



Professional Development

Certification Maintenance

The national professional Institute within the American Planning Association which has as its central mission the professional development and certification of its members. In pursuit of this mission, AICP establishes professional standards, educational requirements, and professional ethics, and is an advocate in behalf of professional planners. Source: American Planning Association

The purpose of the East Texas Section is to provide for enhanced training and educational opportunities, to increase exposure to the Texas APA leadership, and to promote contact with area planning professionals in the East Texas region.

APA East Texas Section Planning Update Issue 02 September 2010



City of Tyler
Planning Department
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, TX 75710



Upcoming Events

- **Annual East Texas Section Meeting**
Longview, Texas * September 30, 2010
4 p.m. @ Goung Zhou's (GZ's)
Visit their website: <http://www.gzasianbistro.com/>
2002 Judson Road, Longview, TX
Drinks and appetizers provided
- **2010 APA Texas Conference**
San Antonio, Texas * October 6th - 8th
Registration fee required
- **Subdivided: Isolation and Community in America (Documentary)**
Tyler, Texas * October 14, 2010
2- 3 p.m. * Tyler Development Center Conference Room
423 W. Ferguson, Tyler, Texas
Register: By email at gmapes@tylertexas.com or call 903-531-1175
Cost: Free
- **Texas Watershed Steward Workshop**
Athens, Texas * October 21, 2010 * 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Register at <http://tw.s.tamu.edu> or call (979) 862-8072
Cost: Free

Check www.txplanning.org for upcoming events.

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American Planning Association East Texas Section Planning Update



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2010 APA Texas Conference



Texas Chapter's annual Conference is almost here! The Conference will be held in San Antonio from October 6 - 8th at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel. Go to www.txplanning.org for more details!

Find us on Facebook!



Did you know that the [Texas Chapter](#) is on Facebook? Stay "plugged-in". Like the American Planning Association—Texas Chapter and get the latest news, job announcements, RPF postings, meet and interact with other planners and receive the latest Conference information!

First Section Election and Bylaw Amendment Results

The results are in!

Next year's officers will be:



Section Director
Barbara Holly, AICP



Section Director Elect
Stephanie Rollings



Director of Finance
Angela Choy



Director of Professional Development
Larissa Philpot, AICP



Director of Communications
Heather Nick

Thanks to everyone who was willing to serve the fledgling East Texas Section. Your involvement is crucial to our section's success. We need every member to get engaged so that, as a group, we advance the field of planning in East Texas.

We are going to have low and no cost training across our region over the next year. We've hosted events in Nacogdoches and Tyler. Our next event will be in Longview. I want to have training that is convenient and accessible to our entire section. If you'd like to be the host city for upcoming events, please let us know. Our budget allows for multiple training sessions along with light food and beverages.

We'd also like to host a meet and greet at the State Conference in San Antonio next month.

Our by-law change to allow more modern forms of communication passed unanimously, so future notifications will be by e-mail rather than US mail.

If you have comments or suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please let me know. My e-mail is bholly@tylertexas.com.

Sincerely,
Barbara



2010-2011 APA East Texas Section Board

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Please submit any articles with associated graphics concerning recent planning efforts, awards, job openings, or promotion news in your community for publication in upcoming Section Newsletters.

Please contact Heather Nick, Communications with your articles and job announcement requests.



Best Marketing Program
City of Winnsboro
Winnsboro, Texas

Best Promotional Event
(Downtown Tyler ArtWalk)
Tyler, Texas

Best Adaptive Reuse
*(Gallery Main Street)
Tyler, Texas

*The following article highlights this adaptive reuse success story.

Tyler and Winnsboro among the Texas Downtown Association 2010 Presidents Awards Program Finalists

By: Beverly Abell,
Tyler Main Street Director

What couldn't be imagined just a few years ago in Downtown Tyler is now very real indeed.

Anyone who envisioned arts as a catalyst for downtown Tyler redevelopment 10 years ago would have been met with chuckles and encouragement to be realistic. A person who might have dreamed of the city getting fully behind a high-end municipal art gallery and adaptive reuse of an old downtown building would have detected smirks on the faces of anyone within hearing distance. And yet...it is reality.

