



AIA New England

A Regional Council of The American Institute of Architects

AIA NEW ENGLAND COMPONENT REPORTS

April 29, 2015

AIA Rhode Island

We are currently planning our Summer Conference/Expo to be held at Roger Williams University on July 23, 2015. The event is being planned by our COTE Committee and sponsored by Tremco and with the focus on Building Envelopes in Coastal Conditions. This is an annual AIARI event that combines a day of sessions and culminates with an Allied Member expo and lobster boil overlooking the RWU campus.

The AIARI Gallery will be part of the Providence International Arts Festival in June. We will be exhibiting Roger Williams and RISD Student thesis work. We will also be partnering with DesignxRI, RILSLA, IIDA and other organizations in an effort to focus on the design community during the festival.

AIARI has put out a call for proposals for Gallery Night. We hope to receive proposals from architects, artists, designers, and curators throughout New England. The list of requirements is on our website.

The AIARI Scholarship application has been sent to all of the accredited schools. The scholarship is for any RI student studying architecture at an accredited school anywhere, and any student studying in RI at an accredited school.

AIA Vermont

Archistream

- The Archistream spent the winter at the Southern VT Arts Center in Manchester, where it was used to host building and design seminars for middle school students and other groups. A full slate of activities is scheduled for the upcoming months—including stops at a luxury auto show, arts festival, town charrette gathering, and food tasting center.
- We're discussing best ways of raffling off/selling/finding a new home for her in the fall. AIA Illinois had potential interest in purchasing.

Programs

- In March, we offered a well-attended discussion and presentation session about draft Form-Based Codes for Burlington. Several architects had been asked to "test" the proposed codes for the purposes of ironing out kinks before these become final.
- In March, we offered a social and LU opportunity at Red Thread, the showroom for Steelcase brand. Two LUs were offered on workplace privacy/comfort issues. This too was a success.

- Our AIAVT/CSIVT “Resiliency” conference is slated for May 20-21. Alex Wilson is the keynote. We continue to hope our AIANE sister chapters will spread the word. (Carol has emailed the electronic brochure to AIANE EDs).
- We’re considering 2020 programming for 2016.

Public Policy

- Unfortunately, our work on passing a Statute of Repose in Vermont for design professionals was not successful. We had a sponsor in the Senate and the support of the Judiciary Committee and at the last minute (a calculated move) the Trial Lawyers “swooped in” and changed a few of the committee members’ minds. Also, the vast majority of the membership was surprisingly seemingly not motivated to assist with letters, testimony, etc.

EPN

- Our EPN design competition, focused on making town hall meeting places more inviting so as to encourage greater voter turnout, launches on May 1.
- The film series developed by our EPN members continues to be a success. *16 Acres* and *The Impassion Eye* were shown early in 2105.

AIA New Hampshire

1. This year we have been busy working for passage of HB292, adding architects and engineers to the Good Sam legislation. We began with the House this year and the bill was passed in March 235 to 107.
2. AIANH and others responded to the Minority Report when approaching the Senate Judiciary Committee.
3. The Senate hearing was yesterday. They voted to hold the bill for now as they work on the meaning of the word “assistance” vs. “advice.” One of the House reps attended the hearing, and he seems to be completely unable to understand what the bill is about (allowing architects and engineers to assist the State emergency management system in carding buildings following a disaster. He thinks they have the power to “condemn” buildings and doesn’t understand the training involved or the procedure used, though it has been explained to him numerous times. I got word that the Judiciary Chair was very annoyed with this particular Rep.
4. We are also addressing a raid on our Renewable Energy Fund by the legislature to use for the general budget. AIANH, along with many other state organizations, has contact legislators to oppose this illegal reallocation of funds.
5. Earlier in the year we spoke out against an attempt to legislate the ability of municipalities to disregard the energy code. That has been tabled for now, at least.
6. Tomorrow we have our annual event with the KSC Arch. Department, with Maria Aiolova of Terraform One speaking on Envisioning Future Cities...
7. Expecting 90+ people.
8. We are adding a small projects catetory to our next design awards program.
9. We are working on a followup series to our AIA+2030 program, with three full-day sessions this year beginning in September.

