



AIA New England Regional Council

AIANE Regional Quarterly Board Meeting

March 1, 2017

Noon

Boston Society of Architects

Present:

Vada Seccareccia, Assoc. AIA	President, AIANE (RI)
Alan Lagocki AIA	President-Elect (CT)
Chris Walsh AIA	AIANE Secretary/Treasurer (C MA)
Judy Johnson AIA	NE AIA Strategic Council Representative (ME)
Jen Space Assoc. AIA	President, AIARI
Diane H. Jones	Exec. Director, IAICT
Kay Stevens Rosa AIA	President, AIAME
John Robinson AIA	AIA Resilience and Disaster Asst. Committee, NE Rep (WMA)
Sheldon Pennoyer AIA	President, AIANH
Steve Lewis AIA	President, AIA C MA
Ethan Anthony AIA	President-elect, AIA C MA
Helen Fantini AIA	President, AIA WMA
Peter Kuttner FAIA	NE COF Liaison (BSA)
Lorin Starr	Executive Director, AIA WMA
Bonnie Kastel	Executive Director, AIANH
Carolyn Isaak, Hon. AIANH	Exec. Director AIANE
Stephanie Herring Assoc. AIA	NE Regional Associate Director (ME) 2017-2018
Elizabeth Cox AIA	NE Young Architects Regional Director (BSA) 2015-2017
Eric White	Executive Director, BSA
Jennifer Space AIA	President, AIARI
Jen Zolkos	Executive Director, AIARI
Emily Grandstaff-Rice FAIA	Guest
Glenn Gregg FAIA	NE COF Liaison (BSA)
Jeannette Schram	Executive Director, AIAME

1. President's report:

President: Vada recapped our effort to focus on being an effective conduit from our region to national for issues, ideas, and support of our membership. We've simplified how our organization works going forward. We have a memorandum with each other as a working committee, and are no longer an organization with bylaws. Our focus: What is the value of AIA membership, how do we bring more value to membership.

The Grassroots AIANE dinner will be on Wednesday, March 8, 6:30 pm at the Old Ebbit Grill, 675 15th St. NW, Washington, DC. Right now we have 21 people attending. If you have not rsvp'd to Carolyn please do so ASAP.

John Robinson moved to accept the September Annual meeting minutes. Alan Lagocki seconded. Approved.

2. Financial

Financial report was reviewed; reiterated that monies will transfer to BSA account; AIANE will still track and prepare meeting reports. Explained reimbursement of investment reserve funds to components. (See September minutes)

3. ANNUAL MEETING

AIANH reported on the 2017 Annual meeting plans. It will be Friday night through Sunday, September 29-Oct. 1, in Portsmouth. They are putting together speakers and workshops. The Awards celebration will be at 3S Artspace on Saturday evening with a keynote speaker. Tours on Sunday will be in Exeter.

4. Strategic Council

Judy: Judy started with orientation in December. There was a lot of discussion about the role of the Strategic Council. They view themselves as a “think tank.” There are about 54 members. 20 members in her class, four of them women.

We should take a look at at-large positions and try to fill them with NE people. Council elects its own at-large members that then go on to the board. There is a lot of lobbying that goes on. Judy discovered that many in her class already had relationships with people in the group and on committees. She’s looking at ways to take leadership roles. Each class was asked to review a policy statement; Judy led that discussion.

They are looking for a “futurist” to be an at large member.

Class of 2019 had a steering committee meeting in Jan and a call in February to discuss priorities. Resiliency and housing rose to the top.

Lasts Friday there was a Council webinar meeting to prepare for next week’s meeting. They are talking about different communication mechanisms. Everything should be very transparent. Looking at some systems to be repository for documents. They are looking at creating some kind of Strategic Council communication items, including a newsletter, a few times a year.

Study groups will be determined at the next meeting. They will take on a more prominent presence at Grassroots, Town Hall conversations, etc.

Conference on Architecture will include informal group meetings with SC members.

Eric: AIANE should take up strong positions on the environment, housing, etc. BSA has created a 10-point document and sent to AIA National. Could be something we can all use.

5. Guest: Emily Grandstaff-Rice FAIA

Emily is a former BSA president. In 2016 she chaired AIA's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Commission and explored why we don't reflect the society we serve. They looked at ethnic, gender, practice, socio-economic issues throughout the profession. She presented to AIA Board three times, prepping them about recommendations. This is about the future sustainability of the profession. She has 11 recommendations for firms, regions, and the profession at large. They met two weeks ago to begin implementing these recommendations.

Emily is running for at-large director on the AIA Board. She stressed that architecture affects lives; it is important. Our work drives GDP. An architect on teams creating policy is very valuable. She wants to be an advocate for New England and the future of the profession.

Chris W. stressed how important this is. Not understanding the process, being represented, is very detrimental to our area, the profession, and the values we hold.

Eric: Emily can speak to us, but can't go to other regions except at formal caucus sessions. But we can call other chapters to get them to support her. We should take very active position. Emily's website: <http://egrfaia.com/>

Diane: if we had a NE group willing to help Emily, that would be able to talk to people and contact people. There is an opportunity to partner with other regions that want to support her. There is a lot to counteract as Dan is very well known. Chris Walsh volunteered to be on her "Campaign committee" along with Eric and Diane. Any others interested in helping out should contact Emily at Grandstaff-rice@Arrowstreet.com.

6. **RAD**

Stephanie: NAC had its first incoming committee conference call in January. Jan. 30 all RADS conference call. They w have work groups this year: advocacy, mentorship, future workforce, future partnerships. She is on the mentorship work group. She has contacted all NE EPN chairs. Some states have calendar in place, others still working out their schedule. Met with Elizabeth this past week to talk about ways to bring the NE states together. What can AIANE provide to emerging professionals? She has been thinking about work skills: negotiation, networking, project. They will have a conference call of all chairs and establish a common theme in New England for this year that they can all tap into.

Please let her know about EP events in your states.

7. **YARD**

Elizabeth thanked Council members for input on the Diversity and Equity label. She and Katie Wetherbee Wise are compiling comments, and Stephanie is helping out as well. They'll send out again to everyone.

Had YAF kick off meeting Feb. 21. She encourages other states to talk with BSA about group of emerging professionals to meet for lunch with leaders of firms to talk about anything!

National issues: annual meeting next week. She will attend via Webx and will report back. She's part of a regional engagement focus group: how to engage regions on a national level and bring back to national in form of recommendations.

Quad conference is coming up.

Use of “intern”

We discussed the suggested terminology from AIA for people formerly known as “interns.” Removing intern from use is a difficult process. The newly approved statement from the AIA Board reads:

“The AIA supports the title of “intern” for students who are working in an architectural office while actively pursuing architecture degrees in programs accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), or studying in pre-professional programs.

“The AIA supports the title of “Architectural Associate” or “Design Professional” for those who 1) have earned a degree from a program accredited by NAAB, or who have met education/experience requirements in their jurisdiction AND 2) are participating in the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards’ Architectural Experience Program or are meeting their jurisdictions’ experience requirements .”

Of course, laws would prohibit the use of the terms in many states, and AIA has no authority to establish such titles, they are only suggestions. AIA asks that we try to implement change in our state laws/rules. Here is a link to a quick survey they produced asking whether or not your state could work to change these titles: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R66NRN8>

More info: <https://www.aia.org/articles/51416-intern-no-more-aia-supports-two-new-titles-f>

The AIA Center for Emerging Professionals will be available to answer questions at Grassroots. You can also contact them at emergingprofessionals@aia.org

And if your are a licensure candidate interested in helping make changes in your state, they ask you to fill out this form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCF3XD9>

8. Disaster Assistance

John R. noted that after two years of work, the handbook will be available online on March 24. The website path to reach it is hard to get to right now, hopefully will become more accessible. He will send out link. The handbook is huge: what’s new is that there are lots of case studies, how to put together Good Sam legislation, how do you connect with state emergency management, etc. They are looking for more case studies. Need for this work is obvious. They will be offering a session at the AIA Conference, 7-8 am, on April 27th. There is a track on resilience at the conference as well.

