

Minutes: AIA New England Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Build Boston 12 noon

ATTENDEES:

Dean Bingham, AIA	President AIANE (AIAME)
Art Guadano, AIA	President-Elect AIANE (AIANH)
Peter Kuttner FAIA	AIA National Board Director, NE Region (BSA)
Richard Fitzgerald	Exec Director, BSA
Carolyn Isaak	Exec Director, AIANH, AIANE
Peg Chambers AIA	President, AIACT
Diane H. Jones	Executive Director, AIACT
Tom House AIA	President, AIANH
Jonathan Taylor Assoc AIA	RAD, AIANE
Greg Spiess AIA	President-Elect, AIARI
Matthew Stewart AIA	NE YAF Liaison (AIACT)
Bruce Hamilton, AIA	President-elect, AIANH
Kelley Caminero, Assoc. AIA	RAD, AIANE
Carol DeTine AIA	President, AIAME
Jen Zolkos	Executive Director, AIARI
Michael Hoffman AIA	Secretary/Treasurer AIANE (AIAVT)
Martha Montgomery AIA	President, AIA Mass
Greg Ames AIA	AIANE Regional Director-Elect, AIACT
Bill Austin AIA	President-Elect, W MA AIA
Lorin Starr	Executive Director, WMA AIA
Thomas Hartmann AIA	WMA AIA
E. Russell Learned AIA	President-Elect, AIACT
Nancy Jenner	Deputy Director BSA
J. Michael Abbott AIA	President, AIARI
Eric White	Executive Director, CM AIA
Mo Gagnon AIA	NE YAF Liaison-Elect (AIANH)
Pamela Hawkes FAIA	College of Fellows Representative (BSA)
Ernie Edwards AIA	President, CM AIA
Chris Walsh AIA	VP/Pres-Elect, CM AIA

President's Report

Dean opened the meeting at 12:20. Minutes from the August meeting were approved. Dean reviewed that past, busy year, mostly taken up by AIANE Conference planning on his part. Modification of the by-laws was also undertaken and nearly completed (see below). He suggested that getting more reports in advance to board meetings would help keep meetings on schedule. Dean thanked Jonathan Taylor for getting younger emerging professionals involved and congratulated him on his new position as chair of the NAC. Dean also welcomed Kelly, Jonathan's replacement on our board, and Mo Gagnon, who will be the new YAF Regional Liaison starting in 2009.

By-Laws:

Art reported on the by-law changes. He, Greg Ames, and Jonathan Taylor met to developing the wording. AG thanked JT as the impetus for making these changes so that all positions would be included. The changes also include some housekeeping items. The proposed changes clarify who can vote, how vacancies are handled, the

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election process, who is eligible for positions, how the rotation between BSA/AIACT and other components works, eligibility for Regional Directors, and clarification on the ExCom.

RF commended their work. A vote will be taken at the next meeting. Art was asked to change line 75, "directors" to "executives"; line 247, include "in the annual budget." AG will make changes, have AIA National review, and distribute before the next board meeting.

National Directors Report

Peter Kuttner reviewed National Board activity. The Convention was the 4th largest on record. The BSA Traveling scholarships program for interns was very successful. They are working on having it adopted for every convention.

AIA discontinued the member advertising surcharge and supplemental dues. AIA is beginning to pay for the new building, so finances are being watched closely.

A task force on governance is reviewing structure of Board of Directors, with a focus on board size and constitution. There will be a lot of conversation about this. The impetus for this came out of the Board itself. Currently the board tends to move toward a hands-on approach vs. strategic approach. It should be concerned on overall policy and health of the organization. The role of the Ex Com is also in discussion. AG voiced concern about a restructuring that didn't include regional representation.

Erica has been working on setting up disaster training for NE architects.

PK explained attempt to delineate national/component role in the strategic plan at the next board meeting. At that meeting the board will edit some of the strategic plan. More back up on this will be available.

AIANE Annual Meeting

Dean reviewed the Annual Meeting. There were 186 entries for the design awards; 14 winners. 90 people attended the banquet. They netted \$22,000. He reminded other components to make sure they release any non-reserved hotel rooms at the appropriate time. Design awards results are now online at www.aianewengland.org/designawards.html.

AG asked that all components make a special effort to promote attendance at the AIANE Regional Conference. Though a small conference, it is always educational, interesting, and an opportunity to meet with other NE architects.

Regional Directors Report

Peter Kuttner distributed a report (separate document and online).

Diane suggested that it would be helpful for National to give us some input on their forecasts for what revenue sharing amounts might be for 2009. PK noted that docs are holding steady for the moment; they will find out more at the Dec Board Meeting.

