

**ORANGE COUNTY MUNICIPAL PLANNING FEDERATION**  
**C/O ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**  
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**BOARD MEETING SUMMARY: October 5, 2020**

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Bob Scott, Ben Astorino, John Tracy, David Niemotko, John Strobl, Jean Schultz

**BOARD SUPPORT:** Carrie Christensen & Alan Sorensen (*OC Planning*)

**GUESTS:**

**MOTIONS:**

- 1. To accept the September meeting summary. David Niemotko motioned, Ben Astorino seconded and it passed unanimously.**
  - 2. Motion to remove George Aulen and David Church as signers of the accounts at Berkshire Bank and replace them with Bob Scott and Alan Sorensen.**
  - 3. Motion to adjourn the October meeting. John Tracy motioned, Ben Astorino seconded and it passed unanimously.**
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The seventh Board Meeting of 2020, and the fifth virtually held due to the COVID-19 pandemic, opened with the passing of the September meeting summary. David Niemotko motioned to accept the summary, Ben Astorino seconded and it passed unanimously.

The second order of business was a brief recap of the Chairs meeting. Bob Scott mentioned he felt it went very well considering the current situation and holding it remotely. The Chairs whom attended seemed to appreciate the topic offered and valuable feedback was received.

The meeting continued with Carrie discussing the accounts held at Berkshire Bank. In order to update signers on the (3) accounts, documented authorization must be submitted. David Niemotko made a motion to remove David Church and George Aulen and to replace those gentlemen with Bob Scott and Alan Sorensen. Bob Scott replaced George Aulen as OCMFP President in 2017 and Alan Sorensen replaced David Church as the Orange County Planning Department Commissioner in March of 2020. Ben Astorino seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. Carrie will follow up with Berkshire Bank and continue forward with these changes.

The main topic discussed at this meeting was the future platform for courses and events. Board Members discussed how their individual boards have been handling the need to hold more meetings in a virtual setting. Ben Astorino mentioned inviting Laura Barca to the November meeting to discuss how she navigated the new need and if she would be interested in providing a webinar based on running remote meetings and public hearings. The board agreed to Laura attending and Ben offered to follow up with her. Topics were brainstormed such as SEQRA, case law, and classes for new members and support staff. David Niemotko also mentioned he could discuss this new format with the Orange County Planning Board and see if they had any topics that may be of interest.

John Tracy mentioned an article that was in the paper recently in regards to New Jersey Transit possibly ceasing the run west of the Hudson River and what sort of impacts may come of that. Alan Sorensen mentioned that the Transit Division was currently conducting transit surveys on various topics and that the County Executive's office will be reaching out to MTA. Alan further mentioned that the County does not agree with the thought of the possibility of eliminating such a service.

Carrie provided a summary of the annual voting and it seemed to be going well. The deadline to cast votes is October 31<sup>st</sup> and a final follow up will be provided at the November meeting. At that point, the board will make its official notation of the members to fulfill the board renewals, vacancy and newly created alternate position.

John Tracy then motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:02 PM, Ben Astorino seconded and it passed unanimously.

**Upcoming Events and Important Dates to Remember:**

Monday, November 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Virtual Board Meeting
Monday, December 7 <sup>th</sup> :	Virtual Board Meeting
Monday, January 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Virtual Board Meeting
Monday, February 1 <sup>st</sup> :	Virtual Board Meeting