

M I N U T E S

Of The

ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

February 26, 1958

The members of the Advisory Planning Commission met in the conference room at 520 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey. The Vice-Chairman, Mr. Herbert H. Smith, announced that the Chairman, Mr. Fred G. Stickel, III, was unavoidably detained at a business meeting and would be unable to attend this meeting. The Vice-Chairman, therefore, chaired the meeting which he called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Those present were:

Messrs.

Herbert H. Smith, Vice-Chairman  
H. Thomas Carr, Secretary

William A. Bloom  
B. Budd Chavooshian  
Philip A. McLaughlin  
Denis W. Maloney  
William A. Sutherland

Those absent were:

Messrs.

Fred G. Stickel, III, Chairman  
Alexander Feinberg  
Alfred H. Fletcher  
William Holster  
Louis Danzig  
Edward B. Wilkens

The Minutes of January 29, 1958, were approved as distributed.

The Vice-Chairman informed the members present that the Chairman had discussed with him several problems of the Commission which he believed should be aired at this meeting, one of which concerns the lack of attendance at the regular monthly meetings. The Vice-Chairman stated that both Mr. Stickel and he were of the opinion that, unless better attendance on the

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part of some of the members could be realized in the future, it might become necessary not to schedule regular monthly meetings. The Vice-Chairman remarked that he believed it to be quite unfair to those members who travel a distance to attend the regular monthly meetings only to find, at times, that official meetings have to be cancelled because of lack of a quorum.

Another topic which the Chairman believed should be discussed at this meeting is that of the importance of the discussion of the future role of this Commission with members of the Legislature. It was understood that Mr. Alexander Feinberg, Chairman of the subcommittee appointed for this purpose, is to make arrangements to meet with some of the members of Legislature to discuss the future role of the Commission and also recommendations mentioned in the First Annual Report. Another purpose of such a meeting with representatives of the Legislature is to attempt to establish a workable procedure for liaison between the two bodies.

The Vice-Chairman informed those at the meeting that the Chairman had written to the Association of School attorneys, which was requested of him at the last meeting, in connection with its request to amend Section R.S.40:55-1.13. The Chairman received a reply stating in part that the Association of School Attorneys would discuss the letter written by Mr. Stickel at its next meeting, after which the Association would get in touch with this Commission concerning this matter.

After informing the members present of the various topics discussed between the Chairman and him, which topics had been considered at length at this meeting, the Vice-Chairman called for action on the items. Regarding the first problem - that of attendance - it was unanimously agreed that the Chairman of this Commission should be requested to write to those members who were not present informing them of the importance of attending the



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monthly meetings, also stressing the importance of the forthcoming March meeting, at which time the subcommittee is to report on its meeting with members of the Legislature in reference to the future role of this Commission. It was also suggested that the Chairman state in these letters that, if replies were not received or if the March meeting were not attended it would be assumed that the members contacted are no longer interested in the affairs of the Commission and that steps would be instituted by this Commission to seek replacements.

Regarding the second problem mentioned hereinbefore, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Feinberg should get in touch with members of the Legislature in the immediate future to arrange for a meeting of the subcommittee of the Advisory Planning Commission with such members of the Legislature as deemed desirable and to submit a report on said meeting at the next meeting of this Commission.

After a lengthy discussion concerning methods which the Commission might employ in order to get action on the recommendations mentioned in the First Annual Report, etc., it was suggested that it might be necessary to go beyond the duties of an "advisory" Commission and become a "functioning" Commission, to take the initiative by the way of drafting legislation on the recommendations submitted in the First Annual Report and bring same to the attention of individual legislators to sponsor such bills. At this point it was mentioned that it was necessary that all organizations represented on this Commission take part in the drafting of such legislation which, again, brought up the question of membership and the two vacancies which have not, to date, been filled; namely, a representative of the New Jersey League of Municipalities, and a representative of the State Federation of District Boards of Education of New Jersey. In this connection, it was suggested



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that the Chairman write to the Governor and expedite appointments. Upon this suggestion it was moved, seconded and carried that the Chairman of this Commission be requested to get in touch with the Governor's office by letter and/or personal contact to determine what should be done to expedite proper appointments to fill the existing vacancies.

