

**DAPA Council Meeting**  
**April 4, 2019**  
**9:00-10:00 AM**  
**University of Delaware**  
**176 Graham Hall**

**Meeting Summary**

**Participating:** Leann Moore (Vice-President), Evan Miller (Secretary), Fiona Mulligan (At-Large Member), Sonya Sedegui (At-Large Member), Gene Dvornick (President), Martin Wollaston (Treasurer), Julia O'Hanlon (At-Large Member)

**Absent:** Brian Billings (At-Large Member) and Debbie Pfeil (At-Large Member)

**Agenda:**

**Minutes from March 7, 2019 DAPA Council meeting**

- A motion to approve minutes was made by Leann and seconded by Fiona.
- **Vote:** Unanimous approval

**ASPA Update – Julia**

Overall highlights, Julia was able to pull large themes from the ASPA Conference and pass those ideas onto School of Public Policy staff.

- Civics Education is an area getting a lot of attention, starting to work its way into early education (K-12).
- MPA is still a valuable degree.
- Public Managers are retiring, which is changing the workforce. There is a stronger focus now on younger professionals.
- Educational and training on topics such as leadership and effective communication are hot topics for MPA programs. It is important to learn about these topics early on to help students effectively articulate analytical or political topics.

May want to keep these themes in mind for future DAPA events and outreach. ASPA Conference booklet is now available online.

Chapter Leadership Meeting: ASPA Senior Leadership feel as though state chapters are the lifeblood of the organization and are critical to the organization and getting people involved. Smaller conferences are a great way to get students and other professionals involved (i.e. NECoPA). Encouraged DAPA to reach out with questions or ideas and they would help connect the dots. Julia will share the Chapter Leadership packet and some notes. Julia also reached out to the former president of the Maryland Chapter and asked what they are up to or if they have any Delmarva representation. She will let the group know if she hears back.

Julia will check to see if any of the presentations from the ASPA Conference is available.

### **Survey Update – Sonya**

Only 11 respondents took the survey. So far, the type of activities people would like to see in the next year are presentations or networking opportunities at bars/restaurants. A majority of the respondents would like the activities to be held in the New Castle County/Wilmington area. The number one topic of interest was new markets in Delaware followed by the Downtown Development Districts and other housing alternatives. A majority of the respondents were most interested in emails about events and new local policy followed by ASPA and DAPA announcements and public administration jobs.

Sonya will send the survey out again and preface with a sentence encouraging them to complete the survey.

### **Membership Update – Leann**

53 ASPA Members and 5 DAPA Members. People will be getting reminder emails to renew their membership.

Discussion ensued about considering combination events in the future with Delaware State University.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Martin**

Martin sent out the summary, there has been little activity. DAPA has paid the State Franchise Tax of \$25 and the Safe Deposit Box fee of \$44.50. Although there has been little activity, it is not an accurate image of our position. Back in January, Martin had written a check for \$2,000 to the University of Delaware to cover DAPA expenses. The check has still not been cashed. If it does get cashed, our balance of \$5,331.36 will be decreased by \$2,000.

### **Event Planning and Other Business**

Julia mentioned that her goal is to get 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday ideas by the middle/end of May so people can get the information on their calendars. A question was asked whether the summer is an appropriate time to connect with Delaware State University due to students being away and whether DAPA should consider having a 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the Fall. Leann suggested that DAPA have an event in June (end of legislative session) where we could invite Delaware State Faculty. DAPA could then have an event in September with students. Discussion ensued on ideas for where to host events. Julia will brainstorm some ideas and if anyone else has suggestions, mention them to her.

**Adjourned at 9:35 a.m.**