



# AIA New England Regional Council

## AIA NEW ENGLAND COMPONENT REPORTS

**March 1, 2017**

### AIA RHODE ISLAND

- We are hosting our annual open house (Billiards Night) this Thursday, March 2, 2017. This year we decided to focus on networking and acknowledging our members as opposed to a program oriented.
- In May AIARI will partner with IIDANE on Green RI at the Roger Williams Park Botanical Garden showcasing sustainable products and offering seminar sessions throughout the event. There will also be a tour of the renovated building.
- We are continuing our EP Construction Tour Series and will be hosting an NCARB event in Providence in April. Plans are in the works for both.
- This year we are collaborating with the RI Composite Alliance to host a conference at RWU highlighting composite technology and the built environment. This conference is being sponsored by TREMCO and will feature experts in the composite world, tours of several composite workshops and facilities in Bristol, RI and will culminate with a reception at the RWU Sailing Center. This is an ongoing partnership with TREMCO and a new collaboration with the alliance.
- We continue to collaborate with other design organizations and will be meeting with members of DesignxRI to participate in the Annual RI Design Week in September 2017

### AIA CONNECTICUT

#### Advocacy

- School Building Projects Advisory Council – The Standards and Guidelines which have been adopted may be found on the State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services website at <http://www.ct.gov/dcs/cwp/view.asp?a=4217&q=507514>. The Council has adopted construction costs for NEW school construction project should be achievable at a cost of no more than \$365 per square foot in Connecticut. This cost per square foot is for construction only. The committee approved a motion, which would fund soft costs (architect fees, consultant fees, etc) at 15% for NEW construction and 17% for renovation projects. Detailed information may be found on the State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services webpage and will be updated as additional information becomes available.
- Codes and Standards Committee – Effective October 1, 2016 the State of Connecticut began following the 2012 ICC family of Codes. The Codes and Standards Committee is working now to review the 2015 ICC family of Codes. Information regarding the process for submitting code proposal changes can be found on our website at <http://aiact.org/about-aia-connecticut/committees/building-performance-regulations/>.

#### Professional Development

- March 15: Changes from the 2009 to 2012 International Building Code (IBC), 1:00 to 4:00, 3 HSW hours
- March 30: Sustainability and Historic Preservation Part II: Case Studies in Balancing Competing Demands, 1:00 to 4:00, 3 HSW hours.
- April 5: New Connecticut Fire Codes: Program 1, Application of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code, 1:00 to 5:00, 4 HSW hours.
- May 23: **New Connecticut Fire Codes: Program 2, Concepts of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code, 1:00 to 5:00 pm., 4 HSW hours.**
- **April 21: The Economics of Intelligent Building, 12:30 to 1:30pm., 1 HSW hour.**

#### **Outreach**

- Bowling Social, February 28, 5:30 to 9:00, Wallingford Bowl
- AIA Connecticut 2017 Awards Programs announced. [www.aiact.org](http://www.aiact.org)
  - Business Architecture Award (entry deadline March 17)
  - Alice Washburn Award (entry deadline April 17)
  - Emerging Architect Award (nomination deadline June 1)
  - Public Service Award (nomination deadline July 10)
  - Design and People's Choice Awards (Entry deadline July 28)
  - Chrysalis Award (nomination due September 22)
- Golf/Tennis/Croquet, May 9, 11:00 to 6:00, The Farms Country Club

#### **Upcoming**

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

#### **AIA NEW HAMPSHIRE**

- In 2017 AIANH will continue to push for the adoption of the IBC 2015 Code as well as the 2015 Energy Code. This has been attempted in years past and we are somewhat hopeful that this can be passed in 2017 with some amendments, despite the new Republican Governor.
- Senate Bill 21: To clarify the definitions of exemptions for projects not requiring a licensed architect. Other licensing matters are included in this bill.
- The Environmental Guild of AIANH is working on programs for the 2030 & Beyond series for 2017.
- AIANH is in the middle of planning for the AIANE conference at the end of September.

