



AIA New England Regional Council

AIANE Regional Council Meeting

August 21, 2019

12:00-3:10 pm

BSA, Boston, MA

Present:

Paul Bourbeau AIA

Alan Gardocki AIA

Sarah O Donnell

Judith Johnson AIA

Danielle McDonough AIA

Katelyn Chapin AIA

Jeannette Schram

George McGoldrick AIA

Gina Calabro

Alan Lagocki AIA

Gail Kubick

Eric White

Nancy Ludwig FAIA

Glenn Gollenberg AIA

Peter Kuttner FAIA

Ludmilla Pavlova AIA

Elizabeth Cox AIA

Tracy Kozak AIA

President, AIANE (NH)

Past President, AIANE (AIACT)

Executive Director, AIA VT

Strategic Council Representative (AIAME)

AIA Strategic Council Representative (BSA)

NE Young Architects Regional Director (CT) 2018-2019

Executive Director, AIAME

VP, AIACT

Executive Director, AIACT

AIANE Past President (AIACT)

NE Regional Associate Director (MA) 2019-2020

Executive Director, BSA

College of Fellows Representative (BSA)

President, AIACT

Vice-Chancellor, AIA College of Fellows

President, AIA WMA

Secretary-Treasurer, AIANE (BSA)

President-Elect, AIANH

Guests:

Emily Grandstaff-Rice FAIA

Natasha Espada AIA

Anda French AIA

Nancy Alexander

AIA Board

BSA President-Elect, BSA EDI Task Force

BSA EDI Task Force

Research Manager for the Guides for Equitable Practice

By Phone:

Jonathan Taylor AIA

Monica Cunningham

Lorin Starr

Mike Lassel AIA

Alyssa Murphy AIA

President, AIARI

Executive Director, AIA CMA

Executive Director, AIA WMA

Small Firm Exchange, NE Rep (AIAME)

Past President, AIANH

Absent:

Jesse Thompson AIA

Tom Hartmann AIA

Bonnie Kastel

Helen Fantini AIA

President, AIAME

AIA Strategic Councilor as of 1/2020

Executive Director, AIANH

AIANE President Elect (AIA WMA)

Jim LaPosta FAIA
Joel Page AIA
Jean Carron AIA
Ethan Anthony AIA
Daniel Lewis AIA

College of Fellows Representative (CT)
President, AIAVT
President, BSA
President, AIA Central MA
President, AIA MA

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Paul Bourbeau opened the meeting at 12:08. Introductions were made around the table and with those on the phone.

Acceptance of May 22, 2019 minutes. Approved.

Paul introduced our guest panelists for a discussion on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Panelists were: Natasha Espada, Anda French, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Nancy Alexander, and Gina Calabro

2. EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Emily (chair of Equity and Future in Architecture on the AIA Board) began the discussion with some statistics on gender and racial percentages in the profession. In 2015 a resolution passed to study issues of equity. A commission was formed for 2016. It reported back with 11 recommendations. She noted that sometimes they uncovered their own biases, even though they were supposedly the experts. It challenged them to be rigorous and think deeply about implications and ramifications of where they were going.

The goal is to make architecture something everyone can participate in.
Make EDI core value of Board of Directors. So there is a board level EDI committee.
Any EDI training is HSW eligible.

Nancy spoke about the Guides for Equitable Practice, one of the 11 initiatives. There will be a total of 9 guides. The first 6 are published (distributed to AIANE prior to the meeting). The remaining three are in final edits (due Oct). All are on the AIA website.

The committee researched peer-reviewed books and articles, focus groups, to provide context. Interview and focus groups have provided revealing quotes and stories. Had over 70 readers review early drafts. Each chapter has a set of resources and tool kits.

Format of each chapter starts with conceptual background, and how to translate that to action. Levels: Individual, firm, and profession. What each can do. Also there is a guide for assessment. There are fundamental issues that differ firm to firm, that might dictate different strategies. Still struggling with how to engage firm leaders.

Issues are structural; professional organizations and firms have responsibility. Can't expect individuals to make the changes happen.
Recommend that components convene leadership level people to introduce the concepts and inspire members with straight forward, relatively unthreatening ways to take action.

Natasha and Anda: In April 2018, the BSA board created a task force to develop a BSA action plan. Looking at both EDI and harassment. BSA has already taken some steps.

Challenges: all recommendations require not just organization and staff but also a volunteer base.

Gina: After April 2018, AIACT adopted AIA's EDI policy. They Launched a Women in Architecture committee and held roundtable discussions in each county (8 simultaneously), 1 hour talk, ½ hour discussion. Contacted firm principals. Open to anyone.

