AIANE Regional Council Meeting
February 12, 2020
12:00 – 2:52 pm
Boston Society of Architects, Boston, MA

Present:
Helen Fantini AIA AIANE President Elect (AIA WMA)
Elizabeth Cox AIA President Elect, AIA New England (BSA)
Mike Lassel AIA AIANE Secretary Treasurer/Small Firm Exchange (ME)
Paul Bourbeau AIA Past President, AIANE (NH)
Caitlin Osepchuk AIA NE Young Architects Regional Director (BSA) 2020-2021
Sarah O Donnell Executive Director, AIA VT
Gail Kubik Assoc. AIA NE Regional Associate Director (BSA) 2019-2020
Jeannette Schram Executive Director, AIAE
Carolyn Isaak Hon. AIANH AIANE Executive Director
Lorin Starr Executive Director, AIA WMA
Roni Phipps Executive Director, AIA RI
Darell Swanson AIA Vice President, AIA Central MA
Tom Hartmann AIA AIA Strategic Councilor (AIA WMA)
Eric White Executive Director, BSA
Danielle McDonough AIA AIA Strategic Councilor (BSA)
Tracy Kozak AIA President-Elect, AIANH
George McGoldrick AIA VP, AIACT
Gina Calabro Executive Director, AIACT
Peter Kuttner FAIA Chancelor, AIA College of Fellows
Jonathan Taylor AIA President, AIA RI
Nancy Ludwig FAIA College of Fellows Representative (BSA)
Natasha Espada AIA President, BSA

Phone:
Monica Cunningham Executive Director, AIA Central MA
Taryn Barrett President, AIAVT

Absent:
John Nunnari Assoc. AIA Executive Director, AIA MA
J. Kristian Whitsett AIA President, AIA WMA
Jesse Thompson AIA President, AIAME
Bonnie Kastel Executive Director, AIANH
Jim LaPosta FAIA College of Fellows Representative (CT)
Joel Page AIA President, AIAVT
1. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**
   Helen called the Meeting called to order at 12:12 pm. Introductions were made. Elizabeth Cox moved, Paul seconded, to approve meeting notes from October 2019. Accepted.

   Presidents Goals for 2020:
   - Hope to continue discussion about inclusion and diversity;
   - Use these meetings to reconnect and re-foster conversation around the table;
   - Promote leadership in our younger representatives.
   - We are a region that can actually sit around a table together.
   - Thanks to everyone for time and travel commitment to be here.

2. **Finances**
   Report will come with the minutes.

3. **2019 Awards and Conference**
   WMA, host of the 2019 AIANE Awards and Conference reported.
   Pleased with the one-day format. They made a good profit of 28,000. Seems like a good model for a one-day conference. Over 100 people attended. Lorin said that Submittable was pretty straight forward. However, there is no connection between paying and submitting, which she hopes they will fix. It was easy to manipulate. Most of submissions come from the BSA, and thus majority of the awards go to BSA members. They had a diverse jury in regards to practice and did award some smaller scale projects. They awarded about 10% of the submissions. It is a high bar.

   Elizabeth asked if a breakfast presentation had ever been tried. In CT they switched from cocktail hour to dinner, and have picked up attendees.

4. **2020 Awards and Conference**
   Vermont will run 2020. Tentative date is September 24 or 25, depending on venue availability. They are thinking of a charrette style program in the morning with tours in afternoon, then keynote and awards presentation in the evening. Theme would be urban and rural New England: how are they connected, what is the disconnect, population struggles, urban vs. agricultural, etc. Location of the event within Vermont is still under discussion. Their Board Retreat will focus on this event.

   CI Noted that the Submittable contract has been paid and is all set for AIAVT to use for 2020.

5. **REGIONS TASK FORCE**
   Peter Kuttner gave a presentation that was presented in December to the AIA Board and Strategic Council about the value of regions to members, components, etc. Regions exist to elect reps to the Strategic Council and to facilitate communications between members and the Institute, in both directions. We are only excluded from doing anything that components already do. Almost every region has evolved beyond these constrictions.