In 2007, the City of Tyler worked with citizens to create a very ambitious city-wide master plan called Tyler 21. Downtown revitalization was one of

the featured "chapters" of this plan. Like other communities, Tyler saw the arts as a key to revitalizing its historic heart. Before the ink was dry on Tyler 21 many major arts-related advances were made.

But the master stroke of Downtown Tyler's arts development was and is Gallery Main Street. The brainchild of public- and private-sector partners, Gallery Main Street was once a forlorn, under-used set of two "seen better days" storefronts with interiors that, to say it kindly, had suffered from deferred maintenance. But visionaries saw beyond that. After months of work, the grand opening celebration in August 2009 drew well over 1,000 people who celebrated this watershed moment in the

revitalization of Downtown Tyler.

Today the facility is a fully functioning center for downtown revitalization. Upon entering the west side of the building, visitors are greeted at the reception area, which also features a small downtown visitors center. Just a few steps back, and one sees the director's office, a workroom and accessible restroom facilities. The very back of the building features a small conference room that will not only house business and committee meetings, but also arts workshops. Modern blends seamlessly with historic throughout.



"This building and the clever design of the interior space exponentially increase the visibility and the services the Main Street Department offers to the public," said Tyler Mayor Barbara Bass. "Not only will they be able to offer business and preservation services, but this building also stands as a wonderful example of the potential of adaptive reuse – the reuse of great old buildings for great new purposes."

"...a wonderful example of the potential of adaptive reuse ..."
- Mayor Barbara Bass

Crucial to the program's success was an exemplary public-private partnership. Without donated professional services and materials, Gallery Main Street would not be a reality. For example, the project architect volunteered his services, resulting in a major savings. In addition, tens of thousands of dollars' worth of labor and materials were donated toward the achievement of the goal of a new downtown arts and development center. From interior demolition to installation of the last fixture (yes, donated), private sector partners were behind this crown jewel of downtown. Of the approximately \$285,000 it took to complete the project, the City of Tyler's

construction costs were limited to approximately \$142,000 due to the support of donors.

The impact of the Downtown Tyler arts movement has been immediate but will be long-lasting. New businesses have sprung up around the area. Gallery Main Street has become a go-to facility for the arts. Hundreds still attend gallery exhibit openings. Workshops for children ensure future audiences for downtown and the arts.

Partnerships, enthusiasm, innovation, creative thinking, skill and spirit combined to bring forth a home for the arts and an arts movement that could not have been imagined a short time ago. Testament is the public, who with open arms have welcomed the arts to the historic heart of their community. - Beverly Abell

Winners will be announced at the Texas Downtown Revitalization Conference in El Paso on November 11, 2010.

To learn more about the Texas Downtown Association and the other finalist visit www.texasdowntown.org.

First Section Meeting held in Nacogdoches

The American Planning Association East Texas Section hosted its first section meeting on August 12, 2010 in Nacogdoches, Texas at the Union Café.

Attendees took the opportunity to meet other APA members within the section and discuss proposed bylaw amendments, selection of officers, and professional development needs.

Thank you again Larissa Philpot for facilitating the event!

Thanks to everyone that joined us!

See the Upcoming Events section of the newsletter for our next section meeting.



Photo courtesy of Chris Adams



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL PLANNING MONTH

This year's theme is "Sustaining Places".

Raise awareness of the importance of planning in your community by participating in the 2010 National Community Planning Month.

The American Planning Association website offers all the resources you need to successfully promote your event. You can even search a listing of previous events to help you get started!

To download

- Graphics
- Sample Proclamations
- Presentation Templates
- Fact Sheets
- Communications Guide
- Event Tips

simply click the following link:

<http://www.planning.org/ncpm/>

Technology Tips

Transportation Planning Blogs

www.streetsblog.org
(network of blogs from major cities – focus on transportation)

www.infrastructurist.com
(Focus on transportation policy and engineering)

www.humantransit.org
(trends in public transit planning)

www.fastlane.dot.gov (US DOT Secretary's blog)

www.thetransportpolitic.com (public transit policy with extensive catalog of existing, under construction, and planned transit projects)



By: Tony Filippini, Senior Planner, Tyler Texas