They still have a problem getting firm principles to attend, even if the roundtable was held on site.

AIANE EDs and other NE people are all welcome to call in for the roundtables.

Next challenge: how to engage this topic. Presentations, talks; authentic to your own context and where you are. *Reality check: only 7 female black licensed architects in MA.*

Nancy: should be aware of potential situations and legal ramifications. Also need to provide tools for individuals who have issues.

Benefits of this conversation?

Nancy uses this tool. Ladder of Competence:

Unconscious/incompetence.

Conscious / incompetence.

Conscious / Competence.

Unconscious/competence.

The Guides have had influence within AIA. They've seen other knowledge communities use them as an example for compiling information that moves the needle forward. Have seen other allied professions looking at them to incorporate in their own fields.

Natasha: needs to also come from top down. City of Boston has pushed this forward; now requires certain percentage of minorities, etc.

Eric: has an impact on who's participating.

3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are in need of someone to join the AIANE Board as Secretary/Treasurer for 2020, then moving through officer ranks. Please think about potential individuals and get back to Carolyn.

4. STRATEGIC COUNCIL:

Judy: Summit in Denver last week. Included knowledge communities, and more. Danielle attended. Report for board meeting from SC. Will send to you when available.

Danielle: Went to Knowledge leadership assembly. Good to hear what's going on with KCs. She's part of Strategic Planning Committee, 2-3 from council, and others from the organization. Tasked with moderating roundtable discussions and got insight to KC input into Strategic planning process. Will end up with one page roadmap for strategic plan as draft to present to the Board.

Judy: Strategic planning process involves entire SC in increments. Everybody gets a voice. At AIA Conference also some work groups met.

One of challenges is getting your head out of your day-to-day work, so they bring in facilitators. This person talked about things they'd never heard of before; the way tech is being used in design, etc. Architects need to embrace these things to keep relevant. Best Practices committee also met.

They are working to make it easier for new Counselors to come up to speed.

Forecast knowledge climate action group: working to step up the game and adopt a climate action plan. Creating an outline to unveil next year at AIA Conference. How will this effect way we are practicing.

Met with AIA Historian, Nancy Hadley. Looked at what AIA was thinking in 1980. What did they got right: computers and women in the profession. Is it time to do another visioning program like this. *(Judy subsequently emailed this to us; and Peter emailed additional visioning documents from the past)*

XR Group. (Mixed reality, AI, etc.) This will be a reality of the profession. If we don't understand these things, we'll end up obsolete.

Communications Committee: internal within council, then with board, then with members. Trying to get systems in place so workgroup info gets funneled back to everyone. Create a PP template. She's working on SC calendar. There is so much they do; it needs to be organized.

Really need at large reps to SC from New England. There were only 7 applicants last time around. Applications available in May. Any person is eligible, it's a two year commitment. Look forward to next year.

SEE ATTACHED REPORT

5. ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS

Lorin: Jury was in Portland, OR . 225 submissions. Excellent jury. Waiting on CEU credits from AIA, which is why conference registration is not ready. She'll send links ASAP. (It is now online at aianewengland.org)

Meeting for AIANE Council is 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Tours optional and we will be done in time to participate. Returning to design building at UNASS at 5, keynote 6, awards 7. Exhibition in the gallery.

If you are planning to stay over, they'll post info on website. But you should find something soon.

6. RAD

Gail: Several workshops within NAC diving into analysis in gap in profession as result from last recession and how those people's skills are affecting they ways firms are doing business. Creating a survey. Had a CACE group study. Will send with EP chairs in each region; analyze service programs in light of this analysis. Going out in Sept.

AIA released AIA Resource Prep program. ArchiPrep. Has peer to peer connection ability. Will offer the program to Assoc level members with first month free; then two pricing options. \$350-\$375 a year.

Katelyn and she have been offering EP spotlights on Instagram. Spotlited one of BSA co-chairs, been speaking with Nancy for one; more will come.

Katelyn and she had a conference call on Aug. 8 for NE EP leaders. Lots of cancellations the last minute, so they only spoke with CT.

Working with Katelyn on EP Friendly Firm program.
SEE ATTACHED REPORT

7. YARD

Katelyn: Working with community focus group as part of YAF. Victory was in working with AIA National to create graphic content and templates allowing them to put things on website. Worked with large firm roundtable to pull together 4 hour workshop.

Friendly firms: Survey will be open 1-2 weeks and will go live next August 28. She will send template for e-blast to members. Highly suggest you send to both firm principals and emerging professionals. Both need to answer the questions. Close survey on 9/16 at 8 pm. On 9/23 firms will know if they got the designation or not, so they can register for the conference.