   Report has been reviewed by CACE, SC, Big Sibs conference call, etc. More presentations and feedback will occur at Grassroots. They never have an “this is the answer” presentation. Board
will have some opinions and there will be another feedback time. It will come to the floor at the AIA Conference in 2021 one way or another. Consultants are trying to summarize the feedback.

Gina brought up the fact that many smaller chapters feel excluded from issues, etc. that Big Sibs covers. Smaller components would benefit from hearing about some of these issues. Not necessarily at every event, but some of them.

Any feedback you have should be provided (at back of presentation). Presentation has been distributed to AIANE Regional Council.

6. **STRATEGIC COUNCILOR REPORT**
MET In December. Eric White is now CACE rep on SC. Tom Hartman is our new Strategic Councilor, joining Danielle McDonough.

The AIA Strategic Planning Committee, separate from Council, is underway.

How do we disseminate the knowledge from SC topic group white papers?

Board looks at what the SC puts forward as topics for discussion. They give recommendations as to pertinence, if others are covering it, etc. Technology’s impact on practice is something being reviewed. Beyond 2030 topic is exploring what happens if we don’t meet our climate goals.

Tom: SC is an incredible group of people to be with. But he also feels that it isn’t fully leveraged. An architect moderator is maybe not the best way to go. It felt chaotic as to how goals were formulated. Tom put himself forward to be on the Finance and Audit Committee and has been selected. He’s also on the Housing topic committee. Last issue of *Architect* on carbon is very palpable.

SC is visionary and trying to determine and lead where to go, not to execute plans.

7. **RAD**

Gail was part of the Knowledge work group, looking at EP member engagement. They were able to identify where New England EP group stood in the mix. Some areas we can improve, some we are leading.

NAC turns 20 years old this year. Part of Knowledge workgroup is benchmarking this milestone. Want to collect data of people involved and where they are now, plus project forward the next 20 years. NCARB program allowing test taking in school is causing decrease in Associate members. Plan on having an event to present all of this at Convention.

Gina asked about ArchiPrep. AIA is pushing it. Just launched in October. Is it helping people? Gail will look into this.

Had some good conversations with local EPs about local programs. Felt that they had more success when they shared info by live streaming on Facebook. NH and VT would love to tap into that. Want to build more programming tied into AEC community.

Margaret Randolph is 2020 Licensing Advisor in NH. She’s been meeting with States Economic Council to address low number of architectural professionals in the State. Interested in cross collaborating with the BSA.

*See attached report.*
8. **YARD**
Caitlin had YAF NAC joint meeting in December. Trying to have YAC have a larger presence on aia.org so EPs have a way to easily find information about progressing in their careers. Trying to come up with initiative to spotlight EPs of all ages throughout the country.

Gail recommends they get info onto Component Connect. Also, write an article and send to ED’s; they will get it distributed for them. She thinks another website is not the way to get information out. Same with Spotlight, send to ED’s to get it out to more members.

Gail and she are talking about resiliency, specifically in New England, and align with AIA’s efforts.

*See attached report*

9. **SMALL FIRM EXCHANGE**
Mike reports that this group has evolved each year. They look at what’s going on throughout the country in small firms. Have 26 total members. Analyzing feedback from constituents. 75% of all firms are small firms; 75% of architects are from large firms. Looking at how small firms practice and what their needs are.
Annual meeting is at end of Feb. They have a communications team, business operations, advocacy, and KC’s with connections back into SFX. Part of SFX is also resiliency, in the big picture, but also how a small firm itself becomes resilient. They are developing a tool kit for this.
Mike is also a rep for COTE.

10. **COF**
New Fellows will be publicly named Feb 25. The list is being released today. Nancy promoted people applying for Fellowship. It is a great way to assess your contribution to the profession.
Last night they had a meeting here, and members came in for informational session. Call for applications is not until June 1; due in October. Peter led the session. There is a pdf about Fellowship on aia.org (under careers). Nancy has offered assistance to any of the NE components. In the past there has been a webinar set up by National. Peter says the new name is “Pathway to Fellowship.”

