

Minutes of the Meeting
State Board for Landscape Architecture
1411 Broadway; Regents' Room
New York, NY 10018

Present: Stacy Paetzel, Chair
Adrienne Weremchuk, Vice Chair
Valerie Aymer (10:35 arrival)
Daniel Biggs
Christine Colley
Nate Harris
Kimberly Lorenz
Christopher Nolan (11:59 departure)

Absent: Andrew Lavallee

Staff: Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary

April 17, 2024

OPEN SESSION

1. **Introductions, Welcome new Board Member, Board Departure:** New Board Member Daniel Biggs was introduced to the Board members. Each Board Member introduced themselves and welcomed new Member Biggs to the Board. The Executive Secretary thanked former Board Chair Colley and read a letter of appreciation to her for her 10 years of service on the State Board
2. **Motion:** Colley/Weremchuk: That the minutes of the November 29, 2023 State Board meeting be approved as written. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. **Board Chair Report:** Chair Paetzel commented on the forward movement of potential CE Modernization legislation as a positive step, with additional detail to be provided by the Executive Secretary during the meeting.
4. **Board Office Report:** The Executive Secretary stated that the number of landscape architects was at an all-time high in New York at 1,545 registrants. David Hamilton was appointed by the Board of Regents as the new Deputy Commissioner and Owen Donovan appointed as Assistant Commissioner, Professional Licensing & Practice, in March. Additionally, a new Assistant in Professional Education will begin in the Board office on April 25th. Board members reviewed and discussed proposed bill language impacting licenses for Certified Interior Designers in addition to reviewing other legislation.
5. **Old Business:**
Continuing Education (CE) Update: NYSCLA has completed a draft of modifications to the CE requirements and is seeking a bill sponsor. The proposed language includes the Board's technical assistance and comments on the modernization updates. The Executive Secretary thanked the Board for its patience, support and recommendations on the new CE requirements. If the proposed language is introduced, passes and becomes law, an 18-month period of regulatory drafting will take place, with OP leadership, legal, Board member, and public comments occurring at various points along that period. Ultimately, the Board of Regents will have to discuss and approve any regulatory amendments.

LARE Transition Conclusion Update: The Executive Secretary attended a CLARB webinar on January 4, 2024. A memo describing CLARB's findings was included in the Board package and highlights reviewed. Vice Chair Weremchuk asked how the cut score will be conducted with a high level of measurability given the availability of automatic scores scheduled to come out in the Winter of 2024.

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The Executive Secretary will ask CLARB to respond to this question.

Landscape Architect Statistics by Degree Type: Statistics regarding degree types most commonly found for New York's landscape architects was included in the Board package and reviewed. Of note is that 91% of New York's landscape architects hold a degree from an LAAB-accredited program.

Board Member Search: The Board is still in need of a Public Member and the Executive Secretary welcomes any suggestions from current Board members. Public Members are consumers of landscape architecture services in New York. The Executive Secretary continues to gather names of candidates for professional members and discussed the next transition in Board members scheduled for early 2026 and 2028.

6. **New Business:**

Volunteer – 2024 CLARB Mid-Year Update: This virtual meeting will be held on April 18th from 3:00-5:00, and, given that no Board member is available, the Executive Secretary will watch the recording of this meeting and will update the Board on major outcomes.

2024 CLARB Annual Meeting: A request for travel approval for Dan Biggs and the Executive Secretary will be sent to SED leadership. Member Lorenz had several suggestions for points of interest in Buffalo for Annual Meeting attendees and Member Nolan informed all that the entire city and parkway system was laid out by a landscape architect. The Executive Secretary will forward on the points of interest to CLARB. The draft agenda for the meeting was reviewed with highlights noted.

Elections – Chair and Vice Chair:

Motion: Colley/Adrienne: That Member Paetzel be elected as Board Chair. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion: Colley/Nolan: That Member Weremchuk be elected as Vice Chair. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Volunteers – ASLA Annual Conference CE Review: Given the earlier October 6-9, 2024 dates for ASLA's Annual Conference, the Executive Secretary asked for three volunteers to review this year's CE offerings. Vice Chair Weremchuk, Member Lorenz and Member Harris volunteered for the review. Member Biggs and Member Aymer volunteered to participate in future years.

CLARB/ASLA Spring Licensure Summit Summary: Highlights of this meeting were included in the Board package and summarized by the Executive Secretary for the Board.

7. **Motion**: Colley/Weremchuk moved to adjourn. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Next meeting Wednesday, August 14, 2024; in NYC

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary