



AIA New England Regional Council

AIANE Regional Quarterly Council Meeting

March 8, 2018

By Conference Call

Present:

Alan Lagocki AIA	President-Elect, AIANE (CT)
Rich Connell AIA	AIA Strategic Council Representative (CT)
Dan Lewis AIA	President-Elect, AIA MA
Helen Fantini AIA	President, AIA WMA
Gina Calabro	Executive Director, AIACT
Lorin Starr	Executive Director, AIA WMA
Arthur Sanders AIA	President, AIACT
Carolyn Isaak, Hon. AIANH	Exec. Director AIANE
Stephanie Herring Assoc. AIA	NE Regional Associate Director (ME) 2017-2018
Katelyn Chapin AIA	NE Young Architects Regional Director (CT) 2018-2019
Jeannette Schram	Executive Director, AIAME
Judy Johnson AIA	NE AIA Strategic Council Representative (ME)
Joel Page AIA	President-Elect, AIAVT
Paul Bourbeau AIA	AIANE President-Elect 2018
Alyssa Murphy AIA	President-Elect, AIANH
Bonnie Kastel	Executive Director, AIANH
Caroline Stevens	Executive Director, AIARI
Eric Zuena AIA	President-Elect, AIARI
Jim LaPosta FAIA	NE COF Liaison (CT)
Brian Gregory AIA	Guest
Glenn Gollenberg AIA	President-Elect, AIACT
Jim Stanislaski AIA	President, AIA MA
Jean Carroon FAIA	President-Elect, BSA
Vada Seccareccia Assoc. AIA	Past President, AIANE
John Nunnari Assoc. AIA	Ex. Director, AIA MA
Peter Kuttner FAIA	Bursar, AIA College of Fellows

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Introductions were made at 11:00 am. Alan opened meeting at 11:04. RC moved to accept the Oct 20, 2017 minutes. Seconded by Jean Carroon. Accepted by all voting. Jim LaPosta abstained.

Goals for the year:

Alan has a few big picture things to aim for: 1) try to see how we can increase visibility of AIA New England to our members. 2) At the National level, as infrastructure bill moves out of Washington, he'd like to see us advocating for vertical structures in the bill not just roads, etc. How to we lobby as a region?

Lorin asked what National is doing on the infrastructure issue? Rich and Judy have not heard of anything. They will find out next week at the Strategic Council meeting.

Rich and Judy are both given a stipend to go to anyone's board meetings or membership, so they are available to go and talk about the Council if that would help spread info about AIA New England. Lorin mentioned that a few years ago Michael Hoffman came to WMA and spoke with board and attended a program. She encourages all chapters to do that.

Alan, also suggests that to make the AIANE Council more visible, components should create a name tag for Council reps attending their events that designate AIA New England affiliation, and spell it out!

Rich: a lot will be happening at National this year so we need to keep on top of it.

Katelyn also suggested that components might invite the YARD and /or RAD attend an event.

Jeannette suggested that the AIANE president issue a report to be distributed by the components. Alan will do this after Grassroots and make available to chapters.

Grassroots: Rich will be your host at the AIANE Dinner. CI will email his cell phone number to attendees.

Judy: Rich and she go out early for strategic council meetings. Reception on Monday evening. On Wednesday there is a topical breakfast with SC for folks to talk about their interests and concerns to council. SC is selecting topics and leadership of council has short period to set up the topic groups. They'll issue info so on Wednesday am you can decide what breakfast to go to discuss that topic. Judy sent out the 21 topics. Let us know if there is one you really think we should participate in.

Rich will be there at the scheduled Regional Meeting time in case anyone wants to take time to talk....

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

CI presented financial report. Received for the record. Stephanie Herring: prices do seem to be increasing every year. Is it possible for next year that we consider raising cost of RAD and YARD to \$1500. AIA Conf in NYC is significantly more expensive than in the past and that is anticipated for the future. AIA does recognize this is burden and is addressing it. We will address anticipated expenses in the late summer and fall.

Discussion of AIA Conference: Do we know how public is going to be engaged? AIA knows it will take a few years to develop this idea. We will probably get more info on this next week at Grassroots. Judy: when she was registering, even the Keynote had a fee, so costs really are growing. This is a point people should be making at Grassroots.

Is there a promo code for ED/s at the AIA Conference? Bonnie asked that question and will send out answer once she receives it.

3. AIANE ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

Bonnie: NH held the 2017 conference and awards last October in Portsmouth. Very good project submissions (275) and many came to the awards program (125). Saturday was much smaller, about 82-85 people over the course of the day. Financially successful. She did use new software, Submittable, which was great. Very easy to use. The account is now inactive ready to transfer to next chapter. She's in contact with Katelyn Hart at BSA and Lorin has asked for some info, too. BSA is probably not going to use it as they have their own software. But it can stay in stasis indefinitely. Also has the domain name for marketing site. AIANH felt the conference was successful.

Alyssa: at the AIANE quarterly meeting at the conference it was a bit disheartening to hear the negative tone about running the conferences. But the attendees were very enthusiastic and they felt it was very successful and positive. She noted that the conference is one of the opportunities to educate people about AIA New England. They got great feedback. Alan: once he was member of board in CT he became more aware of the regional conferences and attended them all. The programming is always good, and it is a great alternative to the national conference, which is so expensive.

Rich: thought it was an excellent conference, from awards, to programs, to tours, and it was a gorgeous day. He felt a lot of members missed out. Those tours would have been great for public, speaking of engaging that audience.

4. ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018

Peter: BSA is definitely not combining with ABX, as it did not work last time around. Jean says board has not discussed as yet. More info in June.

5. STRATEGIC COUNCIL REP REPORT

Rich: Trying to identify study groups. Grassroots is major time to get going on those (see above). The SC is adding a one-day session over the summer. Judy: take a look at 21 options, send your comments to Rich or Judy. Each work group has to have 3-6 members. Rich's group last year was the Architecture Quality Index: the Board accepted their proposal and it is now turned over to AIA Staff for further development. (Example of strategic council working.)

There is a resolution coming forward regarding the new urban agenda. Judy sent us that language. It will be at the business meeting at the AIA Conference. She also sent resolution coming out of Pacific NW, which is likely to come to the business meeting in NY. It has a somewhat negative tone toward regions. We should be aware of it.

Come late summer, there is going to be a call for Councilors at large. The process last year was quite daunting. They had 12 applicants, one selected. We should try to find someone willing to submit a member at large, now, so we are ready at the time. Position requires a letter of interest, an endorsement by a sitting counselor, a 2-minute presentation to the council conference call, then there is a vote. And there is a lot of politicking...

Jeannette: is going in with one candidate best strategy, or put forth more than one?

Lorin: Emily should be part of our AIA New England meetings...CI will put her on the email list.

6. DISCUSSION: TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Alan, had sent out some info on rail programs in other states, initiatives. How do we strengthen the region? Every state trying to do the same thing. Transportation issues transcend state boundaries. We should be advocate and be a clearing house for what is happening. Brian works at a firm in

Cambridge and now involved with BSA on infra/techure committee. Both transit and infrastructure at large. He's Involved with the north-south rail link, regional rail, western ma. The MBTA system itself bridges into RI. Lowell across to NH, Manchester corridor, and down-easter into Maine. It's becoming a bit of a regional network.

John: it is a very contentious issue. Comments – Pluses: ability to connect AIA New England. Drawbacks, of course are costs, which people object to. Transit Matters is involved with regional rail. We should take a worldview, need to look at other economies. Have to look at what has to happen. If we're talking about National infrastructure programming we need to push what regions' need. Large argument if money is better spent in the state, creating north south links vs. western part of state (MA). Need to resolve funding in state first.

Lorin: individually and as chapters, we should be reaching out to agencies in our areas that are already working on this to see how we can contribute, as we are not going to be the driver. Regarding the National agenda on infrastructure, we should push AIA to make this a top item. It's something we could be proactive about. Brian: as architects, we can comment on how this effects development, urban revitalization, access to jobs, etc. Traffic is bad, and we can't highway build ourselves out of this.

Katelyn: takes the train everyday to work. Shoreline East is reducing service, rather than expanding.

Brian: infra/tecture committee is relatively new. Are there complementary committees in other chapters in New England. No, there are no others. Maybe each chapter should look into this; link up with engineering groups?

Lorin: Again, is our time better spent reaching out to committees that exist in our states and contributing that way, rather than forming our own? Join coalitions, etc. Our voices are important in the conversation, even if we aren't the leaders in the efforts. Also let these coalitions and state transportation committees know that we are a resource.

ACTION: Each component try to reach out to local transportation committees, state, local county to introduce AIA to members of the committee.

Links and info sent after the call.

Vada: I think this link of the recent report released by Transit Matters could be helpful to the conversation on regional rail: <https://transitmatters.org/regional-rail-doc>

Glenn: This link should take you to a joint industry dinner held last week where the keynote discussion was about investing in transportation. The keynote speaker might be a source of additional information to those interested. Focus of the presentation was Connecticut needs. The dollars required and CT's budget were certainly a part of the conversation.

<http://aiact.org/event-registration/?ee=831>

Gina: will try to get the PowerPoint presentation Lyle Wray gave that evening. Will send the group the CT transportation committee legislators that are working on this.

7. RAD

Stephanie: NAC had meeting and planned out year and monthly calls, identified goals for the year. She is with mentoring work group. She and Katelyn had first EPN conference call with NE component. Gave quick update of their programming and some challenges. The CT EP group developed a survey that polled membership to get an understanding on programming that members want; will share with all the EP groups as they move forward. Goal: have a webinar this spring available to all EPs in New England: "So you just got your license, now What?"

8. YARD

Katelyn: YAF has created a theme for next five years: Practice Innovation. Where is the industry going in terms of practice and what does it mean to be an architect? Everything they do will revolve around this. They want to make people aware of what YAF is. She sent us an online magazine, please share with Network. They will be doing some spotlights of EPs in the area, people who are doing great things and also use social media to promote the profession and what the YAF is up to. EP group call: Firm award program. Will issue a survey on what benefits offer their employees, etc. Elizabeth was working on this. Will be asking EDs to help push out this survey. Stephanie and she both registered for the AIA conference in June.

9. COF

Jim LaPosta: Arranging a transition meeting with predecessor. Welcome Jim!

10. Updates

Disaster committee: we do not have a rep from New England this year. The new Small Firm Exchange rep is Michael Lassell AIA. His report is attached.

11. ADJOURN

Alan asked for discussion ideas for next meeting; please email him.
Adjourned at 12:34.

Important Dates – 2018

Grassroots, March 12-14, San Diego

AIA Conference on Architecture, June 21-23, NYC

AIANE Board Meeting Dates:

March 8 (conference call), June 6, Aug 22 at the BSA; and one at NE Regional Council Conference+Awards, TBD