



# AIA New England Regional Council

## **AIANE Regional Quarterly Board Meeting**

### **U.S. Custom House, Portland, Maine**

September 30, 2016

Noon

#### **Present:**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Judy Johnson AIA             | President, AIANE  |
| Vada Seccareccia, Assoc. AIA | President-Elect, AIANE (RI)                               |
| Alan Lagocki AIA             | AIANE Secretary/Treasurer (CT)                            |
| Diantha Korzun AIA           | Past-President, AIANE (VT)                                |
| Michael Hoffmann AIA         | NE AIA Strategic Council Representative (VT)              |
| Rich Connell AIA             | NE AIA Strategic Council Representative (CT)              |
| Christen Robbins AIA         | President, AIARI  |
| Jen Space Assoc. AIA         | President Elect, AIARI                                    |
| Diane H. Jones               | Exec. Director, AIACT                                     |
| Rob Tillotson AIA            | President, AIAME  |
| John Robinson AIA            | AIA Resilience and Disaster Asst. Committee, NE Rep (WMA) |
| Jay L. Lawrence AIA          | President, AIANH  |
| Peter Kuttner FAIA           | NE COF Liaison (BSA)                                      |
| Lorin Starr                  | Executive Director, AIA WMA                               |
| Carol Miklos                 | Executive Director, AIAVT                                 |
| Carolyn Isaak, Hon. AIANH    | Exec. Director AIANH and AIANE                            |
| Katie Wetherbee Wise AIA     | NE Regional Associate Director (ME) 2015-2016             |
| Stephanie Herring Assoc. AIA | NE Regional Associate Director (ME) 2017-2018             |
| Billy Craig                  | Managing Director, Operations, BSA                        |
| Eric Morrow AIA              | Vice President, AIAVT                                     |

#### **1. Call to order/Minutes approval:**

Judy opened the meeting at 12:07 pm. Attendees introduced themselves. John R. moved to approve the minutes from the August 24 meeting. Seconded by Alan L. Approved.

#### **2. President's report:**

Since last board meeting adjustments were made to the MOU based on last meeting's discussion. Judy reached out to members for new secretary-treasurer. Chris Walsh from C MA has agreed.

#### **3. MOU**

Michael H moved to dissolve the current AIANE Bylaws at the end of 2016 and to adopt the MOU at the beginning of 2017, with policies as Carolyn noted. Christen seconded. Approved.

Our goal and desire is to have those representing us at the National level to continue to do anything they can to lobby for financial travel and conference coverage for anyone involved in National committees and groups.

The Board asked Carolyn to post the MOU online and to send a Press Release to AIA National and CACE.

**4. Policies**

Carolyn reviewed the current policies (from 10/29/2014) and changes that need to be made to fit with the MOU. She will distribute updated Policies and Procedures document. Changes include removing travel reimbursement for the President and Executive Director to Grassroots and some language change in the RAD and YARD sections.

**5. Budget**

Katie moved to leave one year in reserves to cover our operating costs. Rob T. seconded. Approved. Jay P. moved to accept the proposed 2017 operating costs budget as presented. Diantha seconded. Approved.

Vada moved to reimburse AIACT \$1500 of the \$3500 they paid in 2015 for the AIANE Conference Contribution, as we had raised the rate that year, and since put it back to the original amount. John R. seconded. Approved. CI will send them a check.

**6. Nominations**

Alan L. moved to elect Chris Walsh AIA as Secretary/Treasurer of AIA New England for 2017. Vada S. seconded. Approved.

**7. Public Policies**

Board members reviewed AIA Public policies prior to the meeting. There were no changes recommended.

**8. Strategic Council**

Rich C. and Michal H: Council elected a new moderator, added an at-large director to the AIA Board, and four at-large members to the Strategic Council. Council is trying to evolve to truly thinking strategically. At-large members bring a broader view to the table. There are 7 study groups. They will all report at the December Board meeting. Goal is to be more focused next year and have more opportunity to represent AIA New England. Rich says Michael has been terrific in keeping AIANE in front at the Council and represented New England well. Rich thanked Michael for his excellent work.

