Responses to “Other Comments”

Unedited and unexpurgated!

April, 2010 Budget Survey

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**Cost Savings Ideas/Spend Less Money**

1. I would think that the state board meetings could be held as webinars to save money and travel time.
2. Perhaps consider conference registration with optional reception for those on tighter budgets, and/or who are unable to attend the opening event.
3. No host events could save the section or chapter a lot of money per event.
4. For Board meetings have members call in, skype, or video conference to save money on travel. Co-sponsor more than just member events, such as student and faculity events. Find locations where members are able to get rooms for free and cost for food would be the only cost. Find out members resources that would assist in cost savings for events.
5. Webex meetings could be utilized to reduce costs of travel. Have a virtual conference all through webex. I will have to decline my membership at the next renewal since I was laid off.
6. My answer to 26 assumes we are cosponsoring events of mutual interest with other groups to reduce the individual financial obligation of each group. My answer to #2 is based upon reduced travel budgets and resources overall supporting increase use of webinar based training.
7. do not hold future conferences anywhere but core urban areas most accessible to the widest spectrum of planning professionals and students. No more Lake Tahoe or Carlsbad conferences
8. Cut the frills at conferences...
9. Skype or other tools are available for meetings to save travel costs.
10. More 'e' or onlines presentations, conference calls, 'go-to-meetings' is good - saves costs and reduces your carbon footprint.
11. cut back in selected areas for a target of three years, then review.
12. less travel, more teleconferences
13. Why section, state and national websites; the duplication is costly and not needed.
14. Too much money is spent on public relations and social networking in general...no one cares about our Facebook pages, Twitters, or email blasts, which end up in the spam box. Too many other companies and organizations compete for this attention. E-Newsletter is still very important- out best link to the state planning community.
15. Assumed that professional develoment events were self supporting. If this is not the case, consider revising the model.
16. The Sections could consider less underwriting of "Big Events" and underwrite events that more section members/subsection members would attend. The State could revamp the State conference whereby the special events, meals/snacks are not all included in the reg fee. and do less bling. The organization has a mission and the Board should underwrite those activites and to a lesser extent "entertainment" type items.
17. At least 25% of board meetings should be conducted by conference call and webinar. At least 25% of programs should be web-based. Awards costs should be reduced by at least 25%. Social outings should be provided at or near cost, especially golf.
18. The costs of the annual conference should be analyzed. In these times, a place like La Costa should not be the location. I would think very few public planners can go to a conference right now and even fewer at a place like La Costa.
19. With the high cost of travel and premium on employers, more committee meeting, and seminars through web teleconferencing and conference calls ... Now with everyone having web-cams and high speed internet network access, it is possible to conduct meeting remotely. Further, it increases participation by not having to limit committee size.
20. The CalAPA jobs website is so poor it should be eliminated. Other websites provide a much better service. (Planetizen etc) The periodic emails and newsletters are not very useful, nor do they contain very useful information.
21. Travel should be replaced with webconferencing.
22. Spend money on planning profession rather than social events. The latter should be funded by attendees. Also, I could do without the paper copy of Planning magazine (pls pass on).
23. Have more events in SLO; fewer in SB/Ventura.
24. Find cheaper locales for conferences...places like Tahoe, SF, LA, Monterey are certainly beautiful, but the point is what's going on inside the conference, not where it's located. Planners who are getting cuts in pay or furloughs or private companies who have felt the economic pinch can't afford these kinds of places.
25. Aside from California APA annual conference, networking and social events are best handled by regional APA teams rather than at state level. Access to free and low cost CM training, jobs available listings and sharing of model ordinances, and tracking state legislation and passing on to planners for individual action are best uses of funds.
26. To the extent that it saves money, we should do more to embrace technology for meetings and gatherings: video conferences, webinars, that type of thing. Same with CM maintenance...the more on the web the better.
27. The social events seem to engage the same APA people over and over. So much of the $ you spend seems to go to these same people. If APA is going to do something stupid like CM they should help out those of us in non-profits who can't afford this scam, and those in rural areas who have to pay so much to travel for classes. You have created a mandate (CM) and that should be your first budget priority is to help people pay/meet that mandate. I think APA has lost it's way and needs to start doing real things for real people.
28. Maximize use of the web in training, education, and education. The cost of travel and the time to take off of work are too great, especially now.
29. Cut subsidies where possible. Many people would pay for the event at full price. Subsidies should be means tested e.g students and young people need more help than people in established careers. Use the electronic methods to reach us to free up paper costs. See if tele-conference can reduce travel costs for board meetings etc.
30. Why subsidize young planners, old planners (FAPA), lay planners, academicians, award recipients, etc., etc. Trim the frills and raise the dues to what is required for the remainder. A planner since 1965.
31. We can cut back on awards and pats on the back. I am most interested in our getting information to our members, through any medium.

**General Save Money Exhortations**

1. Cut down on several of these programs that do not involve job growth and professional development of current APA and AICP members. Cut everything else and consider lowering costs of dues for hardship. It's tough out there for planners right now.
2. Put available resources where you get the biggest bang for the buck in carrying out your fundamental mission. Use web based & electronic technologies for outreach, communication & education. Less emphasis on social events & e-networking, more on professional development (students, young planners, AICP, FAICP) & relevant legislation.
3. Generally spend less. APA is losing many planners and the dues are excessive based on the services provided. Push for a greater proportion of national dues to subsidize the California Chapter. Go paperless and post trainings and legislative information for reference as well as an index of past APA Magazine articles to assist with research.
4. Should endevour to find cheaper ways of doing things. Cut back on social events, and focus on jobs, training etc via emial, internet etc.
5. Please consider all opportunities to reduce costs for activities that are not directly related to services that members say they want/need, not what the Board thinks they want/need. This survey is a good start in that direction.
6. Our costs are too high. I don't have the answers but we need to figure out ways to to the same with less or maybe then less with less.
7. Support "core" programs and eliminate extras. Focus on leveraging volunteer efforts and awarding progressive ideas.
8. Spend what you have, not what you want

**Service Improvement Ideas/Spend More Money**

1. For me, I would like to see the main focus on Professional Development consisting of either seminars or workshops which count towards AICP continuing education credits.
2. Social, Networking, and Fun Events are definitely needed in hard times. It is hard for me to say I want my dues subsidizing them though.
3. In general, spend less of self-congratulatory stuff, and less on subsidizing things for people who don't really need the subsidy. Spend more resources on keeping existing members up to speed regarding what's going on in the art of planning, and more on assisting students and young professionals as they mature into positions of responsibility and influence.
4. Price the annual CCAPA confernce to break even, not as a revenue generator.
5. In light of the economy, more effort should be made to help Planners keep up with legislative changes, attend the annual state conference, maintain their certifications, and mentor students and younger planners in order to prepare them for the upcoming vacancies that will be left with the departure of many of us "baby boomers" as we retire. This budget survey is a great idea. I compliment the board for their efforts and leadership.
6. Web site needs to be more frequently updated, and don't depend on Sections to send things in - ask! Consider coordinating with Extension and in-house (employer-based) training programs for CM and other credit. Ethics/diversity/etc training is probably more important to do that way because specific requirements vary according to local/state law/regulations/policies. For instance, I attended one of the AICP webcast Ethics sessions and found it pretty much inapplicable to California state employment requirements.
7. Professionals should not expect subsidized fees, etc.... Students ans young professionals need to be helped. CMP credits need to be readily available but not subsidized. FAICP should not be subsidized as these are usually working or retired professionals.
8. More co-sponsored events with other organizations (e.g. ULI) and other APA sections could save $$.
9. Network with the County Planning Directors Association
10. Some of the social/networking events could be combined. Since AICP is now requiring CMs, you must continue to offer free opportunities to get them. In times of unemployment or underemployment, when having the AICP could mean holding or getting a job, please don't make it costly for those to get these valuable free CMs. I'm not a fan of Twitter or Facebook, think it is what kids or idle adults do to pass waste time (Farmville..., send hugs and kisses...) so I'd stop spending on that media
11. I do not participate in most APA activities, as an academic at a research institute of peripheral relevance. Nevertheless, APA has some relevance to me. I value: -Discussions on key legislative measures -Timely comments/updates on events of great significance to planning such as natural disasters, economic disasters, etc. -Support for students and young professionals first starting in the profession, especially at such a challenging time -The personal network of planners that has stayed with me since graduating from UC Berkeley in 1974!
12. Conferences should be held in locations affordable by most members so as to not present to decision makers of agencies the appearance of insensitivity to current budget situations.
13. more electronic communications and less physical (paper) communications
14. I find availability of AICP training extremely lacking. More assistance for local chapters (since that is the level of the membership) is needed.
15. Would like to see a greater partnership with California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) and California Regional Park and Open Space Administrators including for AICP unit certification. Thank you for asking.
16. More web based info and training opportunities rather than in person! Local government budgets are so slim there are no longer opportunities to cover travel and training costs for APA/AICP employees.
