Chairman Afton Kordenbrock called the monthly discussion forum of the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission to order at 5:45 pm in the first floor conference room of the Commission's offices in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Attendance of the members was as follows.

Term Present Absent
Chairman Afton Kordenbrock May 2002 through May 2004 X
Vice Chairman Paul Hahn May 2001 through May 2005 X
Treasurer Bill Goetz May 2002 through May 2004 X
Commissioner Billy Bradford May 2001 through May 2005 X
Commissioner Tom Kriege May 2002 through May 2004 X
Commissioner Tom Litzler May 2002 through May 2004 X
Commissioner Lou Noll May 2001 through May 2005 X

Also present were Dennis Andrew Gordon, FAICP, Executive Director; Mike Schwartz, AICP, Deputy Director for Current Planning; Keith Logsdon, AICP, Deputy Director for Long Range Planning; Scott Hiles, Deputy Director for Engineering & Inspection Services; Ralph Grieme; Garry Edmondson, legal counsel; and Gail H. Deatherage, Administrative Assistant.

Commissioner Bradford gave the invocation and Chairman Kordenbrock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Chairman Kordenbrock asked if the agenda's contents were acceptable or if anyone had any additions/corrections. Commissioner Hahn made a motion to accept the agenda as presented; Commissioner Kriege seconded the motion. Chairman Kordenbrock asked for a voice vote on the motion, which found unanimous approval. The motion passed.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Kordenbrock asked if the Minutes of September 24, 2003, were acceptable or if anyone had any additions/corrections. Commissioner Goetz made a motion to accept the Minutes of September 24, 2003; Commissioner Bradford seconded the motion. Chairman Kordenbrock asked for a roll call vote, which found Commissioners Hahn, Goetz, Bradford, Kriege, Litzler, Noll, and Chairman Kordenbrock in favor. The motion passed.
Mr. Gordon introduced Mr. Logsdon as the new Deputy Director for Long Range Planning. Mr. Logsdon gave some brief personal background information. He recalled that he worked previously for NKAPC before leaving to work for Wilbur Smith Associates in Cincinnati. He said he was glad to return to employment with NKAPC. He stated he looked forward to the work he will be performing for long range planning and gave some brief comments regarding the work he plans to do.

Chairman Kordenbrock welcomed Mr. Logsdon and said he was glad to have him back on the staff.

Mr. Gordon then passed out the July and August Reports of Receipts and Expenditures, noting that members had previously reviewed and approved the new format template. He gave some further comments regarding the report and stated he is working toward quarterly departmental breakdowns. Action was deferred until the next meeting.

Chairman Kordenbrock asked what the program would be for the Area Planning Council dinner meeting; Mr. Gordon noted he was working on this.

Chairman Kordenbrock stated that Ft. Mitchell Mayor Holocher had sent a letter to staff and that Mr. Gordon had responded to the letter. He said members had received a copy of it (copy attached to the original Minutes). Commissioner Goetz gave some brief background on the letter and noted that the city has concerns regarding the administration of the subdivision regulations and the impact on the city and that they wanted to have more input. Mr. Gordon said he was not surprised by the letter in that he has heard many similar comments from other mayors. He stated that Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties are working toward standardizing the subdivision regulations for all three counties so there will be some continuity on inspections. He stated this process would give the cities an opportunity for input.

Chairman Kordenbrock asked if there was anything new to report on the zoning ordinance regarding the issue of outdoor storage which Mr. Litzler had raised at the last meeting. Mr. Gordon responded that staff feels this could be handled by the individual boards of adjustment. Mr. Schwartz gave some further information. Some discussion ensued on how various cities regulate and enforce their ordinances.

Chairman Kordenbrock reminded everyone that the MGLNK Annual Dinner meeting was November 15 at Summit Hills Country Club. He said that in the past the Commission has paid for a member and his spouse to attend this dinner if that member's dinner was not paid by their city. He noted that most members' dinner would be paid for with the exception of Mr. Litzler, and that if he attended the dinner that the commission would pay for his dinner for both he and Mrs. Litzler.
Chairman Kordenbrock noted that Mr. Grieme was present to give the Commission an update on issues at OKIRCOG.

Mr. Grieme stated it had been some time since he had brought the Commission up to date on the many issues going on at OKI and that he wanted direction from the Commission on how to vote on the I-75 North/South Study which would be discussed at a meeting on Thursday, October 9, 2003. He commented on various aspects of the study and discussed what would be presented at the meeting. He also provided some update information on the retirement of Executive Director Jim Duane. Mr. Grieme stated he was not in favor of the study's direction and felt that if there is a roll call vote, he would abstain, and if there is a voice vote, he would go along with the majority.

Chairman Kordenbrock asked if anyone had any specific questions. Commissioner Goetz asked if he had tried to get other support from the cities in Kenton County. Mr. Grieme responded he had not.

Chairman Kordenbrock thanked Mr. Grieme for the informative update.

Chairman Kordenbrock said that members had received the slate of officer for KAPA and that staff member Larisa Keith was on the ballot for Professional Development Officer (PDO). He urged members to be sure and cast their ballot for her. Mr. Logsdon noted that ballots would be sent after November 7.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Mr. Gordon stated that Commissioner Litzler had asked for some background on how to proceed with a discussion on a possible tax increase. He said he had taken language from KRS 132.023, which covers the procedure for pursuing a tax increase, and had condensed the language to what would apply to NKAPC. He said he hoped this would make it a little easier for the members to understand the procedure. He then passed out the condensed language (a copy attached to the original Minutes) and gave some further comments on his work. He stated that the third page of paper gave the condensed time line in order to proceed for the tax increase. He stated he would like for the members to read the information, digest it, and then come back with their questions and for further discussion.

Mr. Gordon noted that he would start work on the FY05 budget in February and would need guidance on how to pursue spending levels. He said that the adoption of the new budget would correspond with recommendation of the long range financial planning report. Some discussion ensued with regard to how to proceed and also on the issue of timing for a possible tax increase.

Commissioner Kriege noted that he and Mr. Gordon are starting work on the final report
of the long range financial planning.

Mr. Gordon stated he is having Ms. Deatherage set up breakfast/lunch meetings with Kenton County mayors for a one-on-one discussion. He is hopeful that these meetings will be a starting point to better communication and relations between NKAPC and the cities we serve.

Commissioner Goetz noted that a new attorney general's opinion stated that email correspondence to members could not be used for "special" meetings.

Mr. Gordon stated that he and Mr. Logsdon had begun work on getting goals established for the new long-range planning department. He said they are looking at the Comprehensive Plan Update and discussing implementation efforts for the plan's recommendations. He noted one of those issues was the rezoning of south Kenton County land for industrial purposes. He stated Messrs. Logsdon and Schwartz would be involved with moving this issue forward.

Mr. Logsdon gave some comments on the BLS/ALS issue and said it would be the first project for the long-range planning department. He noted that staff was working with the library board on the issue of a new location for the Independence branch. He also said that the Dixie Highway study is going to be very important as this is one of the most important corridors in the area.

Mr. Edmondson said that staff should also pursue the study of consolidation of fire departments/police departments/schools, etc. plus sharing of government resources. Some general discussion ensued with regard to this recommendation.

Chairman Kordenbrock asked if there were any other comments or business to come before the Commission. There being no further business, he adjourned the meeting with unanimous consent at 7:20 pm.