

The Massachusetts Federation of Planning & Appeals Boards will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, October 27, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Worcester. We will start at 9:00am, with registration from 8:15am to 9:00am. There will be an Early Bird Help Desk near the registration table from 8:30am to 9:00am. Bring in your questions and concerns. To satisfy the requirements of our 501(c)3, we will start off with a short business meeting, which will include a welcome from Joseph Slowick, our president, reports from the officers, and some brief comments from the executive director, Linda Finan. We will elect officers, and new members of the board of directors. After this, we will proceed to the program.

Our first speaker will be **Alexandra Dawson**, who will speak on the importance of smooth relationships between Planning Boards, Zoning Boards, and Conservation Commissions. The next speaker will be **Attorney Michael Pill**, who will discuss Paper Streets. Paper streets plague many communities. Some municipalities have paper streets on their maps that are decades old, from developments never built. The next feature is the awarding of the Charles E. Downe award for meritorious work in Massachusetts planning. Previous recipients of this award have been Robert Mitchell, Don Schmidt, and Peter Lowitt. Then **Jim O'Connell**, who heads up the Zoning Reform Working Group (Community Planning Act II) will update us on the current status of this effort, now that the governor has taken an interest - where are we? Where are we going with this? Is anything ever going to be accomplished? Then we will have Carol Rolf discuss recent court decisions in planning and zoning in Massachusetts. The final morning speaker will be **Aaron Gornstein** of CHAPA, who will discuss the Walpole attempt to alter the state law on 40B projects. It was originally planned that a representative from Walpole would appear with Aaron, but neither the Walpole Town Administrator nor any of the Selectmen could be available, so Aaron will discuss this with hoped-for input from attendees. This is not an attempt at a knock-down, drag out affair. Let's discuss this issue! You will be part of the program! After this, we will adjourn for lunch. You will have your choice of fish or chicken, vegetables, salads, rolls, soup, beverages, and desserts. Be sure to bring all your briefcases, folders, handouts etc. with you, as we will not return to this room.

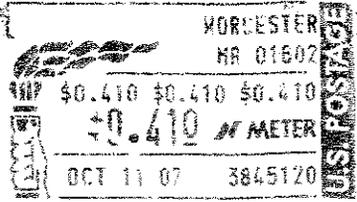
The first tier or afternoon, workshops will offer **Carol Rolf** on Variances; **Carol Thomas** on dead ends and cul-de-sacs, from her latest publication with the American Planning Association; and a representative of the **South Worcester Neighborhood Center**, who will present their new initiative for reviving neighborhoods through an innovative program of individual small grants/loans to home owners. The second Session will feature **Bruce Hughes** of Old Colony Planning on expedited hearings. Bruce has been involved in this issue for some time and can give us its current status. The Federation has been on the fence about this for some time. The other workshop presented by will be presented by **William Scanlan**, on conducting a successful public hearing, including the importance of utilizing all the tools available: up to date procedures; keeping good relations among all the land use boards as well as the town clerk, etc. We all have to do a better job of this!

The cost for the program, including the meal, is \$50 for attendees from member communities, and \$55 for attendees from non-member communities. You may register by mail (P.O. 387, Leicester, MA 01524); telephone (508-754-3068), or email

(mfpabl@hotmail.com). We will take personal checks, checks from the municipality, or cash (do not send cash by mail). We CANNOT accept credit cards. We look forward to seeing you, so call, mail or email. We want to help you, and hope to see you there.

Name	Municipality	Tel. #	Board

Massachusetts Federation of Planning & Appeals Board, Inc.
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