**Discussion:** Diane asked if seven study groups are too many. December meeting might be a good time to ask why there are so many committees. Another possibility is to let members be on more than two committees.

Moving forward we should look for public members from New England.

Can we get any background of what is being discussed in the study groups? Knowledge, prosperity, sustainability, and workforce would be good topics to focus on. Rich: it is evolving. But Council doesn't know what initiatives the Board is focusing on in the coming year, either.

AIA Board members often come to Council meetings. And Council reps serve on Board committees; so there is a cross fertilization going on. The Board committees are where business of New England might get done. How do you get on a Board committee? They can appoint at-large members for

committees. Who do you lobby to get an at-large member on the board or Strategic Council? Something to pursue and strategize... We want to support and move people to the National stage. On NAC they have accepted at large members who have not had an exposure to AIA. Previous exposure works better.

As a region, should we ask: is this AIA repositioning in governance working?  
Note that opt out on dues form will now be an opt in.

## **9. RAD**

Judy welcomed Stephanie Herring to the Board. Katie is transitioning off committees on NAC. She has given an exit interview and connected Stephanie with NAC and staff people.

Elizabeth Cox and Katie are continuing with the Firm diversity/equity award initiative. How would firms apply? They are hashing it out a little more. There have been numerous firm awards. Elizabeth and Katie as NE, wanted to take a look at this on their own. Talked about creating Equity/Diversity firm label, a checklist/suggestions for best practices. They will work on this during the coming year and have hopes of it being adopted as a company label any firm would want to adopt.

Stephanie works at Cambridge 7. Just met with Katie this morning, and is looking forward to the position. Judy thanked Katie for her service.

AIAS Forum will be held at end the end of December-Jan 1  
Judy will connect with Kim Tuttle about this.

## **10. College of Fellows**

- This is Peter's last meeting as COF liaison. We have not yet found a replacement. Peter is talking with someone from BSA and someone from W Mass.
- Peter is staying on the COF Board as bursar for two years, vice chancellor, then Chancellor of COF in 2020.
- COF is having board meeting in Providence right now.
- New Fellows Jury was announced for 2017.  
Peter and Glenn are trying to figure out how to have more influence on COF Board.
- Still working on mentoring, how to find the sweet spot of how that works.
- The COF is doing a branding study. Trying to recognize people who are passionate and who have accomplished something unusual and focus on the very broad range of things architects do.
- Motto: "A passion for the profession."
- How can AIANE move someone on to executive council of COF?
- Judy thanked Peter for his long, long service.

## **11. AIA Disaster Assistance Committee**

John R. reported that they have rewritten the Disaster Handbook, which is way too long, with 90+ pages, so it's gone back to the editors. Goal is to have 6 pages of important info, and then appendices.

They will talk about how to reach out to various chapters to help them put together a statewide coordinator under AIA. Need to look at this regionally.

## **12. Digital Transformation**

As of today the new website has not yet fully unrolled. It is available for people to review. Should be ready by the end of the year.

## **13. Looking forward**

Now that we have finished with our long reorganization effort, we can get down to addressing topics that effect our members here in New England, the profession as a whole, and that we wish to lobby for or against to the AIA Board. Goal is to discuss one or two topics at a meeting after very brief period for approval of minutes and financial report. Board members made the following suggestions for topics of discussion:

- Specialization credentialing
- NCARB is starting to get into content and programming
- Look Up advertising; AIA App
- How to bring collective power to bring pricing down: AIA and Architecture 2030 Training tools and film series
- AIAU: asking people to pay
- How to encourage architects to join AIA; What is the value of being an AIA member?
- Promotion of architects in the New England region. Any potential at Big E?
- ArchiPAC

Submit your topic at any time!

## **14. Meeting dates for 2017:**

*AIANE Board Meetings:*

February 15, April 19, August 23 at BSA and Sept or Oct in NH (AIANE Awards and Annual Meeting)

*Other AIA events:*

Grassroots: March 8-10, 2017

Convention: April 27-29, Orlando, FL

## **15. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned approx. 3:00 pm