Instagram spotlights: let them know if you want to be spotlighted. They're doing regional reps and all EP leaders.

2020-21 YARD Submissions. Application deadline is 9/25. Conf call next Thursday, 9/29. Voting poll will follow.

Gina spoke about the Amber book video series (ARE prep). They've sold out seats until February of next year. It's a really good deal. Components could work together and split up seats. \$390/month. \$142.50 per seat rate he gave them.

Can AIACT do a remote version of their in person lecture on the ARE for other components? They're looking in to videotaping their events, etc. Maine has been doing this. Will share.
SEE ATTACHED REPORT

8. REGIONS TASK FORCE

Peter: 2018 resolution 18-7 regarding a Study of AIA regions was proposed by Oregon, Portland Chapter. Mixed motives. They've had a lot of flux over the last few years. Their region included Hong Kong and Japan. What are regions, should we have them, could they be better? Task force is trying to answer these questions.

Using McKinsey to help with data collection. Initial study looked at other associations we are affiliated with (AIAS, NCRB, NAAB, etc) Then looked at National assoc of Realtors, Engineers, etc. Benchmarking. Then did a survey where there was one point of contact with each region. From that built up questions and surveyed members involved with regional government, about 250. Then 10,000 members on how they perceive the region.

They are about ½ way through the process. It's very clear that all 19 regions are completely different. No continuity. 8 of them are single states. 75% of constituents think regions are valuable. Next level of 10,000 people: 75% don't know what regions do! Of 12 on the committee. Two are from Portland. They will describe scenarios and will make a series of recommendations.

Also interested in Census regions and FEMA regions and are look at changing state formats as well. Some states are single region and it's hard to tell any difference.
They are discussing a skills-based SC, instead of regions.
They are interested in keeping regions for what they do in regards to communication value.
Discussion of regions and global practice....RIBA.

9. COF

Nancy; 11 people at recent meeting/6 people nominated at BSA. Can find info on the BSA website: archtiects.org/careers/fellows. Good info on Path to Fellowship.
Mentorship: 20 YAs and 10 COFs. So still looking Fellows for year 2. AIA EP Network is doing feedback.

10. SMALL FIRM EXCHANGE

Mike Lassel: 19 regions. Each region has a rep on Small Firm Exchange. They met last week; interfaced with KC's . He will be distributing information from them. Will send out a Q3 report with more content of specific interested to members: code, AIA Trust, AIAU
SEE ATTACHED REPORT

11. PREPARING FOR ECONOMIC DOWNTURN?

Eric: CACE IS producing a guide on chapters responding to economic downturns.
National's big move: Climate and economics and diversity.

12. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 3:10

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED REPORTS

AIA Strategic Council Report

Judy L. Johnson, AIA

21 August 2019

The council just prepared a report to the Board (but it is not ready to be distributed). The material should be ready in the next couple of weeks and Danielle and I will make sure to forward the information to everyone. This will be a comprehensive summary of all activities to date.

A few highlights of council activities are outlined below:

DENVER ASSEMBLY

(general info from Moderator Bruce Turner)

Attendance:

- Knowledge Communities (KC's -21)
- Board Knowledge Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Strategic Council
- Approximately 185 people total

Agenda:

Tuesday Afternoon

Welcome remarks from Dan Hart & Bruce Turner

Joint Strategic Planning Session with KLA, etc

Jay Younger - McKinley Advisors

Kelly O'Keefe - Brand Federation

Wednesday

Dedicated Time for SC Work Groups

Organized Face-to-Face meetings between selected KCs and Work Groups (3 per Work Group)

Thursday

Town Hall conversation with entire assembled group:

Moderated by Jane Frederick (AIA 1st VP/PE)

Bill Bates (AIA President)

Dan Hart (BoKnoCo Chair)

Bruce Turner (Strategic Council Moderator)

Robert Ivy (EVP/CEO)

Summary Discussions of the various SC Work Groups

Remarks:

Many people commented on the value and benefit of meeting with these groups to allow coordination of our efforts.

Suggestions were made that this should be an annual event.

The Strategic Planning Committee made great strides and is beginning to work toward crafting the next Strategic Plan.

A'19 CONFERENCE

Strategic Planning

We met at conference and continued the strategic planning process. The entire Council is engaged with this and Danielle is on the Committee and can provide greater detail on this process

The Next Big Thing Work Group

We met twice at conference and had a futurist named Jon Picard. He was not concerned about architects being relevant but concerned about architects being obsolete. His presentation energized us and got us all thinking outside the box and more futuristic.

