else, as a large part of what makes us who we are is the experiences that we've had. That said, I enjoy world history, so it would be interesting to experience life in say Hellenic Greece, or the High Renaissance in Italy for a short time before coming back to the present.

Q. WHO INSPIRES YOU?

A. In real life probably my father. He's helped shaped me into the man I am, and been there to guide me through my life. Fictional character, Samwise Gamgee. His level of loyalty to his friend Frodo, perseverance, and bravery are the reason that Frodo was successful in throwing the one ring into the fires of Mt. Doom and saving Middle Earth.

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

A. To be adaptable. Things can change fast, and in ways you might not predict. Looking over the last year for example, many jurisdictions are still working out the details of the Live Local Act, and what it means for their communities. I didn't go to



college for planning, my master's is in public administration. I had originally pursued city management, and after having done that, realized that I much prefer the planning functions of government. So, I strive to absorb as much as I can from my colleagues and experiences to be the best planner I can.

Q. DO YOU HAVE A MOTTO OR PERSONAL MANTRA THAT YOU LIKE TO LIVE BY?

A. I've always liked the notion of taking self-reflection to think back of what my 12-year-old self would think about how "our" life has turned out.

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

A. Probably teaching. I was considering a K12 teaching career, but given the state of school funding, and curriculum requirements I decided that teaching K12 wasn't for me. As an anecdotal example, My mother-in-law is a retired high school English teacher and I remember her telling me that in her American Literature class, they were required to read a play by William Shakespeare due to the curriculum requirements. I kind of took that as an affront to the many great American playwrights like Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, Edward Albee, and August Wilson to name a few. I still hold an aspiration to be an adjunct college professor once time allows, likely after retirement.

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

A. Well, I want to be there for my daughter and any potential siblings she might acquire in the future. I've only been a dad for going on two years, and that has quintessentially changed me at my core. Now I want to be her biggest advocate and coach rolled into one. Maybe it's human nature, but I want her to have a better life than myself.

Q. WHAT ARE THREE CAREER LESSONS YOU'VE LEARNED THUS FAR?

A. Don't get personally attached to any project. Adaptability is paramount. Leave work at work.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 13, 2024

President Smith called the meeting to order at 9:28 AM. The following were present:

DIANE CHADWICK - SUNCOAST
DAN SMITH - CALUSA
BRANDEN ROE - OVERVIEW EDITOR
RHEA LOPES - SUNCOAST
KATIE LABARR - GULF COAST
JIM BARNES - SOUTH FLORIDA/GULFSTREAM
HELEN LAVALLEY - SURFCOAST
MICHAEL HANSON - SURFCOAST
PAUL WIECZOREK - SPRINGS
TOM SACHARSKI - GULF COAST
JEREMIE CHASTAIN - CALUSA
JAMIE SCHINDEWOLF - GULF COAST
NIK THALMULER - CENTRAL FLORIDA
COLLEEN MILES - SURCOAST
JOE QUINN - SPRINGS
ELI BROWN - STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call was conducted. President Smith welcomed everyone and thanked them for participating in today's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Helen moved to approve the minutes from the January Board meeting. Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: DAN SMITH

Nothing new to note.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT: KATIE LABARR

No report was provided.

VP MEMBERSHIP REPORT: JAMIE SCHINDEWOLF

The membership survey was distributed, and 52 responses were received. Group will review the responses and discuss at the next meeting in June.

2024 ANNUAL AWARDS

Awards deadline has passed and committee will meet soon to review nominations. Awards will be presented on Friday, June 7th. Committee includes Helen, Diane, Jim and Tom and Chaired by Katie. Dan will send Katie the Powerpoint from the prior year.

BYLAW REVIEW

Helen reviewed the bylaws and sent a list of questions and potential notes/updates to the Committee for review. Committee will review and get back to Helen.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Ballot needs to be sent 3- days prior to the Annual

Meeting, which is June 7th. Rhea Lopes volunteered to step into the VP of Financials Affairs role. All other officers would step into the next higher roles.

VP FINANCIAL AFFAIRS REPORT: JEREMIE CHASTAIN

Current financials were presented. Renewals are billed in June.

Proposed budget for 2024 was presented.

Chapter financials from 2023 have all been received.

2024 STATE CONFERENCE: JEREMIE CHASTAIN

Schedule is finalized and will be sent out next week. The CM credits have been posted and approved on the APA website. Room block is open and people have been booking. Registration is open and approximately 45 have been received as of the time of the meeting.

OVERVIEW EDITOR: BRANDEN ROE

Deadline for articles/information is April 30th with a potential publishing mid-May. Items needed:

1. Word from the President – Dan Smith
2. Regional Forum Recap—Helen
3. Cover Story – AI—Helen to reach out to Doug Kelly (if not Katie will send something)
4. Member Spotlight – Michael Hanson, Surfcoast Chapter President
5. Conference Sponsorship, Registration, any other details - Jeremie Chastain
6. Election Ballot
7. BOD Meeting Minutes – Suzanne
8. Any Board President changes need to be sent for updates

CHAPTER REPORTS

- **First Coast** – Not present.
- **Springs** – Nothing to report
- **Surfcoast** – Schedule is finalized and will be sent out next week. The CM credits have been posted and approved on the APA website. Room block is open and people have been booking. Registration is open and approximately 45 have been received as of the time of the meeting.
- **Central Florida** – Working on re-engaging and ramping up events and membership drive.
- **Suncoast** – Working on new events and programs. Added Robyn Baker from Plant City as an officer as well. CM credits for regional forum are now available.
- **Calusa** – Focusing on planning conference.

- **Gulf Coast** – Bimonthly lunch meetings on Fridays with attendance around 20 people. Will host the Regional Forum in October in Sarasota, with walking tour and presentation of Lakewood Ranch. Board meeting at Katie's office (Stantec).
- **Gulfstream/South Florida** – Membership has increased. Working on new Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

The group had a discussion regarding providing additional volunteer conference support to the Chapter that is planning the event.

ADJOURN – With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:48am.