At this time the Vice-Chairman inquired of those present how they felt about making another attempt to get a greater portion of the Commission to attend the next monthly meeting to discuss the over-all role of and agenda for the Commission. It was the consensus that a potential agenda be drafted for that meeting. It was also the collective thinking of those present that the committee appointed to meet with the legislators should do so prior to the next monthly meeting of this Commission. At this suggestion a motion was made to request the Chairman to indicate the fact that the Commission assembled here today memorialize Mr. Feinberg to expedite activity in this direction; the motion was seconded and carried. It was unanimously agreed that it is the idea of the Commission present that it is extremely important that the work of this committee be pursued, and that a meeting be held with the legislative representatives prior to the next meeting of this Commission so that a report can be submitted to the Commission. It was the advisement of those present that members of the A.P.C. be fully informed of the importance of the March meeting in that the future of this Commission will be discussed, and it is felt by this Commission that it is imperative that all attend. Return post cards will be forwarded for use of the members to determine attendance in advance.

It was also the collective thinking of those present that the Chairman should write to all who were absent at this meeting, stressing the importance of the forthcoming March meeting.

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The topic of drafting bills by this Commission was again discussed, at which time it was pointed out that the Annual Reports of this Commission have set up the wording - it is just a matter of putting the proposals in draft form.

It was brought to the attention of those present that, in the Act establishing this Commission it states that, from time to time the Commission is to report to the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development. In connection thereto, it was fully agreed that the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Joseph E. McLean, would be in a much better position to talk with the Governor about such matters as vacancies on the Commission, etc. Therefore, the Chairman is to be requested to write to Commissioner Joseph E. McLean to seek his assistance in the several matters hereinbefore discussed.

The Vice-Chairman inquired of those present if they had any comment to make on the Second Annual Report. He informed the members that copies have been forwarded to both houses of the Legislature, to the Governor, the State Library and to all members of this Commission with sufficient copies for the use of the organizations represented on this Commission. The Vice-Chairman urged the members of this Commission to discuss the Report with their respective organizations. It was his belief that in so doing the organizations might get in touch with the Legislators about recommendations mentioned in the Annual Reports in which they are particularly interested. The Vice-Chairman also felt that the Report should be 'spread around' which might bring action by the way of acknowledgement, etc.

The County Planning Act was mentioned; however, it was felt that the recommendations made in the First Annual Report should be given first consideration.



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As a point of interest, the Vice-Chairman informed those present that a well-recognized Planner in California - in the course of one of his speeches out there - referred to the New Jersey Planning Acts as outstanding. The Vice-Chairman informed the members that this statement has been expressed across the States any number of times.

At the close of the meeting the Vice-Chairman reminded the members of the Dinner-Meeting co-sponsored by the Joint Council of Municipal Planning Boards in Essex County and Northern New Jersey Federation of Official Planning Boards, which is to be held in the Pelican Room of the new Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company office building, 520 Broad Street, Newark, on Tuesday evening, March 4 at 6:30 p.m., urging all those interested to attend.

The Vice-Chairman also reported, on behalf of the American Institute of Planners, two items that the Professional Planners have prepared: (1) the formation of a New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Planners. Heretofore members of the AIP in New Jersey have been divided into two groups; one-half attending meetings in New York and one-half attending meetings in Philadelphia. The National Board of Governors expect to finalize their plans for a New Jersey Chapter for the entire State by March 8; (2) the registration of Planners. Heretofore there were no specific standards for professional planners. As a result the AIP introduced a bill calling for the registration of Planners. This bill sets forth a set of minimum qualifications for Planners. The bill is No. A-206, sponsored by Assemblyman Vincent R. Panaro (D) from Mercer County and Assemblyman Alfred N. Beadleston (R) from Monmouth County. The Vice-Chairman informed those present that this bill affects Planning and advised that all planners be informed of its contents.

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The meeting was concluded at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 1958, at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room at 520 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey.