From the President...

Football has started up again, that is, unless there is lightning within 8 miles. Looking back, it has been another great year for Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association. But the fun for the year hasn’t ended....

On October 10-11 NPZA will hold its third Fall Workshop. In an ongoing effort to bring together the land use decision makers from multiple levels of government, this fall workshop was geared to appeal to more than those who typically attend our annual conference. This year’s workshop will be in Columbus as the NPZA Board is making a conscious effort to move the fall workshop around the state in an effort to reach those who normally cannot make it to the annual Nebraska Planning Conference in Kearney.

This year’s offering of topics includes planning fundamentals, Board of Adjustment, nuisances, the Open Meetings Act, community solar, floodplains, problem meetings and a facilitated discussion on retail trade in rural America. It is quite a diverse selection of subjects set up in two tracts, arranged to provide learning opportunities for the rookies as well as those who have “been around the block”. Additionally, as always, we will have a general question and answer session that many feel is helpful in resolving specific issues through the help of fellow planners and zoning administrators.

We have also started work with Nebraska APA on planning the 2019 Nebraska Planning Conference. It is our goal to make this conference better each and every year and 2019 will be no different. We are looking forward to the conference next March and sincerely hope you can make it. For more information on the Fall Workshop, the annual conference, or on NPZA itself, please check out the NPZA website or follow our activities on Facebook and Twitter as well.

--Christopher Solberg
President-NPZA

Mark Your Calendars

September 14, 2018: Metro District Planning Workshop; Papillion, NE; 8 am-4:30 pm; Sarpy County Administration Building; Registration cost: $35. Info on page __.

September 30, 2018: Presentation Proposals Due for 2019 Nebraska Planning Conference, Info on Page ___.

October 10-11, 2018: Nebraska Fall Planning Workshop; Columbus, NE; Ramada Inn Info on Page 2

March 6-8, 2019: Nebraska Planning Conference; Younes Conference Center, Kearney, Nebraska

HomeNE Building Community Capacity to Lead Strategic Housing Development

Sharon Hueftle; Executive Director, South Central Economic Development District

Housing... the mention of it draws a lot of interest AND groans in Nebraska communities. And no two communities will address their housing issues exactly the same way. So where should a community begin?

See ‘HomeNE’ page 2...
First, leadership must determine that housing is a community asset, not just an individual or personal asset. This paradigm recognizes that the private market has not kept pace with the housing needs in our communities, and it is time for some intervention. Housing options are necessary for a community to thrive.

Next, learn what other communities have accomplished – why reinvent the wheel when you can R&D (rob and duplicate)! The HomeNE program is designed to help communities do just that - HomeNE is a learning network geared toward housing in rural communities, providing face to face and online opportunities to foster interaction, engagement and skill-building for local leaders and conveners.

The mission of HomeNE is to help communities to build and sustain their capacity to lead strategic housing development.

Modeled after a similar program in South Dakota, HomeNE was established in 2017 and consists of monthly webinars and 2 Gatherings per year. Each HomeNE event is intended to provide experiential learning – to empower participants to immediately apply what they learn! The South Central Economic Development District is the lead agent and kicked off this program with the HomeNE Learning Journey in December when approximately forty community leaders and housing resource providers from NE and SD came together to learn innovative approaches to housing development and redevelopment utilized in Stuart and Central City. A second gathering was held in April, showcasing housing development in St. Paul, hearing from developers what they seek in a community project, and learning about appraisals.

Monthly webinars began in February of 2018, and are held the third Thursday of each month at 2PM Central time. This network is open for statewide participation in order to provide the richest and most beneficial experience to all participants. To date more than 130 individuals from 70+ communities have participated to learn about topics such as land banking, investment clubs and LB840 for housing, building cottages, and community clean-up. Webinars are recorded and are available at www.scedd.us/homenene.

HomeNE Events coming up:
- Webinar September 20, 2PM CDT:
  - The Power of Perseverance: The Story of Stuart
- Fall Gathering, November 8 & 9, North Platte, NE

For more information, contact Sharon Hueftle, sharonh@scedd.us.
The Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) and Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association (NEAPA) will convene in Kearney, Nebraska in March of 2019 for the Nebraska Annual Planning Conference. We invite you to share your experiences with local, state, and federal officials, industry leaders, consultants, and other interested parties by presenting a session. We are particularly interested in sessions related to:

- Site Plan Review
- New Trends in Planning
- Housing
- Zoning Issues / Techniques
- Renewable Energy
- Agriculture/Rural Planning and Zoning
- Small Town Planning and Zoning
- GIS
- Plan Implementation
- Storm water and Floodplain Management
- Hazard Mitigation
- Regional Planning
- Urban Design

Submission of presentations on topics outside this theme are also welcome.

The Call for Presenters seeks a broad range of professionals to address the many issues and problems associated with planning. Topics will be selected for concurrent sessions during the conference. Sessions are typically 60 minutes of presentation time and 15 minutes of Q&A. In some instances, presenters of similar topics may be scheduled to present with a panel.

The presentation form must be submitted by September 30, 2018. All selection and placement of presentations is at the sole discretion of the Conference Committee. Selected presenters will be notified on or before October 31, 2018.