If you have any requests for dues waivers you should process them asap.

PK is running for VP.

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Regional Associate Director Report

Kelley distributed a report by email (separate document and online). She spoke about Firm Auxiliary Coordinators and asked components to promote this to firms. NH asked that the NAC encourage National to pursue the travel scholarship program that BSA instituted last year for the Convention. DJ also commented that no single-day registrations are allowed at Convention which poses a problem for many members. Components can write to Chris and make this suggestion.

Young Architects Forum

Matthew introduced Mo Gagnon he will be the YAF Regional Liaison starting in January. Matthew has defined the role of the YAF Liaison and acts as a link from component YAF reps to other NE reps and National YAF. AIANH just completed a design competition and winners will be announced in January. AIACT YAF is working with Habitat for Humanity. BSA continues with their ARE Success Teams. BSA is also sponsoring a competition for students and interns called "In Pursuit of Housing," co-sponsored by Architectural Record, and details will be announced soon. The deadline is in March.

College of Fellows

Pamela discussed the role of the College of Fellows in NE. She believes the jury is changing a bit and becoming more member-focused, and less concerned about AIA governance participation.

2030 Challenge

Board discussed local endorsement of 2030 challenge. AIA has done this, but it might be a good example for individual components to do so.

Chapter Reports

Vermont: AIAVT held a summit of building industry professionals to talk about legislative issues and the idea of sharing their resources for lobbyists, etc. High Performance Schools initiative is moving forward; they are approaching this as a unified front.

New Hampshire: AIANH is addressing 2030 issues through workshops co-presented with The Jordan Institute. Mostly LEED workshops, they occur at least every other month. They will have a chapter meeting in February on how New Hampshire can move forward toward this goal. Awards Banquet is Jan. 16. They are completing their AIA150 video and it will be distributed soon.

Rhode Island: RI honored their new FAIA's. One of them designed the WWII Memorial on the Mall in DC). Adopted new By-laws and required two of their directors to be representatives from architecture schools. They are trying to step up some on weighing in on new code initiatives in state policies. The Disaster Relief Proposal Greg Spiess developed is sitting on the FEMA director's desk.

Central MA: Their annual meeting is December 4. 2008 saw increased programming, attendance, and assets, so it was a good year. Eric White announced a new web site. Chris Walsh ran as candidate for state representative. Ernie suggested that more architects be involved in politics. It does take money and lots of endorsements to run a campaign.

Maine: Judith Harvie is cutting back her hours. She will now be Communications

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Director, and the new Executive Director is Susan Koch. They will be focusing on outreach next year.

CT: PC reported that their work on the strategic plan was very successful, and is a "living instrument," that they can refer to and embellish as they move forward. The work on this taught them about strengths, threats, weaknesses, opportunities of the chapter. They have distributed their AIA150 video on Transit Oriented Development. A number of communities are looking to introduce smart growth issues into their planning regulations. The coming year's "give back" effort will be "green goals for buildings." Their annual meeting, "Visions," features Joe Lstiburek an ASHRAE Fellow, and simple ways to talk about building systems and how to increase R values. You can download his seminars at www.buildingscienceseminars.com.

Western MA: Annual Meeting is Dec. 4 and will include the Design Awards presentation. They also participated in the Zero Net Energy Challenge in Springfield, cosponsored by Habitat for Humanity. Six designs were presented at UMass. They hope to make this a yearly event. They are establishing a philanthropic foundation. Their Learning by Design Box City program was displayed at a museum. Programming is expanding and they are networking into the community to raise awareness of architects and architecture.

AIA Massachusetts: Martha wrote an article recapping Architects' Day on the hill, which saw some board issues passed. Their annual meeting is December 2. They are improving the organization of the three chapters.

BSA: BSA held a very successful College Fair with 38 schools attending. BSA is gearing up to deal with the economy. In January they will hold their annual Job Fair. It has both a job marketplace and workshops to help those looking for jobs. They have many awards programs coming up open to firms across New England. www.architects.org/design_awards_programs/

Executive Director's Report:

Carolyn handed out financial reports and 2009 budget. Budget was approved unanimously. We will review component dues after first quarter and adjust if results of recession require it. We will discuss convention reception expense at the next meeting.

Other:

Dean presented a certificate to Richard Fitzgerald and noted the Board's appreciation of all that Richard has accomplished in his tenure as BSA's Executive Director and as a guiding force on the Regional Board of Directors. Eric White will give Richard the items (RF had already left for another meeting).

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 29, 12-3 pm BSA.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Isaak

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