AIANE Regional Quarterly Board Meeting
APRIL 19, 2017
Noon
Boston Society of Architects

Present:
LIST IS INCOMPLETE/INACCURATE. PLEASE ADVISE OF YOUR ATTENDANCE....

Vada Seccareccia, Assoc. AIA            President, AIANE (RI)
Alan Lagocki AIA                        President-Elect, AIANE (CT)
Jen Space Assoc. AIA                    President, AIARI
Rich Connell AIA                        AIA Strategic Council Representative (CT)
George Fellner AIA                      President, AIACT
Sheldon Pennoyer AIA                    President, AIANH
Steve Lewis AIA                         President, AIA C MA
Helen Fantini AIA                       President, AIA WMA
Nancy Ludwig FAIA                       NE COF Liaison (BSA)
Lorin Starr                             Executive Director, AIA WMA
Stephanie Herring Assoc. AIA            NE Regional Associate Director (ME) 2017-2018
Eric White                              Executive Director, BSA
Glenn Gregg FAIA                        NE COF Liaison (CT)
Jeanette Schram                         Executive Director, AIAME
Elizabeth Cox AIA                       YA Regional Director (BSA)
Judy Johnson AIA                        NE AIA Strategic Council Representative (ME)

1. STRATEGIC COUNCIL REPORT
   Have people take survey sent by Judy – meeting at convention so try to respond before then
   Rich and Judy to coordinate reports moving forward
   Every 3 years, year 1 – revisit and update institutes strategic plan
   Every 3 years, year 2 – break out objectives and form working groups
   Every 3 years, year 3 – supposed to investigate topics further, but looked at additional topics
   Strategic Council now has the opportunity to publish on a regular basis
   Each Strategic Council member is looking to have cabinet – AIA NE is that body
   Strategic Council is reaching out to members to hold a fireside chat at ABX to get member
   feedback. Judy will reach out to Eric about this.

2. CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE
   AIA New England is supporting Emily Grandstaff-Rice for Member-at-Large on the AIA National
   Board.

3. RAD REPORT
   EP pop-up events are planned for the convention floor at the AIA National Conference
   NAC DC meeting had workgroups that focused on Mentoring, Advocacy, Future Workforce,
Strategic Partnerships, and Communications.
Stephanie will be talking further to the new EP directors in the regional components.
AIA Quad Conference is open to all New England states, but it includes PA, NJ, NY, & CT, and it is being held in Albany, NY.

4. **DISCUSSION**

*Specialized credentialing*

- AIA board approved specialty credentialing to begin in 2018. The resolution was to study the impacts.
- Currently, the two most widely accepted specialized credentialing are LEED and the Academy for Architecture & Health

*Regional high-speed rail*

- Conference call to discuss the proposals for modifications to the northeast rail corridor to support high-speed rail.
- Rail efficiency and connectivity can be a key driver of economic growth in the region
- Architects should be involved in the discussion to help bring the insight of the profession to the decisions that are being made about the rail infrastructure
- Each state and region of a state (e.g., Western MA and Metro Boston) has different needs and priorities that will be difficult the align since so much of the rail infrastructure improvements are driven by political will
- AIA NE can help to bring a voice to the region as a whole and help empower architects to get involved in the conversation at their local level

5. **Brainstorm topics for next meeting**

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion – What resources is the AIA providing to help educate firms and the profession? Invite Emily Grandstaff-Rice to a future meeting to discuss.
- Member Services – How can the AIA provide more robust education and resources available to members?

6. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Carolyn was not present for this meeting, but send along the financial report ahead of time.

**Remaining Meeting dates for 2017:**

*AIANE Board Meeting:*
August 23, noon, at the BSA
October 20 in Portsmouth, NH (AIANE Awards and Conference)

**Important Dates – 2018**

Grassroots, March 12-14, San Diego
AIA Conference on Architecture, June 21-23, NYC
April 19, 2017

Advocacy

• It is looking probable that there will be a reduction in State funding for future school construction projects coming out of this year’s legislative session.

Professional Development

• May 23: New Connecticut Fire Codes: Program 2, Concepts of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code, 1:00 to 5:00, 4 HSW hours
• April 21: The Economics of Intelligent Building, 12:30 to 1:30, 1 HSW hours.
• May 10: Insulation and High Performance Envelopes: Moisture Management and the Keys to Durability, 1:00 to 4:00, 3 HSW hours

Outreach

• Tour of Grace Farms, May 4, 3:30 to 6:00, 1.5 HSW hours
• Golf/Tennis/Croquet, May 9, 11:00 to 6:00, The Farms Country Club

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.
In March we toured the Hitchcock Center for the Environment --a living building challenge project -- in Amherst, MA.

Our film series returns on April 25th (continuing on 5/2 and 5/9) with the design triology: Helvetica, Objectified and Urbanized.

