

Minutes: AIA New England Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Boston Society of Architects

ATTENDEES:

AIA New England:	Kerry Dietz, AIA	(President)
	John Merkle, AIA	(Treasurer)
	Domenic Carbone, Jr. AIA	(President Elect)
	Carolyn Isaak	(Executive Director)
National Directors:	Scott Simpson, FAIA	
	M. Hunter Ulf, AIA	
BSA:	Richard Fitzgerald	(Executive Director)
AIA Central Mass:	Nancy Jenner	(Executive Director)
AIA Massachusetts:	Marty Smith, AIA	(President)
AIA Connecticut:	Diane Harp Jones	(Executive Director)
AIA Maine:	-	-
AIA New Hampshire:	John Merkle, AIA	(Past President)
	Carolyn Isaak	(Executive Director)
AIA Rhode Island:	Martha Werenfels, AIA	(President)
	Sandy Taylor, AIA	(President-Elect)
AIA Vermont:	-	-
AIA Western Mass:	Marty Smith, AIA	(President)
Nat'l Assoc. Comm:	Helen Risom Belluschi, Assoc AIA	National Director
	Jessica Zlotogura, Assoc. AIA	
Guests:	-	-

1. CALL TO ORDER: Called to order at 2:00 PM. The Minutes of the May 1, 2002 Meeting were reviewed. And accepted.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kerry acknowledged the difficulty of the day and her appreciation for everyone's presence.

Meeting dates for 2003 were discussed. Hunter will get dates of National Directors meetings to Carolyn, and then dates will be distributed to board for approval.

3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The nominating committee is the two regional directors and the president of AIANE. They proposed a slate for the 2003 Board of Directors to include: Domenic Carbone, AIA-President; John Merkle, AIA-President-Elect; and Mohammed Farzan, AIA – Treasurer. The Board moved to accept the slate. The Nominees will be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting.

4. BY-LAWS Jim Childress, AIA, is drafting changes. Tabled until November 13.

5. NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Scott provided a financial update for the Board. The good news is that there has been a tremendous turnaround in the last year and a half. He noted that this Board and BSA, along with Texas and a few others, were influential in raising the consciousness of the National Board in this regard. AIA is out of the woods, a result of putting minds to the problem. He reminded us that if you don't acknowledge a problem to begin with, it goes on forever.

Sales of electronic contract documents were lagging due to technical problems with the 3.0 documents. However, release of the 3.0 Plus program has significantly reduced technical support

costs and improved sales. A vendor has been selected to develop the next version of electronic format for the AIA Contract Documents.

Hunter reported that National is now focusing on solid services to membership and that there is a monitoring system in place for finances that wasn't there before. The long range fiscal plan will provide for regular reports to every member and possibly an annual report.

Hunter also spoke about a new synergy among the components—that a new model is in progress based on collaboration, not hierarchy. Improvements have been made in Customer Service, with the goal of providing access to staff for every AIA member. AIA is working to strengthen the exchanges among components.

Architectural Education: There has been discussion on the National Board about offering students the opportunity to take the ARE upon graduation and that the six-year review of architectural programs by NCARB be shortened. The Collateral Education committee still recommends that there be both BA and MA architectural degree options. NCARB has apparently stopped talking about it.

Hunter noted that the BSA paper on inclusiveness was very helpful to the National Board.

General Discussion: Several items were discussed for Scott and Hunter to take to the National Board. Documents should be continued to be addressed until all problems are solved. The AIANE Board feels that the Convention sales idea is not a good one. The Board also noted that the paper version of AIArchitect is very much missed. The Board indicated that the improved customer service from AIA National is acknowledged and very much appreciated. Diane Harp Jones requested that we be kept informed of any developments regarding membership categories. She also mentioned that AIA has been invited to participate in the planning process of CSI restructuring, and wants to make sure we are participating.

6. NATIONAL ASSOCIATES COMMITTEE: The National Associates Committee 2001-2002 held the final telephone conference call on September 9. Jessica Zlotogura (New England's RAD elect for 2002-2003) was able to participate. Though only 10 of the 18 RAD's were on the call, it was announced that 16 RADs are in place for the upcoming term and the two remaining are all but official.

The Communications Committee is in excellent condition; our newsletter is receiving accolades from all over the country. The hierarchy and the combination of NAC with non-NAC writers and editors will go a long way to making this an even better source of information for Associates.

Helen was asked to prepare and help with the winter edition, which will feature articles on women in architecture, especially as they juggle family life with the profession. Meanwhile, the fall issue is almost ready.

The NAC is preparing two other major thrusts. A committee is preparing and writing mission statements and working on a strategic plan. And a Survey Committee is giving much time and thought to preparing a survey that will give the NAC and the AIA in general useful information about the Associates.