9. DISCUSSION

Advocacy:

BSA’s recommendations to the AIA Advocacy Agenda (reference above) are on the BSA website. We should be advocating for certain issues. They prepared 10 points. A couple that were initially recommended were taken off to stay focused on areas that depend on expertise of architects. The statements have to do with equity, the environment. Eric recommends we take a strong stand. On website at: <http://www.architects.org/civic-engagement> under political landscape.

Do we want to bring these points to the conversation with our visits to representatives at Grassroots?

IF we like this list, we can use, present to our board, take what we want to legislatures for our state. BSA has no problem with copy and paste! Think about how you want to talk to your delegation.

Chris: one of great things of AIA New England, architects are group who are very similarly educated across the country. So we can talk with people beyond our reps, talk about these value statements, to other members around the country. So at Grassroots, talk with the other architects who are there. Opportunity to share values. He also noted that one of hallmarks of our profession is the ability to go from one part of the world to another and back again with a free flow of ideas across the globe

Also, have the opportunity to turn the table when with legislators. How can we help out? Ask your rep to get you appointed to something.

NE Corridor: Architects need to be in the room. Need to look at things regionally.

New Director of Policy is going to be established at AIA National.

Education: collective power of AIANE.

Are there a certain amount of CEUs that members could get each year as part of membership? YARD is lobbying for this and talked about it at their last meeting. Would be very helpful to smaller firms and sole proprietors who can't benefit from firm lunch and learns, for example. Structure so each year has a theme, ensuring the advancement of knowledge on a certain topic.

How to ask AIA National? Formulate a statement, first.

Added value to membership. Added value of AIA architect to the public.

What's the impact we can have on the profession and the community at large.

AIA's impact: how AIA can represent us at large.

What about smaller chapters working together on programming that gets shared? Regional collaborations to support membership; reaching out to National. We will continue discussion about regional collaboration.

10. AIA Conference

This year voting and business meetings occurs at the AIA Conference before the conference begins. So we must send our delegates down early to be there in time. Accreditation, the Regional Caucuses, Candidate Speeches and the Annual Business Meeting will all happen prior to the start of the convention, on Wednesday, April 26th. For your planning purposes, please see the agenda below.

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation will now take place outside the Expo Hall, near registration, which will make it easier for delegates to find and to be accredited when they come to pick up their registration materials.

Hours: Tuesday, April 25, at 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm;

Wednesday, April 26, at 6:30 am - 12:30 pm

The hours of accreditation are important to remember. Accreditation will close sharply at 12:30 pm

on Wednesday, April 26. Anyone who is not accredited by then will not be able to serve as a delegate or vote.

REGIONAL CAUCUSES

Regional Caucuses with candidates will be held Wednesday, April 26, from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm.

CANDIDATE SPEECHES AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Institute, including candidate speeches, will immediately follow the Regional Caucuses on Wednesday, April 26, from 2:45 pm - 5:30 pm.

VOTING

Voting for officers will be outside the Expo Hall, near the registration area, which makes it more convenient for delegates to vote.

Hours: Thursday, April 27 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm).

In the event of a run-off election, voting will take place on Friday, April 28 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

This is a big change from what we are all accustomed, so please take note!

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:02. Moved by Sheldon Pennoyer, seconded by Helen Fantini.

Meeting dates for 2017:

AIANE Board Meetings:

March 1, April 19, August 23 at BSA, noon

Sept 29 in Portsmouth, NH (AIANE Awards and Annual Meeting)

Other AIA events:

Grassroots: March 8-10, 2017

Convention: April 27-29, Orlando, FL