Our new COTE committee that is spearheading several programs:
- May 18 – a program on the Commercial Energy Code (in conjunction with UMASS Facilities)
- A Building Tour of the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Field Headquarters Building in Westborough, MA, a 45,000 SF Net-Zero Energy Building.
- A seminar on the AIA 2030 Commitment/Challenge with the hopes of engaging more local firms to sign on.
- Green Giants 2017 This popular awards program honors the work of Trades People, Educators and Owners/Program Directors who help build, teach about, envision and fund green buildings in Western Massachusetts. Awards will be presented at the WMAIA Annual Meeting in December.

Our new Women in Architecture Committee (headed by our 4 women FAIA members) has a kick-off meeting on May 9th.

Our first (possibly annual) day of service is scheduled for May 20th. We have partnered with Gardening the Community (GTC) out of Springfield, MA for this first year. A fantastic, vibrant, growing non-profit that could use some helping hands.

We're working with the city of Northampton on a competition focused on green affordable housing--submissions will likely be in the fall with a February 2018 exhibition date.
AIA Maine is working on the following:

- 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 Biddeford
  Future displays will be at:
  - UMA Richmond Gallery in Augusta
  - Portland – location tbd
- We are working with our Senator to bring more interest/awareness to Maine regarding cross laminated timber (CLT).
- We have refreshed our website for 2017.
- We are hosting a Women in Design and Construction event to gauge interest in a possible ongoing group. This event has already received a lot of interest from members and not-members alike.
- Our COTE team is working with VT for the Northern New England AIA COTE Summit.
AIAri, IDANE Providence City Center, and RISLA are joining together to host the 2017 Green RI Sustainable Product Showcase this May. Companies producing earth-friendly building materials will be setting up shop to display their latest and greatest products for industry members to view. In addition to exploring the tradeshow floor, Attendees will be have the opportunity to attend CEU presentations, network with peers, and learn about the latest innovations regarding sustainable products from various vendors.

We are sponsoring two events this spring to outreach to the community. The first is the Annual Statewide Preservation Conference focusing on the southern part of RI in Westerly, Charlestown and Watch Hill. The other is Open Doors RI, which is an event that takes place throughout the city connecting the public to great, hidden and inaccessible places.

We are planning our Summer Conference that will partner with the RI Composite Alliance that will include several sessions and tours of the International Yacht Restoration School and several composite shops in Bristol RI.
Below is a summary of what has been happening since our March meeting.

**AIA Strategic Council Assembly and Grass Roots: 8-10 March 2017**

**Activities**
- **8 April** Strategic Council Assembly
- **9-10 April** Grass Roots

Attached is the Strategic Council Brief that describes the activities of the Council during the Strategic Council Assembly and at Grassroots. This document is being presented to the Board of Directors but below are some of the highlights:

**Strategic Council Assembly:**
At the assembly, we developed our workgroup topics. There are 8 working groups and include the following topics:
- New Urban Agenda
- Public Valuation of Architecture – I am the convener for this group
- Architecture Quality Index
- Innovative Business Models
- Emerging Technologies
- Local Office of the City Architect Initiative
- New Urban Agenda and Local Research / Knowledge Exchange
- Architect Life Cycle

The work groups developed an initial brief and I have attached that brief for your review as well.

**Grassroots:**
The strategic Council also had a more visible presence at Grassroots and we participated in 4 discussion topics which are highlighted in the attached document and includes the following topics:
- Resilient Cities
- Walkable Cities
- Heritage Cities
- 21st Century Cities

**The Bridge at Grassroots:**
Also at Grassroots the members of the Strategic Council ‘manned’ the wall where we engaged members in conversation about where we wanted AIA to be in 2025. I wrote the summary for that and it is attached as well.
Public Valuation of Architecture – Working Group

This is the group that I am a member and we want to increase the public’s awareness of architects and architecture. We have been spending our time getting organized but we have developed a questionnaire that I would appreciate you taking the time to take as well. We have initially developed 6 topics for discussion:

- Influence the public through K-12 curriculum
- Get non-architects to advocate for us
- Encourage architects to step out of the shadows and into the public eye
- Demystifying architecture
- Improve visibility of awards
- Study cities where the general public has an appreciation for good design

Convention

There are several activities at the convention that the council will be involved in:

- Working Groups Meeting
  - Each of the working groups will be meeting for two hours in a conference room in ‘town hall’. Members will be asked to join our discussions.
  - Public Valuation or Architecture will be at 10:00am on Thursday morning
- Central Triangle in Town Hall
  - Members of the council are taking turns manning a portion of the triangle at all times to discuss our members concerns and issues

So far this has been a very rewarding experience and I very much appreciate the opportunity to represent AIA New England on the Strategic Council.