

Minutes: AIA New England Quarterly Meeting

March 6, 2013, 12:00 pm

Boston Society of Architect, Boston, MA

Present:

Greg Spiess AIA	AIANE President (RI)
Glenn Gregg FAIA	College of Fellows Liaison (CT)
Lorin Starr	Exec. Director, AIAWM
Derek Osterbrook Assoc. AIA	RAD (BSA?)
Nicole Martineau AIA	YARD (NH)
Mohamad Farzan AIA	Regional Director (RI)
Sho-Ping Chin FAIA	Regional Director (BSA)
Greg Ames AIA	Guest (CT)
Ann Fienman	Managing Director, BSA
Diane Harp Jones	EVP AIACT
Carolyn Isaak	Exec. Director AIANH and AIANE
Mike Davis FAIA	BSA President
Martha Montgomery AIA	AIANE President-Elect (WMA)
Michael Hoffman AIA	Regional Director Elect (VT)
Karolina Burttt AIA	AIANH President
Jen Zolkos	Exec. Director, AIARI
Dianta Korzun AIA	AIANE Sec-Treasurer (VT)
Stephanie Degan-Monroe AIA	President, AIACT
Chris Walsh AIA	President, Central MA
Susan Koch	Exec. Director, AIAME
Judy Johnson AIA	President, AIAME
Emily Grand Staff-Rice AIA	VP, BSA

1. President Spiess opened the meeting at 12:08 pm. He welcomed the group and introductions were made.

2. Minutes from Nov 12, 2012 approval moved by Michael Davis. Mohamad seconded. Approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Greg noted what a pleasure it is to be involved with this group. He has three issues he favors, but his role is to air all of our concerns. His focus: 1. Small firms initiative. Bill Whitlock is our representative on the Small Firm roundtable. 2. Mentoring and IDP not always connecting as well as they could. Would like to give some focus to these emerging professional programs. 3. Disaster Assistance. RI has some experience with this. Would like to see NE components prepared. FEMA people don't really have skills to look at buildings and determine if they are safe. Other states could use RI as a model. Greg Spiess has offered to help other NE components.

4. GRASSROOTS

New venue for Grassroots. It is closer to Capitol Hill. Dinner will be Thursday night, March 21, 8:30 pm, at the Old Ebbit Grill. Please introduce or talk up Greg Ames to everyone you meet and encourage them to vote for him for AIA Treasurer.

5. COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

Glen Gregg: Want to expose emerging professionals (See report addendum)

6. AIA ELECTIONS

Greg Ames: spoke to his candidacy. Greg has the experience, understands the dynamics of AIA finances, include to fairness and transparency. But mostly he is interested in connecting personally with the AIA members. Greg is going to talk with CACE people and others. Has asked NE CACE members to advocate for him. He will share points about his candidacy with NE CACE members. Greg S. asked about his take on repositioning and finances. Repositioning will mean profound changes in AIA, decreasing size of board, focusing on member concerns. He expects there will be discussion of what gets done where in AIA (local, state, National levels). All of this will involve finances, which is complex, but the rewards will be great. There will be huge benefits by getting rid of redundancies. Need discussions to be open and fair. Treasurer has role to play in ensuring success.

7. NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

Sho-Ping Chin. 80,000 members, 52% registered architects.

18% women, 14% minority, 365 associate members

91% retention

Average age 52, with 50% over 50

271 components

Emeritus status: over 70 and retired

85% from small firms of less than 10

Academy: fewer than 29% are registered

Leadership, elected officials, board and AIA staff (120)

AIA Board composition: 52 members, 38 members from 18 regions, 60% in practices. Some are from academia, allied professions, facilities, etc.

Project shortage of architects in 2014

Declining emerging professionals: only 50% remain with profession

6% decrease in student enrollment, percentage of foreign students is high. High level of disaffection between AIA and Academy

Lack of cohesion with National and components

These statistics are actually an opportunity to shape the profession.

Also, not a bad thing that people with architecture education go into other fields.

But worry is the shortage of architects.

See Powerpoint addendum.

Funding: Contracts are the largest source of revenue. Contract docs continue to be developed.

Going to go into cloud space. Convention is a money-maker, but hasn't done as well as projected. Examine it every year. Investments do well.

8. RAD

Derek: see addendum

Delighted to hear there is a focus on the next generation of professionals.
NAC has three issues. Derek talked about advocacy issues. There are some places that still give unpaid internships. They are trying to point out that there are restrictions to unpaid internships. If actual work is required, they must be paid. Want to communicate value and importance of licensure.

Three asks:

Associates will have separate schedule at Grassroots. Have your associates contact Derek to fill them in.

Encouraged AIANE board to contribute to ArchiPac. If we commit to 100% participation. NAC will send letters asking us to push our leadership and peers to Convention.

9. YARD

Nicole Martineau: See addendum.

They are really working on communication. They would like an AIANE emerging professionals website. They would like to encourage interstate relations. Vermont is running an EPN competition. Please promote in your chapters.

Encouraging firms to bring an EP to any event you attend. Find ways to get them to meetings.

Ask: would really like to see state leaders all attend the regional conference and have something dedicated to EP's at the conference. Could we have more lectures on business management, etc. from established professionals.

Convention will have scholarships for students to attend convention. AIA Board members will act as mentors for students. Discounts for convention for people under 40.

Web Site:

Discussion of updating AIANE website. Quote from L. Breidis, quote \$4,000. Maine did for \$3,000. Chris moved to set aside not over \$4500 for converting and refurbishing the AIANE website to Wordpress, to include setting up the EP pages. There is a potential to save in maintenance costs over the years. Michael H. seconded. Discussion: Karolina recommends separate hosting. Since we are reducing reserves, we do not need to determine how to replace this reserve fund reduction. Nicole Martineau will help with migration and EP page. Vote: approved.

11. FINANCIAL REPORT

CI presented financial report, which was accepted.

12. COMPONENT REPORTS:

SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT WITH COMPONENT REPORTS.

13. OTHER:

Michael Hoffman wants to reiterate the importance of contributing to ArchiPac. This is one way that AIA really can have an impact.

Sho-Ping mentioned that Regional Directors would like to meet with local components.

14. ADJOURN

Greg Spiess. Mohamad moved to adjourn. Nicole seconded. Approved.