#### **AIA VERMONT**

##### **Programs**

- We're in preparations for our next AIAVT-CSIVT ACX conference – May 11, 2017. Theme is "Leading by Design."
- Also in preparations to host COTE 2017 June 8-9 in Burlington. Focus 2030 District Planning, LBC, policy and advocacy. Clark Brockman, Sera Architects, invited to be keynote.

##### **Public Policy**

- We have had several meetings with Vt.'s Dept. of Fire Safety re: their provision of permits for projects that don't involved licensed professionals – yet should in accordance with Vermont law. For some projects, the Dept.'s staff are driving out to sites, meeting with owners and builders, and

telling them what they need to do to be compliant, rather than instructing them that a licensed professional must be involved.

- We've been asked to support mandatory contractor registration perhaps in the style of Rhode Island.

### AIA CENTRAL MA

- **2016 Programs** and opportunities offered 40+ LUs and included several building and neighborhood tours/discussions; Building Envelope Science and Living Building seminars; MA State House visit, tour and presentation with Rep. Chris Walsh and David Fixler (EYP); and an architectural scavenger hunt with Worcester CSI!
- **2016 Design Award Dinner and Presentation** was held at the Tower Hill Botanical Garden. The evening, attended by 60 members and guest, acknowledged four central MA projects and highlighted our chapter's 2016 activities.
- Our **2017 winter/spring** (through May) lineup of programs include:
  - "LEED Platinum or Else!" Seminar. (Jan)
  - 2 Boston seaport projects with AIACM involvement (tours and discussions): Our Lady of Good Voyage Chapel (Cram and Ferguson Architects; AutoDesk R+D Center (Consigli Construction). (Feb)
  - 2 Building Code Seminars: MA AAB; 9<sup>th</sup> Edition Building Code.
  - 2 Building Tours: Clark University Student Center and Campus; WPI Robotics Lab.
  - An Evening with Central MA State legislators at the Sprinkler Factory Art Space.
- Our chapter will be sending attendees to **AIA Grassroots** (March) and **AIA National Convention** (April).
- We continue our **outreach to other organizations** in Central MA: Worcester CSI, Preservation Worcester, USGBC.
- **Strategic planning** for: Increasing affiliate membership, public design film night, increasing member engagement, student scholarship, and honoring newly registered architects.

### AIA MAINE

- AIA Maine is touring our 2016 Design Awards projects across the state. The goal of this tour is to engage the public in the work of Maine architects. We had opening ceremonies and displays at:
  - Waterfall Arts in Belfast
  - Engine Studios in BiddefordFuture displays will be at:
  - UMA Richmond Gallery in Augusta
  - Portland – location tbd
- Our board of directors has made it a priority in 2017 to streamline our committees to better serve our members.
- Our members were treated to a great lecture by Angela Adams of Angela Adams designs for our Annual Meeting.
- We hosted a tour of two Passive House projects designed by GO Logic of Belfast. One project was of an elementary school and one was a private residence. Both were under construction.

- Our design committee has made it a priority in 2017 to make our biennial awards program an annual awards program.

#### **AIA WESTERN MA**

- We ended 2016 with our awards dinner at Gateway City Arts, an event space in a repurposed mill in Holyoke, MA. Our awards were juried by AIA Westchester/Hudson Valley. This was also our annual meeting and presentation of our 2 scholarships funded by the chapter and AIA national. We presented two honorary memberships: one to retiring state representative Ellen Story and the other to Marcos Marrero, Director of Planning and Economic Development for the City of Holyoke.
- We kicked off 2017 with a tour of the newly opened design building at UMASS/Amherst. This building houses the department of architecture as well as Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning, and Building Construction Technology.
- Our next program is a tour of the Hitchcock Center for the Environment — a living building challenge project.
- We recently started a COTE committee that is talking about various initiatives in the coming year including the chapter continuing the Green Giants award program, which acknowledges people in non-architecture fields who have made significant contributions to sustainability .
- We're working with the city of Northampton on a competition focused on green affordable housing — submissions likely in the fall with a winter exhibition