

Minutes: AIA New England Quarterly Meeting

August 25, 2010

Boston Society of Architects, Boston MA

Present:

Peter Kuttner FAIA	AIA Vice President (BSA)
Carolyn Isaak	Exec Director, AIANH, AIANE
Michael Hoffman AIA	AIANE President, (VT)
Cindy Gerlach AIA	President AIARI
Mohamad Farzan AIA	AIANE Regional Director Elect
Diane H. Jones	Executive Director, AIACT
E. Russell Learned AIA	Treasurer, AIANE (CT)
Greg Ames AIA	AIANE Regional Director (CT)
Kelley Caminero Assoc AIA	RAD, AIANE
Eric White	Interim Executive Co-Director, BSA
Casey Nixon	RAD-Elect, AIANE
Tom Haskell AIA	President, AIACT
Erica Gees	AIANE Regional Director, (WMA) via phone
Jen Zolkos	Executive Director, AIARI
Michael Morin	President, AIANH

1. President's Report.

Michael Hoffman opened the meeting at 12:30 pm. Introductions made.

CI reported on CACE component leadership award, given to Diane Harp Jones at the recent CACE Annual Meeting. Congratulations to Diane!

Approval of minutes....accepted, moved by Tom, seconded by Russ. Approved.

Meeting dates for next year were discussed. They have been set for:

- ∞ January 27, 2011 – Noon to 3 (third floor)
- ∞ April 21, 2011 – Noon to 3 (fifth floor)
- ∞ August 24, 2011 – noon to 3 (fifth floor)
- ∞ October 14-16, 2011 – Annual meeting, Western, MA
- ∞ November 16, 2011 – noon to 3, (at Build Boston)

Nomination from Mass or RI for treasurer. Michael asked that execs send CI names, she will forward to Nomination committee, come up with a name or vote....ready for AIANE conference in November.

2. National Directors:

Erica: CACE summit results have increased everyone's enthusiasm. Have restored her faith in the process, and she is feeling energy is in great place. Future looks positive and exciting. EG emailing the CACE summit notes to board members.

Dues payment plan is being reviewed and will be addressed at coming board meeting this weekend.

GA: not just for people in hardship, but for everyone across the board. There are cash flow ramifications. Decision has been deferred. This costs \$78 for AIA per membership. There is a lot of administrative work. There are over 300 dues levels. Started as a hardship thing, now looking at it as a membership retention. Have extended it for 2011 (individuals petition for this), and National is subsidizing that cost, and looking at it as a permanent option.

DJ: please keep us informed as conversation evolves. If presented as an option, maybe there should be an incentive to pay in full.

AIA also is not increasing dues with COL index, second year in a row.

EG will add in notes something for us to share with members.

Membership has decreased from 84,0000 to 74,000.

AIA Balloon payment of 12 million due in 2012. They are looking at refinancing a mortgage now, as loan rates are very good. With new loan allowing them to amortize it every year. Have reserves of 20 million, but with market as volatile as it is, in 2012 we could have no reserves.

The refinance would translate to a lower monthly payment than exists now. It is a fixed rate. 15 year loan. It really makes sense. Board will vote on this.

Have developed a reserves policy. Board has established guidelines for criteria for what constitutes a need, targets, where investments are placed. EG will share that with everyone.

CES new system going into place. Will launch on Oct. 25 (I think now around Nov 9). Transition is in progress. 46 states have CEU requirements. Idea has been presented that may AIA should not require CEUs for membership anymore, since people need it for licensing. But, many states require fewer units than our requirements.

MOU signed with USGBC and AIA National? Find out about this. EG will track down.

AIA and IT: they are improving the website. Major overhaul. Many improvements are up, but still in progress.

EVP-CEO Search: People excited about Paul Welch and what he's doing as interim CEO. Process is on schedule to have recommendation at the end of the year. Oct. 1 is due date for applications.

Leadership Summit: PK

Showed new website.

CACE/Institute Leadership Summit

Goal is to improve communications, create a culture to move back and forth between AIA National and CACE.

Clarified roles and contributions. Committee sat in different relationships and reviewed strengths, weaknesses, and threats. View from Board, CACE, and National Staff. Had to think in other people's role. Good session and fun actually.

Looked at contributions, delivery of services, issues: stepped away from personal issues into delivery management issues. What is effective.

ID'd five issues.

Communications will be focus for 2011.

May be revisited (Dropped in budget cuts): Component Partnership Program and Institute Resource Training both staff and CACE ex directors.

Goal is to finish things before starting new things.

International Strategy,

Green Code, Honors and Awards, Web templates, Reinvigorate RuDaDATS, SDATES, KC Support.