17. Offer lots of low cost/free CM credit programs - web or inperson. Paying dues for APA and AICP already hurt my wallet. None of it is covered by my employer
18. Since CM credits have been required, it is not only difficult to find worthwhile courses, but I have not found ANY courses offered by the CA chapter other than basic, very basic, offerings, or extremely specialized courses. For example, why do I have to take ethics training from out of state chapters? Because the CA chapter does not appear to offer any ethics training. If CM training is the mandate, then it is the responsibility of the organization to provide the means for its members to meet that mandate in a valuable and effective way. I'm just burning time to earn hours... it has no real value. Yes, I'm angry. Not at the Chapter, but at the entire CM program.
19. There's a need for events sponsored by local and state chapter to increase participation by "fringe" members - those who may not be as entrenched in the APA world, but could benefit from additional professional development, networking, training/AICP opportunities. Better outreach here may increase participation and membership overall - something needed as everyone evaluates their budgets and other resources.
20. Not enough money is spent on lobbying the state or on educating/training members on new legislation! California has big planning issues and this is where CAL APA can do the most good and have the most impact.
21. Priority should be on professional and young planner development and maintaining an active legislative program; advocacy and info disemination. Fun and social events are important but a lesser priority in these times.
22. APA should advocate for salary parity. I manage a large, two-county planning program for a large State agency. I supervise 7 associate planners, and make 72k per year. I know of planners at small communities<50000 popuilation that make 100k or more for the same or even less responsibility that do not have AICP. If APA wants to me more relevant they should speak up for those of us who do not work in the consultant world or for a City council. I plan on retiring in a few years and I wonder how effective my organization will be at fbackfilling with positions with quality people with such low pay. This Ca recession will not last forever. Thanx-
23. Provide more resources for AICP CM through on-line activities. Some of us are too busy and don't have the financial resources to pay for activities and conferences. Free programs on-line that we can watch at our leisure would be more effective and encourage continuing with AICP.
24. Joint meetings with Realtors, property managers, Building Industry Association, Chamber of Commerce, Appraisal Institute, International Right of Way Association would broaden the members' experience.
25. Focus more on providing courses to earn CM credit, job listings, and opportunities for self/professional development. Focus less on selling books, mass-mailing and wasting paper, and planning for expensive events.
26. Professional Development Events and Seminars should all be CM to make the most of APA and AICP dues. An AICP member should not have to attend a conference to obtain CMs.
27. remote access to training should be emphasized. living two hours and a 7400 foot mountain pass away, I can't afford the time or money to travel to sacramtento for 1 hour trainings, meetings, networking, etc. perhaps consider chapter dues on a relative to income basis like the national dues. that would also help with equity. I have no choice but to belong to a chapter and I don't get much, given my inability to attend, in person, events.
28. What we need is a collective voice for us in local, county, state and federal government in order to stoke the demand for our profession. Anything else at this difficult time - study aids, academic outreach, CM subsidies, media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) - is a luxury. Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to the discussion.
29. There should be more colabroration with similar groups.
30. One great area of the APA chapter is the plethora of online and in-person professional training. Those trainings really make the membership dues worthwhile. I'd hate to lose those programs.
31. I think APA should continue to focus significant efforts on diversity recruitment and scholarships for minority students to attend graduate school in planning.
32. Since CM credits are required to maintain the AICP credential and many public agencies have cut back on subsidizing employee attendance at events but do pay for annual dues, more assistance toward CM events through dues could reduce the burden on planners w/ the AICP credential from having to pay out of pocket expenses. The perception of using scarce local funds to send staff away on travel to events, as oposed to paying dues required to maintain a credential, is a harder sell.
33. Assistance with low cost of free CM classes most important right now.
34. Help students attend conferences!
35. More e-blasts on jobs as they become available, lower membership dues if possible to encourage reduced/out of work planners to stay members, more low cost social/networking events to encourage members to be active.
36. Education should be the priority for the APA. Sponsoring networking events can be sacrificed, people can network on their own. Events that require large subsides need to include a small cost to the consumer. With these cuts, education and affecting positive change can be maintained.
37. Please consider financial assistance or subsidized fees for APA state wide conventions as well as APA national conferences.
38. Education for all and support of young planners should be the emphasis.