The Best Practices Committee

We met once at conference and focused on the election process and schedule of responsibilities

THE NEXT BIG THING WORKGROUP

(Judy Johnson Member)

This is a work group with four sub groups and I am the co convener for the Innovative Business Models Workgroup

Forecast Knowledge, Climate Action

- Request Board adopt a Climate Action Plan based on core tenets, education, communication, advocacy and knowledge
- Suggests AIA establish a Green Panel
- Set forth a schedule for how this is to happen that is aggressive, but the problem is aggressive with the goal of unveiling the plan at A'20

Big Data

All things we do need to be quantified with data. Need to invest in that

1. Access to the data
2. Use data to create more financial resource in our industry
3. Use data for the social good of our mission at AIA

Need to attract the right people in this topic
Set ethical standards for how we use the data

Survey responses so far. Big firms are investing, small firms are not. Most people know about it but only about 1/3 are using it.

1. Open Source platform anyone can access
2. Get access through our membership
3. More specific info would be available with additional cost

Need a demonstration of what Big Data is to explain it to our membership. There exists no reference frame to understand it. This remains a black box for most of our membership.

Innovative Business Models (co-convener Judy Johnson)

In both a reactive and proactive way understand the implications of the various forces affecting the business models of our profession.

Opportunities

- The AIA has dedicated itself to the Big Move – a focus on climate action, with a specific emphasis on Economy, Energy and Equity
- Architects need the fundamental tools necessary to embrace and pursue the exponential change we desire

Actions

- Examine and develop tools and processes to help promote a culture of innovation throughout the profession
- Help firms embrace the philosophy of research-based practice in order promote and enhance evidence-based design throughout the profession
- Do the work necessary to lay the foundations for the commissioning of an Architecture 2050 report (or Vision 2050) similar to the Vision 2000 report commissioned in 1988, a research-based, academic examination, and future prognostication of the architectural profession 30 years hence.

Mixed Reality

VR, XR, AI, AR, Machine Learning

Creating Standards, Goals, Objectives and Opportunities for energy, code, acoustic analysis

Blockchain (an encrypted, connected system of moving things around) accounting, complete digital drawing, send notice to the owner that we are complete with that phase and payment is sent as well. Also, for tracking a digital practice model as to when modifications are made and how we put a model together

What could AIA make available to small firms to allow them to enter this world

Digital twins: build the building digitally, in reality, then in facilities management to test the building and the model on a daily basis to offer those types of services on retainer. Example: Maintaining and understanding the performance on my building. Get emails from your building that an earthquake happened and the building sunk $\frac{3}{4}$ " in one corner...

BEST PRACTICES COMMITTEE

(Judy Johnson Member)

We are currently drafting a document for the council that documents the roles, responsibilities and expectations of the council. We reviewed the draft on Monday and needs to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

(Judy Johnson Member)

This committee works to increase and improve communication within the Strategic Council to keep information moving, for encouragement and documentation; to help communicate to and from the board and other institute bodies on important issues and opportunities, and to help inform and connect with the membership at large. One goal of the Committee is to provide more exposure and to broaden the understanding and knowledge of the Strategic Council.

We are developing programs and initiatives to help with the communication of what is happening on the Strategic Council and include the following:

A19 visitors to the Strategic Council table. Prepare brief info to send out to list of visitors.

Telling our Stories – encouraging abstracts of a variety of stories to get the word of the council out there... help folks know who the SC is – and what it does...

Make specific request regarding work of SC

- Update on Strategic Plan
- Leadership Development program (3 programs over A18 and A19 – huge attendance – Brian Fricke)

Power Point Template – take away for SC to take/information back to their regions/constituents. Quarterly updates

SC Calendar – big picture calendar of SC events/benchmarks/deadlines

Big Picture communication to/from Board

Informational Webinars

- Blue Ribbon panel - done
- Map of AIA / SC PowerPoints – scheduled – 8/22.
- Feedback on Work of SC / Bd and staff feedback on things that have come out of SC
- Work of Institute – in depth report from Robert and Abigail.
- Housing report – any other reports that will come to the council
- Regions report and update

A20 Session – submitted again - How to get the most out of your membership –

STRATEGIC COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Council held their annual elections in July

- Moderator: Tom Liebel
- Board of Directors: Mark Levine (had a total of five nominees)
- At-Large Representatives: elected 5 of the 7 nominees to the council for a two-year term

AIA BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON CODES (webinar)

