Planning Board Training

Knowledgeable appointed boards are needed for effective land use planning and regulatory processes. Board members should be proficient in their roles and responsibilities when performing their duties for their jurisdiction and communities. Centralina offers training to planning board and board of adjustment members on planning and development regulation topics such as legislative and quasi-judicial procedures, best practices and more.

WHY IS TRAINING IMPORTANT?

Problems can arise during governance processes if board members lose sight of their duties to the public, but with training, participants will be reminded of their land use process responsibilities and where their role falls within the context of local government. Our expert staff also help new and existing members improve their understanding of their job and expectations as public officials.

WHAT WILL BE COVERED?

Our comprehensive, customized training covers a broad range of topics, from basic planning and zoning concepts to public meeting skills and best-practices. Participants will also have opportunities to ask questions about general planning topics and subjects relevant to their community. See the following page for a more detailed synopsis.

State and Local Legislation

Board members place most of their attention on local ordinances and policies, but problems can often arise from legislative and quasi-judicial procedural mishaps rather than contention about local development issues. Our subject matter experts will provide background information on state regulation for land use planning and zoning procedures and clarity on these laws where needed.

Land Use Policy / Comprehensive Plans

Project review is at the center of local government planning board and board of adjustment roles . Through our training, board members will learn the importance of justifiable actions through consistency statements about comprehensive plans and policies. The board will also discover how their understanding of the community plays an important role in a much larger context of growth and development.

Decision Making

The types of decisions that boards are expected to make will depend upon the nature of relevant standards and procedures. Our training will inform members in detail of decision-making processes and what statutory categories their decisions fall into. Members will leave with a better understanding of who decides what, public hearing requirements and the appropriate levels of discretion for making decisions.

Board Operations

Lastly, we will provide board members with valuable information on required operating procedures and best practices that can be incorporated into their structure. We will focus on common activities for local governing boards such as adopting rules of procedure, conflicts of interest, informal rules and, if challenged, the process for going to court.

READY TO GET STARTED?

Reach out to Jason Wager, Regional Planning Director, at 704-348-2707 or jwager@centralina.org to discuss how we can provide training to your boards.