AIA Maine

1. Fellows:
 - AIA Maine member Gunnar Hubbard was elevated to the College of Fellows.
 - We are in the process of planning a “Demystifying Fellowship” lecture for members.
2. Design:
 - On May 14th the Design Committee will host our second AIA Maine Tour + Social in Central Maine Social. The tour will be of PDT’s new Capital Judicial Center in Augusta.
3. COTE:
 - AIA Maine is working with COTE groups from, BSA, AIA NH and Vermont for the “Northern New England AIA COTE Leadership Summit.” The event will take place on June 4th and 5th in Portland, Maine. Bob Berkebile FAIA will provide a lecture on June 4th. The lecture will be followed by a full day session that will bring firm leaders from our region together to collaborate and discuss the biggest obstacles to the 2030 initiative that they face in their everyday practices. The event will bring together 20-25 leaders from each state. (80-100 total) The majority of the group will be architects with a mix of contractors, engineers, developers, and marketing professionals in attendance as well.
 - The “Northern New England AIA COTE Leadership Summit” received a 2015 AIA Trust Component Grant in the amount of \$3,000.
 - In the fall we will start planning our 2015 COTE Awards program.
4. Legislative Affairs:
 - On April 22nd, our Legislative Affairs team testified in opposition of LD1093, An Act Requiring the Municipalities to Which the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code Applies. SUMMARY: Under current law, all municipalities of more than 4,000 residents must enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. Municipalities with 4,000 or fewer residents are not required to adopt or enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code, but if such a municipality adopts or enforces a building code, it must be the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. This bill increases the minimum threshold after which a municipality is required to enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code to more than 5,000 residents.
 - On February 23rd, AIA Maine attended a public hearing to testify against our governor’s budget proposal to create an extension of Sales Tax into Professional Services.
 - On February 26th, AIA Maine participated in a press conference to support a senior housing bond. The KeepME Home initiative aims to create safe, energy-efficient homes in which Maine’s seniors can successfully and affordably age in place.
5. Communications:
 - Our communications team is working on creating a new website. The team hopes to roll out the website by mid-summer.
6. Emerging Professionals

- Our EP team is organizing a study group for the AREs for any interested members.
7. Programs:
- Our programs team is planning an awards program in the fall to recognize the 25th anniversary of the ADA this year.

AIA Western MA

Our “Connecting to Craft” series, funded by an EP grant from College of Fellows in the amount of \$3600, concluded in March. The workshops were designed to help drafting and field architects establish greater understanding of materials, assembly details and standards assemblies by placing them in direct conversation with the people who build and install on the job site. The associated website will go live soon. We will circulate information on the website asap. I must acknowledge the commitment of our EP leaders (Dorrie Brooks Assoc AIA, Jason Newman Assoc AIA and Lindsay Schnarr Assoc AIA) for their hard work developing and implementing this program.

Our EPs also organized a meeting with Kimberly Tuttle AIA, NCARB outreach coordinator. A group of almost 20 EPs (not all members!) met with Kimberly at the office of Dietz & Company in Springfield; it was a very informative event. Jason Newman Assoc AIA (a board member and our Licensing (IDP) Coordinator) has been invited to make a presentation at the IDP conference this summer in San Diego.

We are working on an Art by Architects exhibition in the winter of 2015....more on this soon. Our spring film series was well attended. We showed films on the work of Schindler, Loos and Gaudi. For the final film (Gaudi) we piggybacked on a program organized by Prof. Karen Kohler Hon. WMAIA of Hampshire College. The film was shown to a sold-out audience at the downtown cinema in Amherst. Unintentionally all three films screened this season were without narration – note to self, narration is good!

WMAIA enjoyed a very productive visit from AIA Massachusetts, our legislative arm. President Elise Woodward AIA and executive John Nunnari Assoc. AIA met with our board and then with the members at large at an evening reception.

The four Massachusetts chapters will begin meeting today on the Member Services Alignment issue.

AIA Connecticut

Advocacy

- Nullem Tempus – AIA Connecticut continues to work with elected and appointed officials at various levels within the State to secure the adoption of a Statute of Limitations. Our bill has been voted favorably out of the General Law committee and we are waiting for it to go to the floor of the Senate. Working through the Office of the Governor, all State Agencies have approved the language in the bill. The draft bill contains a ten year Statute of Limitations and includes provisions to give the State Agencies until 2027 to bring suit for any projects completed prior to 2017.
- School Security Guidelines – We continue to work with the Department of Construction Services, Office of School Facilities to enact improvements to the School Security Guidelines

endorsed by the Legislature at the end of the Legislative session in 2014. The first draft of the technical supplement to accompany the Guidelines has been expected for several months. AIA Connecticut will be reviewing and commenting.