All are encouraged to read the full report to get into the more detailed aspects. It can be found here: http://content.aia.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/ADV19_Disruption_Evolution_Change.pdf

A presentation by the Blue Ribbon Panel including

- **AIA Board:**
Tim Hawk, FAIA, Board Chair of Government Advocacy
- **AIA Blue Ribbon Panel on Codes:**
Maureen Guttman, AIA
Chris Chwedyk, AIA
RK Stewart, FAIA

Summary of the Presentation below:

Tim Hawk, FAIA

Beginning journey to communicate the goals beyond the report

How can we bring focus to the organization and have the greatest impact on society?
This is really a beginning of how changing our codes can reinforce our commitment to "Environmental Stewardship". This has been broken down into three highlighted topics: Design for Energy, Design for Economy, Design for Equitable Communities

Tim calls for us to listen really well and spread the word about this report

Maureen Guttman, AIA

How do we impact goals and standards toward meeting our AIA 2030 challenge? The focus is on how architects' interface with those processes and how we use them, rather than trying to impact the infrastructure of those processes.

We can impact society by building better buildings. What we've done so far is not enough. The percentage of buildings approaching zero carbon is very small. It's important explain more the "why" of what we're doing.

AIA has had a long relationship with codes and standards. AIA was one of the main reasons why codes became integrated into the International Building Code. Codes are not moving fast enough. We need to set our own higher standards.

In order to advance this, AIA members need the resources to be able to do this. The goal is transformation and the empowerment of the profession.

Chris Chwedyk, AIA

It became clear early on that a timeline of events was needed.

The first milestone will be 2023: to Listen, Learn and Design. Architects to work with stakeholders to be industry leaders in designing to above code standards based on holistic HSW using performance basis and accelerate efforts to get architects into the code process to continuously improve and demonstrate expertise with third party code compliance and verification services. CEU's based on tested, in depth knowledge of building codes and national CAD and BIM standards that consistently identify performance methods and outcomes. Transparency of performance standards by leveraging the codes advocacy network for outcome-based codes in every development cycle.

2028: new standard of practice: equitable design, net zero, regenerative, improve wellness and support physical and mental health. Existing building stock improved performance. Mandate performance analysis and improvements to the worst performing buildings. Assembly coalition of industry partners to do this.

2033: Transition to outcome-based codes and standards using data. Prescriptive based codes are slow to change requiring support from political groups rather than objective data. Support the progressive development of codes and standards and push for higher standards. Architect will be the focal point for review and resolution of code compliance including post-occupancy evaluations.

2038: Goal is to establish architects as the primary stewards of building performance with a strong emphasis on architect's education and experience, fully integrating automated code checking into the process, architect as comprehensive interpreter of building code compliance. States would enforce AIA's commitment by adopting the holistic definition and thus higher requirements of HSW through their licensing laws and will raise the standard of care.

RK Stewart, FAIA

Who is going to get this done? Legal and insurance community is redefining the standard of care. This will require many partners but it must begin with architects. The Big Move and Sustainability Stewardship Resolution at A'19 dovetail well with this.

Architectural Education will be critical to the change we are proposing. Industry partners in AIAS, ACSA and ASHRAE, NAAB, NCARB, NFPA and NIBS are all critical to integrate into real change. This is only a start at AIA to move toward this path.

AIA New England Regional Council Meeting
BSA Space
August 21, 2019 12pm-3pm

New England RAD Report

Gail Kubik, Assoc. AIA
Regional Associate Director (2019-2020)

National Update

- NAC Knowledge Work Group
 - Looking to better understand the challenges regional EPNet groups are facing for professional development outside the office environment.
 - Circulated a survey to evaluate regional EPNet experiences with EP member engagement in 'service' oriented programming and the role digital resources may play in assisting with future programming. Survey results will be collected August 30th.
- ArchiPrep – The AIA's new ARE Prep Resource
 - The AIA has created a new ARE study platform to support EP's in the licensing process. The program rolled out to members over the summer and offers individuals the ability to:
 - schedule and track study time,
 - set personal goals and monitor study progress,
 - take practice exams and create flash cards,
 - connect with peers who are studying for the same tests.
 - Associate AIA members can sign up and get their first month free!
 - The program is offered at (2) pricing options:
 - \$35/month (\$420/ year)
 - \$175/ 6 months (\$350/ year)

Regional Update

- EP Leader Spotlights on AIA New England's Instagram account (@aianewengland)
 - Posted a Spotlight for the BSA EPNet Co-Chair Gabriela Baierle.
 - Next Spotlight will feature CT EPNet Co-Chairs Adrienne Nelson & Aiden Migani, as well as COF Rep. Nancy

Local Update

- Conference call with EPN Chairs – August 08th, 2019, from 12-1pm
 - Attendees: RAD, YARD, & CT

Connecticut:

- The EPNet Co Chairs are Adrienne Nelson and Aiden Migani.
- Ended the year with a Napkin Sketch Competition.
 - Had 30 entries
 - Is considering doing it again as part of a "Drink & Draw" event to boost member visits and bring people into the chapter.
- Recently hosted a successful networking event at a local brewery
 - Is planning to collaborate with AIAS for another similar event in the Fall to provide a networking environment for students.