4. AIANE Membership Dues:

Discussion; all NE components are holding dues at current rates for second year. EG will send out what MI has done to reduce dues (they had highest in the country).

Motion to extend the current dues reduction of 50A% for 2011 AIANE Budget. All in favor. We will need to watch our finances. MH moved, RL seconded.

5. Annual Meeting:

EW: hosting AIANE conf Nov. 18-19. Board meeting at noon; afternoon will feature tours of local firms in 4-point channel area. There will be a reception on a boat river cruise that night; the boat will do architectural tours next year. (First harbor tour in two weeks on Saturday, labor day weekend, leaving from Cambridge Galleria. Harbor tours and river tours.) Friday am breakfast, presentation, rest of day workshops and tours. Friday night is the awards dinner. 200 entries. Jury just completed their work, four jurors from Chicago. Website registration will open soon. LINK onto our sites.

6. NAC:

Kelley: Term changes: Kelley ends Dec. 2010, Casey starts Jan 1, 2011. Changes to align their annual meeting with convention.

Number of interns unable to get credit because they don't have work? Kelley says there are more people involved in IDP. NCARB allowing working pro bono, etc.

They issued a survey that deals with those issues. See Kelley's separate report. Retention and dedication to the profession is still there.

NCARB was at their annual meeting and was very defensive about the fee increases.

EG: Group of architects trying to establish a national license vs individual state licenses. Has anyone called us?

7. YAF:

new YAF component in VT.

8. College of Fellows:

New procedure would require that the Two current fellows present a nominee that will be presented to the AIANE Board for approval. Tom Moved, Russ seconded. Approved.

9. Executive Director:

Financial Report: approved.

10. Chapter Reports

NH:

NH is planning a busy fall of programming including a house tour, postponed from June; a meeting with the NH Furniture Masters; a joint chapter meeting with AIAVT at the Putney School; a workshop on current developments in the law for NH design professionals; a LEED for Homes program, two education days, one in Oct and one in November filled with a number of presentations; and a tour of the NH Institute of Art award-winning Lowell St. renovation and addition, with a presentation by Dean Evan Douglas of RPI. It is holding its first PechaKucha event Oct. 20.

Award submissions are due in October for 2011 Design Award Program. Board will have its annual retreat Oct. 21-22.

CT:

AIA was all over NY news on reports about a new skyscraper being proposed to go next to the Empire State Building. On the news all week that the Empire State building is the favorite building in the world according to the AIA.

Will be bringing new architect's cookbook to next meeting, \$21.95 plus tax. Will be launched in three weeks. Really nice-looking book. Looks like a spec book. One of their members did the drawings.

Tom Haskell, CT stated how proud AIACT is to have DHJ receive the CACE award.

Elections: Candidates in CT are falling out of trees. Had gubernatorial candidates appear at AIACT for presentation and Q & A. Q were submitted from the floor and online. 62 people in the room. They were all interested in coming.

Last week filed an Amicus Brief against removal of state of repose.

Looking for strategic plan ideas.

Central MA: James Kunsler talked on smart growth and development; Michael Kim from state's designer selection board encouraging small firms to submit for state projects. Gave \$3,000 in scholarships to three students. Chris Walsh is running for state rep, and is in the middle of his campaign.

MA: posted a series of conversations with candidates running for treasurer (oversees funding for school projects). Senate and House approved the lien law, so will finalize details when back in session. Will allow architects to claim a lien on projects. Having been working on that for a couple of years.

BSA: Common Boston architectural festival in June, volunteer group, had great participation, lots of press. Going to be piloting a boat tour program. Have planning process using National and Peter to help plan next year. Exec. Search is underway right now. Have a new web site going live in November. Using a lot more with video, distance learning, taping all lectures. Architecture Boston will be online. If you know of writers or are interested in writing, let Eric know. Lecture series for fall with great speakers. Hope to bring in Pritzker award winners as part of spring series. NOMA will be here in October.

RI:

RI has been holding a Gallery night in Providence. It has been well received by the public and members. Have close to 100 in and out on a monthly basis. Recently had art by architects. Really well received!

Plan a sustainable design exhibition and hosting "green" drinks for everyone involved in sustainability efforts from farmers markets on up.

Corporate affiliate fair (small trade show) and lobster boil at Roger Williams Univ and summer conference in conjunction with that.

Emerging Professionals have been hosting construction tours with profit going to the lending library.

VT: Hanne retired, Carol Miklos new exec. Director. Had big party at Mad River Glen with 150 people, lots of drinks, told stories. , etc.

Carol has been a non-profit director, seems very organized.

Transition is interesting. KC Harrison worked with them and has been helpful. They will have a House tour and a golf tournament in September; a lecture series going on.

LA's in VT got licensure bill passed in VT and they have beaten own the professional corporation tax.