Helen will attend the next meeting of AIANE as Jessica's shadow and for closure, but took time at this meeting to tell the Board that it was a pleasure to be part of the group and see a new side of AIA. She thanked everyone for their assistance and gave an "extra" thank you to Richard: "He has always been available to answer ALL questions—and to help write candidate requirements—everything.

7. CHAPTER REPORTS & DISCUSSION:

Central Mass: Central MA has a new program coordinator and is very busy. The Worcester Design Awards and Preservation Worcester will develop a separate awards event. Also, Head Start, Central MA AIA, and Preservation Worcester are having a joint program. Central MA is developing a scholarship fund for a Worcester area student.

BSA: BSA is focusing on economic issues and on finding new ways to help architects who have been laid off. They are creating a credit union. They offer free monthly lunches, which prove to be good advisory, networking opportunities for people looking for positions.

They will hold a career day on Oct. 29 with a mini trade fair and nine workshops. The day will be promoted to every high school in New England.

Richard noted legal cases of interest. In MA three cases about liability for building defects has broadened architects' exposure to litigation. On the positive side, an architect in MA was hired to draw documents for a single family home for a developer and was then told that the project was on hold. He later discovered his design was multiplied at a development. The court determined that the developer had violated the single use clause of the contract.

The 9/11 funds solicited by BSA last year went to the Massachusetts 9/11 fund, to aid MA-based victims of 9/11. About \$75,000 was raised.

New Hampshire: NH is hosting a joint AIANH-AIAVT meeting in October focusing on an exhibit and presentation by the NH Furniture Masters. The meeting will be at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, VT. They are planning a Design Day in November for anyone interested in a hands-on workshop in architecture, interior design, and landscape design. Participants will attend sessions in all three disciplines. NH is also holding their first Intern/Young Architect Design Competition.

The Environmental Guild of AIANH is working hard on a two-day conference on environmental responsible design and development slated for March 21-22. Information on the Integrated Design Integrated Development Conference is on the AIANH web site: www.aianh.org/Pages/idid.html.

Over the summer the AIANH Board of Directors filed an Amicus Brief on the statute of limitations and discovery clause in question due to unclear interpretation of RSA 508:4 and RSA 508:4-b.

Rhode Island: RI passed a rehabilitation code recently, which is on line at www.rbfc.state.ri.uys. They held a Chapter Meeting to introduce the code and had a very good turnout. Their golf tournament raised \$30,000 for scholarships. The next Chapter Meeting is at Bryant College in a new building by Gwathmey Siegel and a tour of the shop that did the millwork. Their Annual Awards banquet will be at the site of one of the winners. Rhode Island is now requiring CEUs. There was a sandcastle competition on Labor Day.

Connecticut: CT awards program jury day is September 19. The awards ceremony will be in December. They are hosting a reception September 23 to those who received licensure in CT since last September. On September 26 they will have a Chapter Meeting at the Greenwich Arts Council focusing on the ways architects can be volunteers in the community as a way to ensure good development. They will have their second ARE Review program this fall, meeting every other week for 21 weeks. Each program is \$10 and includes dinner. The AIACT Annual Conference is October 9 at St Clemens Castle. Elizabeth Brown, an architectural historian will speak. Their 100th anniversary will be November 11 at the Bushnell. A Career Day is planned for November. CT recommends a new category of membership: senior associate, with 12 years or longer as an associate member, with

the same price level as a first year AIA full member.

W. Mass: W. Mass is rebuilding their web page, which will include their award winners. Their fall lecture series begins in October at the Smith College Art Museum.

Maine: No report.

Vermont: AIAVT submitted a written report: "The Executive Committee of AIA Vermont held a productive all-day retreat in June. This was followed with a meeting in August and will provide us with guidelines for this year and beyond. Stu Sutcliffe, AIA, will have an article on the retreat in our October Newsletter. On October 10 AIAVT will join AIANH at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, VT. On October 17 three members of the Chapter will be the Jury for the AIANH Design Awards. On November 9 Middlebury College is hosting the Chapter members and students for "Middlebury Day for Architects: Assessing Recent Design." AIANY will act as the jury for the AIA Vermont Design Awards in November. Results will be announced at the AIAVT Annual Meeting in December."

6. REPORT ON NATIONAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Nancy reported on the National Diversity committee meeting in July. Among the initiatives discussed were 1): Getting together collateral organizations for a data summit which will work to find a way to collect data about architects; 2) Trying to reshape Grassroots to encourage Chapters to bring younger people to this leadership conference; and 3) Working with the Convention committee to get more diverse speakers at the Convention.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & FINANCIAL REPORT:

Budget: Carolyn presented the Year to Date Financial Report for AIANE.

8. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Isaak (Executive Director)