Goals and Next steps

- Keep collaborating with the YARD on executing this year's EP Friendly Firm Survey and Awards Program
- Continue creating Instagram EP Spotlights for AIA New England EPN Chairs and component leadership.

August 21, 2019

AIA New England YAF Report

August Council Meeting

Report by: Katelyn Chapin, AIA, YARD

Instagram: @aianewengland

Twitter: @YAFnewengland

- YAF Updates
 - Community focus group
 - Working with AIA graphics team to create a template for toolkits
 - Current initiative: updating the toolkit for the EP Friendly Firms Program. Involves case study interviews with other regions/states that have offered this program and compiling data into a toolkit to share with all AIA members. Reviewing options of hosting documents on the AIA Knowledge Net
 - A'20
 - Submitting proposal in collaboration with the YAF and LRFT: Mini MBA Mastering the Business for Emerging Professionals
 - Connection Magazine – Q3 magazine will be published soon. I will share it with everyone when the link is ready for further distribution.
- YARD / RAD Collaboration
 - 2019 AIA New England Emerging Professional Friendly Firm Program
 - Dates:
 - Survey will open Wednesday, 8/28 at 9 am
 - Survey reminder email distribute on Monday, 9/9/19
 - Survey will close Monday, 9/16 at 8 pm
 - Firms will receive results by Monday, 9/23
 - Presentation at awards celebration on Saturday, 10/5
 - Component executives and presidents will receive email with content to share to their membership in advance of 8/28 release date. Program is targeted at Emerging Professionals and firm leadership so please share the survey information with all your members
 - AIA New England conference
 - Will the conference host cover shipping costs to mail awards to firms that are not present?
 - Will the conference host provide rigid envelopes that can be addressed the day of the conference?
 - AIA New England website
 - Post celebration, host a summary of the program and firm logos
 - Post celebration, host infographics of selected survey questions

- Social Media
 - Instagram: @aianewengland
 - Spotlights – highlight regional representatives – YARD, RAD, Strategic Council, COF rep
 - **August 30:** CT Adrienne and Aiden / COF rep: Nancy
 - **September 30:** NH Kyle and Margaret / AIA Strategic Council #1 Danielle
 - **October 30:** RI: Kaitlin and VT: Lealoni / AIA Strategic Council #2 Judy
 - **November 30:** Western MA: Garrison / ME: Kathryn / Central MA: Megan
 - **December 30:** AIA Strategic Council #2 Judy / COF rep: Jim
 - **January 30, 2020:** AIA Strategic Council #3 Tom / new YARD
 - **February 30, 2020:** BSA: Chris
 - Twitter: @YAFnewengland / @AIANERAD
- EP Groups in New England
 - Conference call held August 8th
 - State updates:
 - No update from BSA, Central Mass, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island or Western Mass
 - Connecticut
 - Adrienne Nelson is co-leading with Aiden Migani.
 - Initiatives:
 - Exploring new direction for the group as a network rather than a committee
 - Recent events: Napkin sketch competition and summer solstice social were successful
 - Upcoming fall social event
 - Firm tours around Connecticut. Events have been successful and are scheduled monthly.
 - ARE lecture series
 - Vermont
 - EP group leader: Lealoni Coathup.
 - Initiatives:
 - Planning fall social event. Inviting other AEC young professionals
 - Recipient of COF grant for annual design competition in the fall
 - Upcoming Events / Regional items
 - AIA New England Conference: EP pricing to attend the conference in October?



Small Firm Exchange (SFx)

An AIA National Member Group

Regional Representative Report / 2019 Q3

Michael W. Lassel, New England Regional Representative
mike@lasselarchitects.com; 207 384 2049

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

[AIA Small Firm Exchange Website](#)

SFx Mission & Objectives

Advancing the mutual interests of architects practicing in small firms (often 1-12 staff).