- School Building Projects Advisory Council – We continue to work with this working group appointed by the Governor. They are charged with looking at controlling costs for State granting to municipalities and school districts where school construction is involved. There is a proposal being considered by the Legislature which would require all municipalities to have gone through schematic design to have more realistic cost estimates before applying to the State for school construction grants. Additionally, the State is undertaking a study to create school construction ‘standards’.
- Codes and Standards Committee – We continue to work closely with our State Codes and Standards Committee to maintain a unified code across the State.

Professional Development

- May 8; *The World of Dimensional Stone*; 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm; 1 CE hour
- May 13; *The International Residential Code , Chapter 6*; 1:00pm - 4:00 pm; 3 HSW hours
- May 27; *Designing, Detailing and Constructing Rain Screen Systems*; 11:00 am - 2:30 pm;

3 HSW hours

- June 5; *Residential Steam Showers: Benefits, Specifications and Design*; 12:30 - 1:30 pm;

1 CE hour

- June 25; *Coastal Day*; 8:30 am - 4:30 pm; 5.5 HSW hours
- June 29; *An Evening with Susan Rodriguez, FAIA*; 5:00 - 7:00 om; 1 CE hour

Outreach

- May 5; Canstruction Build and Award Ceremony; NLC, Wallingford Campus; 10:30 am - 3:30 pm. Canstruction® combines charity and the innovative spirit of creativity in a unique design and build competition among teams of architects and local students. Using canned and boxed foods as construction materials, participating teams create individual “Canstructures” that will be constructed and exhibited at the NLC Wallingford Campus. At the end of the event, the structures are dismantled and all of the food is donated to the Connecticut Food Bank and Food Share.
- May 19; AIA Connecticut Golf / Tennis / Croquet Outing; The Farms Country Club; 180 Cheshire Road, Wallingford. Full day of golf or a half day of tennis or croquet. End of day reception attended by all players. This is a fun event and a wonderful networking event with members of the design and construction industry.
- Architecture and Health – Please join us on Wednesday, July 8. We will be inviting colleagues from the Department of Health and Human Services, Hospital Administrators and Public Health Professionals as well.
- AIA New England – We are working to shape a wonderful event for all those across AIA New England and invite you to plan to join us in Connecticut for this event this fall. The AIA New England Awards Evening will be hosted on Friday, October 30. We invite you to join us for a presentation with Stephen Chung, AIA who is the host of the PBS series Cool Spaces. The presentation which will be open to all will be at the Wilde Auditorium in the Harry Jack Bray

Center at the University of Hartford. The lecture will be followed by a reception for those attending the Awards program and held at the University's Joseloff Gallery and the Department of Architecture. Dinner and the celebratory AIA New England Design Awards will follow at the University's 1877 Club. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Upcoming

Please visit us at www.aiact.org/calendar. All of our extended family within the design and construction industry all across New England are always warmly welcomed at any AIA Connecticut event.

BSA:

Had Kids Build a couple of weeks ago with 800 kids who built a model city. Elementary and Middle School.

Had two teen programs that week as well for an in-depth build project.

The exhibit up now is on stereotype.

Next exhibit is "Bigger than a Breadbox."

October: CanStruction.

Then an exhibit on Gold Medal winner Safdi.

Downstairs is a model of Boston, and there will be exhibitions around that, more long term.

Design workshop a couple of weeks ago on housing, along with the city: workforce housing.

Forum tonight on public, private...

Demystifying Fellows at BSA: June 11 -12



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REPORT to AIANE

April 29, 2015

Submitted by Elise F. Woodward, AIA

AIA MA focuses on legislative and regulatory advocacy in Massachusetts for issues that have direct impact on the architectural profession.

The Government Affairs Committee meets monthly to track legislation as the sole committee of AIA MA.

The current focus is on legislative priorities for the 2015-2016 General Court Session. All recommendations will be brought to the board of AIA MA for their consideration.

