

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

Present: Stacy Paetzel, Chair  
Adrianne Weremchuk, Vice Chair  
Daniel Biggs  
Kimberly Lorenz

Absent: Valerie Aymer  
Nate Harris  
Andrew Lavallee  
Christopher Nolan

Staff: Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary  
Gina Sacco, Assistant in Profession Education

**April 23, 2025**

**OPEN SESSION**

1. A quorum was not present. As a result, no actions were taken by the State Board.
2. **Board Chair Report:** No report.
3. **Board Office Report:** The Executive Secretary provided updated statistics that showed steady growth in the number of landscape architects licensed in New York. New York licensed 92 landscape architects last year, more than any other year on record.

OP/Staff Activities: The Board Office has completed its recruitment process for a new Education Credentials Specialist 1 (ECS 1), and is waiting on next steps from HR. Presently, the new ECS 1 is expected to start in May or June. The Executive Secretary thanked Ms. Sacco for her leadership with this recruitment effort.

The Executive Secretary described various activities he has been involved with over the last few months.

Legislative / Regulatory Activity: The Board discussed numerous legislative items.

A10543/S9849 (now Chapter 534 of the Laws of 2024) – the Executive Secretary described this new law and how the proposed Part Z of the NYS budget bill proposes to modify it. Board members in attendance expressed their continued support of the 2013 Design-Build White paper and that alternative project delivery methods can be used successfully in New York while not harming public protection. Board members also described their experience with design-build and the numerous checks and balances that were in place on those projects.

Budget Bill Part Y – Board members in attendance discussed this bill language. Much like Part Z, Board members in attendance expressed their continued support of the 2013 Design-Build White paper and reiterated that alternative project delivery methods can be used successfully while not harming public protection.

S1834 – Board members in attendance discussed this bill language. The members expressed that there must be a better understanding of appropriate titles for non-licensed individuals and that only those licensed as landscape architects in New York may use the title “landscape architect”. The Board did not have any technical assistance to offer on this bill and recommended that the Department support it, since, if approved, it would allow New York State employees to have similar opportunities as those in New York City.

S3268 – Board members in attendance discussed this bill language. After discussion, the Board’s technical assistance included the necessity to include landscape architects and architects in the bill language, as only professional engineers are currently included.

Board members also inquired about various other bills included in the Board package.

**4. Old Business:**

Continuing Education (CE) Update: The Executive Secretary reported that NYSCLA was successful in having a bill introduced in both the Assembly (A7561) and Senate (S7220) earlier this month to modernize the CE requirements for landscape architects. The changes in the requirements were reviewed by the Board members in attendance and included their recommendations. If the bill is passed and signed into law, the regulatory process will commence and take 18 months. Board members will be asked for confirmation of prior recommendations for CE changes as the regulations are being developed.

Public Member Search: The Board is still in need of a Public Member and the Executive Secretary welcomes any suggestions from current Board members.

Professional Member Search: A candidate is being interviewed in late May for the position that will be available when Member Lavalley leaves the Board at the end of January 2026.

LARE ESL Accommodations: The Executive Secretary included CLARB’s language in the Board package that outlines New York’s non-acceptance of the ESL Accommodation for candidates taking the LARE. Regulatory amendments including the ESL Accommodation will be considered by Department leadership and the State Board in the event of passage of the CE modernization bill.

Architecture Education and Experience requirement: The Architecture Board’s suggested modifications to the education and experience requirements for licensure candidates was included in the Board package. The Executive Secretary asked Board members if they would like to hold a similar review. The Board members suggested waiting until all members are present to have a conversation about this item.

**5. New Business:**

Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Chair Paetzel shared the typical process for selecting new Chair and Vice Chair. Elections are held annually with the Chair and Vice Chair usually holding each position for two years. This vote will be delayed until the start of the August meeting when a quorum is present.

CLARB Mid-Year Update: This virtual meeting will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm. The Executive Secretary asked for volunteers to attend, however, none of the Board members present can attend the entire meeting. Since a recording will be available, the Executive Secretary will review the recording and provide a summary to the Board at the August Board meeting.

CLARB Annual Meeting: This in-person meeting will be held from September 18-20. Vice Chair Weremchuk will check her schedule, and if she cannot attend, Member Biggs expressed interest in attending.

CLARB Organizational Update: Rebecca Moden, COO of CLARB, has accepted a new role as the CEO of CIDQ. The Executive Secretary included updates in the Board package regarding CLARB's hiring of a new staff member and existing staff members who will absorb Rebecca's duties.

Future CLARB Visit: The Executive Secretary sought input on whether CLARB should be invited to a future meeting, and, if invited, ideas for potential discussion topics. It was suggested that the State Board and CLARB can share updates on common items of interest. After discussion, members present suggested that a conversation about agenda and logistical items be part of the August State Board agenda.

NCARB Statement on AI: The Executive Secretary reviewed highlights from NCARB's statement on AI. Discussion surrounded whether CLARB should take up a similar effort in describing AI and a licensee's responsibilities in using AI.

ASLA Meeting CE Volunteers: Member Lorenz, Member Weremchuk and Member Harris volunteered to take part in this annual CE review.

6. Meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting Thursday, August 14, 2025; in NYC**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA  
Executive Secretary