- Advocate for small firms within the AIA and in outside organizations and agencies
- Promote leadership in small firm professional development and practice
- Facilitate and support the local component round tables and small firm networks

Annual Call for AIA National Committee Nominations

The AIA is seeking nominations of members interested in serving on national committees. Express interest in joining the SFx regional representatives or in representing small firms on over a dozen national committees. [Self-nominations deadline October 4th.](#)

Influence – Advocacy & Leadership Development

Firms are still struggling to afford healthcare. SFx was working with [AIA Trust](#), following the models of AIA Kentucky and AIA Portland, but national legal issues have stopped this. Instead we are creating a packet for chapters to do this.

Vendor Discussions – [MasterSpec](#), [AIA Contract Documents](#), Autodesk / Revit – requesting “small firm” pricing.

SFx is advocating for small firm recognition at local and regional design awards. [Use the AIA Small Project awards categories](#) to advocate for visibility at your local chapters.

SFx [Lien Rights](#) Awareness Initiative: with the help of state components and their local lobbyists, SFx offers to create a customized lien rights awareness presentation for webinar or conference for the benefit of architects within your state.

[AIA Leadership Academy](#) – 3-year national program: in-person meetings, webinars, and coaching calls to support individual leaders on firm, community and/or professional leadership growth. Nominations now open until 22 September 2019. First weekend tentatively scheduled for late January 2020.

We want to hear from you! If you have small firm advocacy issues, reach out to your SFx regional rep. listed above!

The AIA National Conference on Architecture – Small-Firm Relevance

SFx had a number of workshops, sessions, and gatherings at [A'19](#): hosted two workshops on Business & Marketing, Business School Series, Thursday podcast interviews, a Small Firm Needs Forum, a joint Forum with the Small Project Design KC, and a session on Leadership Development. We also co-hosted a post-workshop reception, a joint KC evening reception, and a Small Firm Meetup at the Business Lounge.

[A'20](#) will have just as much to offer small firm leaders! Specifically, SFx has proposed small-firm relevant sessions and workshops for A'20, including: “Small Firm Needs Forum,” “Modes of Practice for Small Firms” with the AIANY New Practices Committee, “Small Firm Management” with AIA Trust, “Small Firms Successfully Implementing the COTE Top Ten Toolkit” with the national COTE and TAP KCs, and “Focused Leadership for the Proactive Professional” with the national AIA Leadership Academy.

Small-Firm Practice Resources

SFx is seeking feedback on its [Business Plan Beta Template for Small Architectural Firms](#). SFx is working with the Resiliency member group on tools for Business Continuity Plans. The results of the SFx / SPP / CRAN survey can be found here: [Business Models for Small Architectural Firms](#).

SFx is working with the AIA Knowledge Communities to create Curated Collections for Small Firms. These conversations progressed at the 2019 Leaders Assembly in August. SFx is developing an AIAU Small Firm Series.

SFx is working with the AIA Center for Practice and the Practice Management Knowledge Community to look at small firm best practices, and issues such as electronic seals, and software/hardware technologies.

Here is a resource of [Videos](#) to educate your clients – link via your own website.

Small-Firm Outreach

Stories about small firm architects. At A'18 and A'19, SFx conducted a number of interviews of small firm architects from around the country and posted them on [Spotify](#), and [YouTube](#) --Hear their stories and sign-up to tell us yours. Instagram - Our Instagram [@AIA_SF](#) account highlights the work of small firms; send us your work.

Follow us using the links above. Sign up for our newsletter.



AIA Maine

August 22, 2019

AIA New England Board Meeting

AIA Maine Component Report

AIA Maine is working on the following:

- COTE
 - COTE is planning a fall wood conference with area partner organizations.
 - COTE presented a Demystifying the Top Ten Toolkit seminar
 - COTE presented a 1/2 day seminar on tracking EUI in June.
 - COTE has been recording and webcasting its educational programs this year to great success. This has helped members from throughout the state be engaged in each event regardless of the location.

- Program Committee
 - The group sponsored our local ACE Jenga tournament. The tournament had over 100 attendees and raised approximately \$5000.
 - The group is planning a tour + social of a recent Design Award-winning pub in Lewiston, Maine.
 - The group recently hosted a full-day training on: 2015 IBC Accessibility and Usability for Commercial Buildings
 - The group participated in a STEM summit to showcase the work of architects to the state's school STEM teachers.

- Design Awards
 - AIA Maine has started planning our 2020 awards program
 - The committee will be looking at our submission criteria to see how we want to approach COTE measures as well as equity measures in the Call for Entries
 - The 2019 award submissions will tour throughout the state for the remainder of the year



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Chapter Report to Region

August 13 2019

This report captures the activities of AIAVT from January 2019 through August of 2019 and notes upcoming programs.