The AIA MA Board met in December to elect new officers for 2015:

- Thomas Hartman, AIA, Immediate Past President
- Elise F. Woodward, AIA, President
- Ethan Anthony, AIA, President-Elect
- Ludmilla Pavlova-Gillham, AIA, Secretary

Legislative Advocacy

AIA MA legislative priorities for 2015-2016 include:

- Develop a strategy for making connections to new appointees in Governor Baker's Administration who will have an opportunity to influence the profession
- Communicate policy priorities with regard to sustainable development and construction to the new administration
- Follow proposed legislation on Revenue Neutral carbon fee proposed by Senator Michael Barrett
- Follow our proposed legislation designed to close the loophole in existing law that allows any board that promulgates building codes to ignore disapproval of the BCCC. Rep. Chris Walsh AIA agreed to sponsor a bill on behalf of AIA Massachusetts, filed as HD (House Docket) 1460 – An Act Establishing the Building Code Coordinating Council. In all, we were able to get 21 co-sponsors for the bill – which is a huge success!! They are as follows: Representatives Aciero, Brodeur, Donahue, DiNatale, DiZoglio, Dykema, Galvin, Garballey, Garlick, Kafka, Keefe, Kulik, McMurtry, Provost, Toomey and Vega; and Senators Gobi, Lewis, L'Italien, Spilka and Timilty.
- Focus on resolving challenges architects regularly encounter with public contracts. AIA MA will host gatherings of practitioners to:
Define the Issues, Discuss Strategies to Achieve Preferred Resolutions, and Frame the Advocacy Positions we may take to assist the membership.
 - Possible topics are:
 - the RFQ / RFP process
 - contractual obligations
 - liability / standard of care
 - fee structure
 - insurability clauses
 - tax issues.

*AIA Massachusetts is the consortium of the Boston Society of Architects,
the Central Massachusetts Chapter of the AIA and the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the AIA*



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Legislative Update (from John Nunnari, Executive Director AIA MA)

With legislative sessions being traditionally slow to start, and this session being notably slower, both the Speaker and the Senate President have already laid out their respective agendas. The Speaker has indicated his support for cost-effective clean energy for ratepayers to help the state achieve its clean energy goals; early education reform that focuses on providing early access to high quality programming; substance abuse; behavioral health; and economic development, especially in areas outside Greater Boston. On the Senate side, President Rosenberg has indicated a desire to update the Earned Income Tax credit; tap into the state's information technology expertise to improve the functioning of government; invest in public transit and all levels of education; address climate change to protect the shoreline; tackle income inequality; combat drug addiction; and reform the criminal justice system to be both "tough and smart".

Although new governors are afforded weeks of extra time to draft their first annual budgets, the timetable to have a budget in place, by July 1, remains the same. The House usually releases its version of the governor's budget before April school vacation week and debates it after that week, with the Senate taking up its budget in May and the branches working on a consensus budget in June.

As of March 11th, text for the 8,900 bills filed this session is just now becoming available to the public (this represents about a one month delay from the start of the last two-year session). With this availability comes the assignment of bills to committees by the Clerks of the House and Senate. Although the Legislature has no formal start date for committee hearings, with text now available and bill being assigned to committees, hearing are expected to start imminently. With this begin the working reality of the 2015-2016 session, and so as to best be equipped to advocate the policy positions of this organization, the AIA MA Government Affairs Committee will need to prepare itself to review a large number of bills in a rather short time frame.

As a reference, last session AIA MA tracked 140 separate pieces of legislation. Of that 140, 10 were considered either "top tier" or "second tier" priorities.

Lastly, as has been said in the past, in an ongoing effort to continually strengthen AIA's relationship with both the legislature and the executive, it is strongly encouraged that AIA MA Board members continue their efforts in reaching out to their respective membership to identify members who have personal relationships with members of both branches of the government. These relationships should be reported back up through the Board and to the Executive Director so that they may be documented and called upon when/if time is appropriate.

Regulatory Action

AIA MA has been asked to participate on the following state commissions/task forces each tasked with solving a particular problem related to the built environment.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Accelerated Energy Program - Commissioner Carol Cornelison, Chair.
Purpose: The Accelerated Energy Program (AEP) was established in December 2011 to accelerate the implementation of energy and water projects across the Commonwealth and help the Commonwealth comply with Executive Order 484, Clean Energy and Efficient Buildings, signed by Governor Patrick in April 2007. The Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) is working with the



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Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and other partners to retrofit 700 sites encompassing more than 4,800 buildings throughout the Commonwealth in 700 days.