**Not Happy/Dues Comments**

1. All the places I've indicated "more" should not be at the expensive of higher yearly state dues. CA has some of the highest state dues and I can't say I see the benefits. Also, better goverance overall is needed. Most of the time I feel many of the people who run this organization are only looking to pad their resumes.
2. We charge a lot fir dues and give back very little to the members. What is the point of this useless survey as no changes will really be made, as usual! Unless it involves cutting further funding to sections and continuing to pay for or subsidize Chapter Board member expenses for conferences and such!
3. I am shocked at how my dues are apparently being spent. For example, the conference is quite expensive, yet APA is suggesting that somehow costs are being kept down by my dues. I receive no chapter newsletter and I no longer receive meaningful legislative updates. I am a committee member of another group and I must pay all my own travel.
4. Califoirnia Chapter fees are much too expensive and I may drop-out of the CA Chapter for this reason.
5. Reduce annual dues.
6. Raising (an assumption here?) dues at this time to cover actual costs for things like FAICP package costs, conferences etc. adds a unnecessary burden on all planners - most of whom are hurting in this economy.
7. Membership Dues (National & Chamber) are significantly higher than similar national and state organizations for redevelopment (CRA), economic development (CALED) and the retail industry (ICSC). Some have an organization membership fee and then a much smaller fee for individual memberships once the organization is a member. Especially In these tough economic times where governmental entities are struggling with reduced revenues, furloughs, layoffs, and travel freezes, etc. individual membership dues of $400+ (in my case) are hard to justify to my employer when other organizations charge so much less. For example my ICSC annual membership renewal fee is $50 - with similar benefits in terms of training opportunities, email newsletters, networking events, etc. Event and other costs should be absorbed more through participants and event sponsers rather than through membership dues subsidies. My strong recommendation is to lower the "cost of entry" into APA and then let members pick and choose events, training, etc. to spend additional funds on and try to keep those competitive through corporate sponsorships. I believe APA is an organization worth being a member of, but I may have to let my membership lapse this year.
8. I feel like I get very little value for my dues, which I find to be very expensive. Things that would actually help me personally are limited to cheaper education events. The social events seem very expensive considering the limited amount of food/drink that is provided. I think you would do better to have much less formal events where people then buy their own drinks.
9. It is almost impossible to work in the State of California as a planner. I am planning to leave California soon to assume full-time work overseas. This is a unfortunate decision I must make in order to survive both financially and professionally.
10. The cost of dues are very high in relationship to other organizations. In this trying economic times many agencies and firms are cutting back on expenses. The dues to join and keep your AICP certification is costly in relationship to how we as planners are compensated - we are not lawyers nor are we compensated as such yet we are expected to maintain our certification (costs money and time and time is money).
11. My fees this year are $500 and are not fully reimbursed. I sent in my dues, but I really had to think about continueing my memberships this year.
12. Dues in general are too high forAICP planners that must pay out of pocket (total of $400-500). More and more planners are not being reimbursed for dues by their employers. If CA (and nat'l) APA does not tighten our belt and drop dues somewhat to reflect the new economic reality, then the APA will continue to lose members.
13. My biggest expense is the AICP dues and CM credit and APA dues. My employer does not cover either one. That is where I'd like to see $$ spent. Events that are close by and during the day work best.
14. I do not think that raising fees of the members is the way to fix the problem.
15. CM was a mistake. We in the private sector con't afford it, either in time or dollars. In this economy, no private organization can afford what it used to to help others. Radically re-think your agenda, and give your membership a break - - or many, including me, will quit. You don't really do much for me, or have much to offer. Yours truly, Disgruntled AICP in California
16. A lot of this stuff shouldn't even cost money! The State Board needs to work more closely with the Sections, figure out who is doing what, and do it. Other than legislation and a yearly conference, what does the State provide for members? Do not take this as a mandate to expand, but be aware of the overlapping roles of the State, Section, and National.
17. Isn't California one of the highest dues state in the Country? That may be why their is declining revenue. May have priced yourself out of membership.
18. Reduce/forgive AICP dues
19. membership fees are to HIGH - there needs to be an adjustment --- for what we get
20. do not raise our dues at a time when salaries and hours are down!
21. Unless dues & AICP are covered by business expense, it is financially infeasible to maintain them as an individual.