Chapter Programs & Events:

- January 10, 2019: Architectural Trivia Night (1 LU)
 - 45 individuals attended this event, hosted by AIAVT's Programs committee as a fundraiser for AIAVT's new Community Outreach Grant
- May 21, 2019: ACX Conference (5.5 LU | HSW).
 - Hosted in collaboration with CSI Vermont, this event offered all day programming based on the theme of Inclusive Design Programming included keynote presentation by Christine Hallquist, Panel Discussion facilitated by Jill Pable of Design Resources for Homelessness, and an afternoon Community Design Charrette. Attendees were divided into 8 teams and worked with VT non profits and towns to offer pro bono design input on existing and upcoming projects.
- July 18, 2019: UVM STEM Complex Tour & Presentations (3 LU | HSW)
 - Architect led tour of the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) buildings at UVM.
- Upcoming Activities:
 - Annual AIAVT Memorial Golf Tournament: Sept. 12, 2019
 - AIAVT's Golf Tournament is a fundraiser for our Hanne Williams Scholarship Fund
 - Brattleboro Music Center Building Tour and Presentations: October 17, 2019
 - Emerging Professionals Network (EPN) Annual Charrette Competition (Date TBA)
 - AIAVT Annual Meeting & Design Awards Presentation: Weds. Dec. 4, 2019 at the UVM Alumni House, Burlington, VT.

Legislative Agenda

1. Department of Fire Safety permit reform: AIAVT's goal is to advance the reform of the permitting process currently in use by DFS. We have objected to their new approach of allowing certain small projects under \$200,000 to receive permits without a licensed design professional stamping the plans.



AIA
Vermont

2. Reviving School Construction Aid –AIAVT is reviving its public position in support of a house bill that will aid school construction and deferred maintenance in public schools.

3. Contractor licensing (Residential) – AIAVT is actively working to support revisions by the Vermont Secretary of State’s Office of Professional Regulation’s proposals to regulate the home improvement industry to achieve public protection. A bill was introduced in legislature in 2018, but failed to make it out of committee before the end of the session. AIAVT’s Public Policy Committee plans to activate members to support this bill when it comes up again during the 2019 session.

Board Retreat

AIAVT’s Board of Directors held their day long retreat in June, and were joined by a strategic planning facilitator to help kick off discussions and ideas for a 3-5 year strategic plan. The board will be following up on the topics covered during the retreat at upcoming board meetings to decide next steps.

Committee Activities

Public Outreach Committee This newly formed committee is working to establish the goals and activities that will help AIAVT educate and inform the public about the work of architects.

Emerging Professional Network We are excited to announce that AIAVT’s EPN group was recently announced a winner of the AIA College of Fellows Emerging Professionals Component Grant. The funds will be used to expand EPN’s Annual Design Charrette event, so that the charrette competition can take place in multiple locations on the same day, allowing members from a wider geographic area to take part.

For a full list of AIAVT’s committees, including descriptions and list of members, please visit <https://www.aiavt.org/about/aiavt/>



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Chapter Report to Region

21 August 2019

AIA Rhode Island provides this report as a synopsis of activity since the Chapter's last report to AIA New England at the May 2019 meeting.

Chapter Governance

- Interim E.D. - Bethany Rochefort hired as interim E.D.; Bethany provided coverage as E.D. in 2018 while Caroline was on maternity leave.
- Permanent ED - Interviews are ongoing.
- Strategic Planning Event held in June with members to discuss draft mission, vision, and goals. Another open workshop with members is scheduled for September. Discussion will inform the Board in identifying objectives for implementation and key quantifiable metrics for assessing success.
- Dues rates are being reconsidered, especially for the Associate member category.

Chapter Events

Significant chapter events are addressed below:

- Early June - Caroline's last week as E.D., Bethany's start, and A'19 Conference on Architecture.
- Monthly construction site tours by E.P. committee.
- Standing committees (Membership, Events, Practice) still met over summer.
- 2019 Scholarship deadline passed. Note for the future, AIA Rhode Island scholarships are for Rhode Island residents attending accredited programs in any state, or anyone attending accredited programs at RISD or RWU.
- July - State and Local Government Network held its annual meeting in Providence. 138 architects from 49 states attended.
- Chapter's Summer Conference held in July, hosted by Mass Design Group.
- September 9th - 2019 AIA-RI Golf Classic, fundraiser for architecture scholarships. Click here to register:
<https://birdeasepro.com/aiari>