Progress to Date: To better coordinate energy work as it relates to accessibility goals and requirements, a partnership was developed between the AEP and the DCAMM Office of Planning, Design and Construction (OPDC); work at a total of 142 sites is complete and 460 sites are underway; Initiated towards Zero Net Energy (TZNE) retrofits at 10 pilot sites to achieve deeper savings and install renewable energy systems. A comprehensive toolkit of information, FAQs, posters, certification plaques and awards has been developed to help communicate AEP work at each site. The AEP has developed roll-out plans with Courts, MassDOT and DCR that include customization of these materials and inclusion of agency logos to convey the collaborative partnership between DCAMM and the client agencies

Boston Survivors Accessibility Alliance – Dept. of Public Safety Commissioner Thomas Gatzunis

Purpose: DPS has established the Boston Survivors Accessibility Alliance (BSAA) to assist those who may need assistance with renovations to help transition to a new lifestyle. The focus of these services will be on home modifications; however, consideration may be given to modifications to businesses owned by the individual. These requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis. DPS is partnering with private and public individuals and groups in the building and construction industry to serve as the single point of contact, and a resource clearing house for services and goods which will be necessary to make these modifications. Modifications may include construction of ramps, widening doorways to accommodate wheelchairs, reconfiguring bathroom or kitchen space or other appropriate renovations.

The group will focus on assisting individuals in obtaining suitable design and construction services, sorting through permitting and approvals processes, and general guidance through what may otherwise be a daunting task. The hope is that these services will be donated and all fees waived.

Progress: Program is approximately 70% complete. AIA Massachusetts member Bob Onofrey AIA, who had been a principal at TRO/Jung Brannen was appointed as the first Project Manager of the BSAA program. Now that he has stepped down, Commissioner of Public Safety, Tom Gatzuntis has asked for AIA MA's assistance in finding a suitable replacement. Executive Director John Nunnari is reaching out to the FAIA/Emeritus community to see if there are any volunteers.

Casino Building and Site Design Update

Update: The City of Revere has filed suit in Suffolk Superior Court against the MA Gaming Commission, charging that it acted with bias and caprice in awarding the Greater Boston casino license to Wynn in

September. In filing the suit attorneys at law Mirick O'Connell notified AIA MA in writing on November 7th that, "Due to your involvement with the facts in this case, you are hereby notified to preserve all documents and electronically stored information...." The attorneys have indicated that no immediate action is required by AIA MA other than being aware that sometime in the future (if a judge decides the case has merit) it **may** be asked to produce documentation of its dealings with the Commission.

Blended Building Code

Goal: Work with the Building Board of Regulations and Standards (BBRS) to ensure that instead of the current practice of taking the ICC's base building code and adding Massachusetts "front-end" amendments to it, AIA MA will work to ensure that the upcoming 9th edition of the state building code is "blended", meaning that all MA amendments are "blended" into ICC's base IBC/IRC language.

Progress: Discussions are still ongoing between SoS/BBRS staff and ICC. BBRS staff is working toward a



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Spring 2015 promulgation of the 9th Edition with MA amendments. Given the upcoming change in Administration in January, and the associated regulatory slowdown that will occur while the new Administration gets itself up-and-running, it is much more likely that the BBRS will vote final promulgation of the 9th Edition in the Fall of 2015. The BBRS is still anticipating a January 1, 2016 implementation date.

Architectural Registration Board – New Regulations Issue: In October 2013 Massachusetts' Architectural Registration Board (ARB) proposed an updated set of regulations governing the practice of architecture in MA. After a variety of discussions with AIA MA regarding their proposals, the ARB voted to move into the Administrations review process a revised set of proposed regulations at their May 2014 meeting.

Progress: Upon taking office in January, Governor Baker instituted an across the board 3 month ban on the promulgation of any new regulations. In addition, the governor has charged Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash with a review of all existing state regulations with an eye toward elimination of anything un-needed. How this will affect the promulgation of the proposed 9th edition remains to be seen, but to date BBRS staff have given no indication that the either their time- line for promulgation has changed, nor has the request for the 9th edition to be blended changed.

New Fire Code Issue: In August 2014 the Board of Fire Preventions and Regulations (BFPR) voted to promulgate a new state fire code based on a national model code NFPA 1. At that time AIA MA voiced concern that various sections of the proposed new code contained: direct conflict, jurisdictional overlap or duplication with existing provisions of the 780 CMR state building code. AIA MA sent a letter to the Secretariats of Administration and Finance and Public Safety expressing its concerns. On November 14th members of AIA MA meet with the chairman of the BFPR and members of the Department of Fire Services to discuss AIA MA's concerns. It was agreed that all three groups would work to collaboratively address the issues raised by AIA MA.

Progress: AIA MA will work with Deputy State Fire Marshal Peter Ostrofsky to put together a small working group of individuals to begin addressing AIA MA's concerns.