**Survey Flaws**

1. Thank you for asking our opinion, however, it was very difficult to answer the questions having no information on how APA spends our dues money now. Making this information public would help members to see the value in our dues and could help us provide more meaningful input on how they should be spent in the future.
2. This is still a survey of "wants" without consequence. I do not know how much is spent in these areas and what are the outcomes that are generated, thus it is hard to say what a dollar will get me in each of the different areas.
3. I'm not really sure what the "same" funding levels are - so "same" means I'm neutral; "more" means that these are programs I like; etc.
4. Yes, I did just fill out this survey, but I have no real context for my responses -- I don't know the actual costs of many programs and to what degree they are subsized.
5. I don't what the current expenditures are for these different activities. This survey should have asked respondents to PRIORITIZE the different activities. Focus on funding on activities where there is no one else (like individuals or employers) to pick up the tab (or more of the tab).
6. hard to provide response when I have no info or details on those categories that aren't general membership - board travel costs, Young Planners, FAICP, etc.
7. For some questions, it is difficult to say whether it should be more or less not knowing how much is already spent. With cities being able to send very few, if any, planners to State conferences, opportunities for low cost training sessions of any kind are greatly appreciated.
8. I am new to Cal APA and not familiar with the current expenditures, so I cannot rate how much should be spent on the above items comparitively. is it possible to rank which items are more important, rather than how much should be spent compared to current expenditures?
9. It would be easier to decide my response if I had some idea of the current allocation (perhaps what % of typical dues are spent currently on each item).
10. It's very difficult to answer the above questions, given that I don't know what is spent on each of these elements (quantitatively and qualitatively). In fact, I don't know even know what most of these items are. For example, what does the "State Conference amenity package" consist of? Who benefits? Then there is the fact that we hear secondhand information about the budget. For example, I heard a rumor that the chapter spent $10,000 for the newsletter design. That seems frivolous, especially when we have a state newsletter, a national magazine, etc. Are details of the budget ever made available?
11. For many of my "no opinion" answers, it's because I don't know the current costs, so it's hard for me to project what doint more or less really means. It's not a cop out, I don't have anything to quantify, and I don't want to guess.
12. It is difficult to express an opinion about spending levels for these activities without knowing the current expenditures for each and what the expenditures purchase.
13. This survey isn't very valuable. First of all, people will indicate "less" in most cases because it is self serving. And more importantly, most APA members have no real context for how much is being spent on each category, so asking them whether APACA should spend more or less without a context of how effective the spending has been is worthless. This is my two cents. However, I do appreciate the effort of reaching out to the members. Yours truely.
14. I don't believe this survey is of much value to me without knowing what the chapter is currenlty spending on these activities. I need to know what percentage of the current budget is allocated to each of the activities before I can make an informed decison on reallocating resources.
15. The questions are phrased poorly. It assumes that the level of effort is tied to budget. It neglects to consider that there may be ways of maintaining certain activities but by doing it a different way that saves time/money. My "same" responses indicated the level of effort put into a particular is good and should be the same, not necessarily that the amount of money spent on it should be the same.
16. I don't have any idea on what you are spending currently so how can I weigh in on if the Chapter should be spending a lot less, less, same, more, etc. Why not send some background information with the survey - 1 page fact sheet-so people can make informed choices. We are people who have the abiility and skills to do this so why wasn't it done?
17. Use of "A Lot" is slang. Please have somebody else write or review these surveys before releasing them to the membership.
18. Without knowing current budget allocations, this is more an indication of overall priorities than specific recommendations on where to spend more or less than existing expenditures. In general, I place a high priority on section activities.
19. HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO JUDGE THIS WITHOUT KNOWING THE CURRENT BUDGET? I've given my arbitrary biased answers above, but in general: Subsidies should follow the same cost-saving policy as any other org under budget pressure: enable low-cost solutions; let those who participate bear costs; use technology to eliminate travel and material costs; prioritize necessities first, fun stuff last.
20. Responses reflect opinion on relative importance of expenditure. Without having info on current levels of expenditure, impossible to comment on actual spending levels.
21. No opinion expressed when I didn't know we had a program in place or what the cost was per member. Need more information in order to decide value/priority.
22. Thank you for offering us members a chance to weigh on our priorities for the chapter. But I don't know the basics of our budget--couldn't tell you if it was $100,000 or $500,000, so I feel a bi-monthly newsletter could be devoted to issues of chapter finances--and their solution if there are deep deficits.
23. It would have helped to have the existing budget numbers here for comparison´s sake.
24. I don't know what some of the programs are, nor what % of your budget is being spent now on these things - would have been helpful to know those things.
25. I had to approach this sort of on a comparison/ order of magnitude idea since I am not familiar with the current APA CA budget.
26. It would be beneficial to have a breakdown of budget information on how membership dues are spent.
27. Thank you for generating this survey!! One thing though, there was only one question about expenditures at the conference (i.e. amenities). If that's where we spent a lot, perhaps there could be more information sharing about other programs, line items at the conference where savings could be achieved. But I commend your efforts to seek input! Thanks again, Jay