COF is trying to get its “act” together. There is a stronger request for contributions and they are discussing ways to strengthen ties to young professionals and do activities with them. BSA just cleaned up its list of contacts with Fellows. Other chapters can send contact info of their fellows and Nancy will add to the list.

Mentoring programs are set up in different ways throughout the country. Some tied to Fellows, others not (like BSA).

11. **ROSES, THORNS, BUDS**
Gina is on a national Board committee on Equity and Future of the Profession. Emily Grandstaff-Rice is the chair.
CT holds roundtable discussions on each of the chapters of the *Guides for Equitable Practice*. There are six firms that participate and people call in. After the call people physically at the firm can talk further. If you want to call in, contact Gina.

Darrell: Central MA has renewed a scholarship program. Gave $500 to student at a local firm. They are working hard to fund it.

Gail is collaborating with Eric and the BSA to create a SAP training two weeks from now. Just started this initiative; she will share info as soon as it’s available. It will be held Feb. 29 at BSA.

Tracy: NH had record attendance at all of their programming. Took a step back to look at profession as a whole and its future. Future of practice and technology was a big take away. Data is driving architecture, shaping building regulations and more. The model of business of architecture as a service is heading toward a commodity. Role of AIA may change in the next decade as well.

Natasha: if you have people who want to go to Puerto Rico to help out, contact her. Gina has a long list of architects and engineers who want to deploy. Natasha will send info to the group.

BSA is hosting a Town Hall meeting, Feb 25, 5-7. Speaker is from Harvard Business School, on organizations and equity. Will give an update, go through the *Guides for Equitable Practice*; also starting a Knowledge community.

LGBTQ community needs some leadership at the BSA. Gina suggests talking to Emily.

Eric: BSA has reached out to a group to help with internal EDI. Will work with the Y, which has a phenomenal program in Boston (Inclusion Boston), and that is also replicated throughout the US.

Gina spoke about an article on bias. Will send to CI to distribute. Helen asked if people would do a little homework for next time’s discussion.

12. **ADJOURN**

   Meeting adjourned at 2:52.

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED REPORTS**

**Upcoming Meetings:**

April 29, AIANE Regional Council Meeting, BSA, 12-3 pm

May 14-16, AIA Conference 2020, Los Angeles

August 26, AIANE Regional Council Meeting, BSA or phone TBD, 12-3 pm

TBD, AIANE Awards and Annual Conference, Vermont, site TBD
AIA New England Regional Council Meeting
BSA Space
February 12, 2020 12:00am-3:00pm

New England RAD Report
Gail Kubik, Assoc. AIA
Regional Associate Director (2019-2020)

National Update

○ NAC Future Knowledge Work Group
  • Going to build upon the beta professional development survey we created last year and will issue it to EPs in all AIA regions.
    - The survey last year focused on regional EPNet experiences with EP member engagement in ‘service’ oriented programming and the role digital resources may play in assisting with future programming. See survey data attached.

○ Joined the A’20 NAC Task Force.
  • A subgroup within the NAC which will focus on the 20th Anniversary since the NAC’s inception.

Regional Update

○ The AIA New England – Emerging Professionals Network Conference Call #1 of 2020 was held on January 14th, 12-1pm.
  • Caitlin and I shared with the EPN Chairs the AIA Conference dates as well as the EP pop up events and volunteer opportunities available at the conference.
  • We reviewed programming highlights from each chapter from 2019 and asked the question “How will you build upon your successes in 2020?”.

Local Update

○ BSA:
  • Gabby and Chris are beginning to livestream their events and posts the videos on their Facebook page - [BSA Facebook Website](#).
  • They will be continuing the BSA’s “FeedBack” mentorship program and further information from last year’s pilot can be found here - [FeedBack: An EPNet Mentorship Program](#).

  ➢ Goals for 2020:
    • Provide programming crafted for AEC community through creative collaborations with organizations such as the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI).
    • Expand Programming reach beyond the boundaries of Boston and engage members in greater eastern MA.

○ New Hampshire:
  • Margaret Randolph will be the 2020 NCARB Licensing Advisor for the state.
    - She will be meeting with the state’s Economic Development Council to address the low numbers of Architectural Professionals in the state who are under the age of 35.

  ➢ Goals for 2020:
    • Create programming/charrettes that promote affordable development to create thriving, balanced communities so to attract and retain working professionals.
    • Collaborate with the BSA to engage members with program offerings across MA and NH state lines.
    • Build further communication lines with schools offering technical studies to develop programming which promote STEAM and the Architectural Profession.
Vermont:
- Lealoni has been having great success with the AIA VT Annual Design Competition program and a listing of their past competitions can be viewed via this link - [AIA Vermont Emerging Professionals Network Website](#).

- **Goals for 2020:**
  - To expand participant outreach to professionals at different phases of their career, especially targeting those with more senior Architectural experience.
  - To continue establishing communication lines with schools and to develop relevant programming for students entering the Architectural Profession.

Rhode Island:
- Nicole Hetherington will be the new 2020 EPNet Chair and will be replacing Kaitlin DeGregorio.

Connecticut:
- Andrew Collins will be the new 2020 EPNet Chair and will be replacing both Adrienne Nelson and Aiden Migani.

**Goals and Next steps**

- Keep communication to and from NAC level to NE Region EPN Chair level.
- Brainstorm with Caitlin for a regional collaboration between the NAC & YAF.
The survey was circulated to the following (5) AIA Regions: New England, New Jersey, South Atlantic, Gulf States & Illinois. In total, responses recorded are captured from EPNet Committees in (14) states.
New England reported the highest Associate member in-person attendance was in programming focused on Mentoring and Construction Tours, whereas the highest Associate member digital attendance was in programming focused on Sustainability and Practice Management.
February 12, 2020
AIA New England Report
February Board Meeting
Report by: Caitlin Osepchuk, AIA, YARD
Instagram: @aianewengland
Twitter: @YAFnewengland

- **YAF Updates**
  - YAF NAC joint meeting held in Austin, Texas, January 23-25, 2019
    - I have joined the Knowledge focus group. Looking to spotlight Eps of all ages (3 under 30, 4 under 40, 5 under 50, etc.)
    - Publish financial savvy ways to go to conference in Connection Magazine and social media
  - A’19 –MiniMBA Mastering the Business for Emerging Professionals
    - Collaboration between the YAF and Large Firm RoundTable
    - Actively looking for a new coordinator, submit application 2020 to start 2021 term
  - Connection Magazine – Q1 magazine will be published soon. When the link is available, I will share it with everyone.

- **YARD / RAD Collaboration**
  - AIA New England Emerging Professional Friendly Firm Program
    - The 2020 survey results have been uploaded to the AIA New England website. http://aianewengland.org/ep-friendly-firm-awards/
    - 2020 survey – Late Summer / Early Fall 2020 to align with regional awards and AIA New England Conference
  - Resiliency in New England and how it can relate to AIA’s “Big Move”
  - Social Media
    - Instagram: @aianewengland
    - Twitter: @YAFnewengland / @AIANERAD

- **EP Groups in New England**
  - Conference call held January 14, 12:00-1:00
  - New England EP Action Items
    - Looking for recommendations for any members that we could spotlight
    - Group leaders will also share social media accounts so groups can see what events are occurring
    - Record or Webex different programs so the entire region can participate/ benefit
      - What is the best way to do this?
      - Where should these programs be saved and accessed?
  - State updates:
    - No update from Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Western Massachusetts, or Central Massachusetts
    - BSA:
• BSA EP Network lists their upcoming events on their website and can be viewed via this link - BSA Emerging Professionals Network Website.
• BSA is beginning to livestream their events and posts the videos on their Facebook page - BSA Facebook Website.
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The Young Architects Forum is a Committee of The American Institute of Architects