**Financial Management**

1. Provide all members an annual accounting statement that summarizes total dollars spent and on which activities. Develop performance criteria that notes what the membership received for each $ spent.
2. It would have been helpful to know how effective many of the above "investments" are currently working. For example, are planners benefitting from networking events? Are young planners being positively influenced to pursue the profession? What types of benefits trickle down to memebers from paying for travel to board meetins? It would seem that measuring the benefit of these expenditures to members would be helpful in terms of showing how effective the money is currently spent in terms of "return on investment".
3. provide analysis of member value per dollar spent. Focus on core AICP members and APA members that will be long term members and not so much on periphery membership.

**Other**

1. Good luck - it's a tough job to make cuts.
2. The dues always seem pretty high, by the time you do the State and chapters. But I did think the State conference was a great deal. . .lots of meals and extras included in the price. I think that encourages people to come. Hopefully, dues aren't paying for book catalogs, etc. These should pay their own way. It seems like using the web to greater advantage in all cost saving ways is good. Thanks for your hard work. Andy Cassano
3. It would be nice if the Nation APA did this survey
4. Essentially, I don't think CalAPA is doing much that a professional organization should be doing. So activities should remain the same; I don't think a small dues increase, if necessary, should be avoided.
5. As with any endeavor, the quality of what's provided is of critical importance. Therefore if CalPlanner remains mediocre, it becomes less relevant and less frequency is appropriate; Similarly with mentorship, faculty relations, ethics training, and other programs - if they're of quality, continue them. If not, abandon them. While some linkages (e.g., with faculty, students, citizens) are clearly important, if an evaluation of the programming CCAPA does with these groups suggests the work is not effective, then drop it for now with the idea of restarting when revenue allows. In the end, CCAPA needs to concentrate on its core areas of strength and drop the bells and whistles (however attractive and seductive they may be).
6. I have maintained my membership for 4 years since grad school but have never or rarely participated in any in-person events. I have only read the magazine, journal, and website. I honestly wasn't aware that most of these in-person opportunities for involvement existed. Perhaps more should be communicated in the publications online and in print about how to get involved and participate.
7. I think we should influence National APA a lot more!
8. APA retirement dues start at age 65, so I am quitting at age 60 (at retirement) even though I am a charter member of APA. Au revoir!
9. What are you actually providing to members? You are gouging them with CM credit requirements, expensive conferences, and a very expensive magazine subscription. Where is all that loot going? Get organized and/or efficient, planners, or your members will start leaving in droves.
10. All travel has been cut. We can no longer attend conferences, classes, or activities outside of our immediate area. The state conference is out of the picture for the next several years.
11. Thank you for asking our opinion.
12. I once tried to get a State-sponsored event (hosted by our municipality) to qualify for CM accreditation and was discouraged by the red tape/process and costs which I encountered; this was frustrating to several of the 50 or so participants who benefitted from subject planning-related workshop. Consequently, I suggest that APA consider facilittating the process by which CM accreditation is granted to non-APA sponsored events; a first step would be to waive any fees.
13. The continued education requirements consume all the discretionary income I have for professional development. The local chapter was terrific the first two years with training classes. Now, the training classes may be the only time we can afford to be social in the down economy. So cut some of the social events and get even smarter with the training events. e.g. the Blueprint event on April 2 was excellent training, but did it count? Co-hosting events and training with ABA, AEP, ASLA, AWMA, and the PEs could be a terrific benefit for all of us. Cross-pollination is good and we all have CE needs. The ethics webinairs were a godsend, although some are better than others. Conference calls to plan programs are much cheaper than travel if you pay for an 800 linkup. Thanks for trying to keep us all informed; even when we are furloughed and unemployed.
14. Excellent questionaire.
15. None to offer at this time.
16. Since I am fully retired now for almost 15 years I don't think my responses are very valid. Basically I am very conservative and working planners should shoulder most of the expenses.
17. None
18. It is counter-productive to have a young planners group, unless it is for social purposes only, and then I understand. But if the young planners want to learn anything about dealing with planning issues in a political environment, hang with the old codgers.
19. Increase dues if necessary to acheive goals.