

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

Present: Carol Bentel, Vice Chair
Greg Canaras
Giuseppe Lauro
Fred Mosher, Jr.
Anik Pearson
Joel Peterson
Talisha Sainvil

Absent: Nicole Dosso, Chair

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

November 13, 2025

OPEN SESSION

1. **Motion:** *Pearson/Mosher:* That the Board enter Executive Session.
2. The Board resumed Open Session.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion: *Pearson/Peterson:* That the minutes of the August 6, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. **Board Chair Report**
In the Chair's absence, Vice Chair Bentel commented on the impact that losing foreign students has been having on collegiate institutions and architecture programs and will continue to have in the future.
5. **Board Office Report**
The Executive Secretary delivered the Board Office Report, which included updated statistics, recent activities, and proposed legislation. He noted that the bill to modernize continuing education (CE) requirements for landscape architects had passed both the Senate and Assembly but still has not yet been sent to the Executive. Board office staff met with NCARB representatives and discussed possible options for future NCARB transmittals and the upcoming competency changes.
6. **Old Business**
Project Construction Cost Estimates - NYC
In August, the Executive Secretary, Chair Dosso, and Member Pearson attended a virtual meeting with AIA NY staff and stakeholders. They discussed challenges with architects being asked to certify costs for NYC projects. Some solutions were discussed and the group felt it may be best to wait for the administration change that will occur shortly. It was suggested that AIA NY draft a letter outlining concerns related to this issue, and possibly other issues facing

architects who practice in NYC. The Board suggested other options, including some that may be proposed to solve the issue, including certified estimators, or scale-based costs that are transparent to architects and their clients.

Architecture as STEM

The profession of architecture does not have its own CIP Code Title in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) STEM Designated Degree Program List. Architecture is included as its own CIP series and is designated as 04. The Executive Secretary described the efforts to date to remedy this and challenges related to ensuring that architecture have its own CIP code. He has discussed the matter with AIA NYS and with NCARB, and the matter appears to fit within AIA's purview. Member Peterson mentioned that the Deans of the Schools of Architecture will be meeting later this month at the Center for Architecture, and he may be able to discuss this at that meeting, as he will be attending. The Executive Secretary will share the materials collected to date with Member Peterson.

Endorsement Pathway with UK

This effort is currently paused, as the Department focuses on other high-priority initiatives, and will resume when capacity allows.

2025 NCARB Regional Summit – March 20/21, 2026 Architect Volunteer

The Executive Secretary requested an architect volunteer to attend the NCARB Regional Summit. The volunteer should notify the Executive Secretary of their ability to attend by January 2026.

Women in Architecture Series

Member Pearson shared her experience with the Women in Architecture series; upcoming session will occur next week, with additional sessions in January, March, May, and over the summer. Member Pearson and Peterson will connect regarding the series. Most of the events occur virtually, given that attendees come from around the US.

7. New Business

September 2025 NCARB Board of Directors' Recap

Region 2 members met to discuss the September NCARB Board of Directors meeting. Topics included a code of conduct for volunteers, theft of architect seals, NCARB changes to the AXP and the ARE, and statistics related to Member Boards' satisfaction of NCARB services.

Changes to the AXP Coming in November 2025

Specific changes discussed and will go into effect on November 18.

Licensure Trends in New York

The Executive Secretary reviewed statistics shared in NCARB's Jurisdictional Report. The Executive Secretary pointed out several statistics that stood out in the report, including demographics, the increased number of new architects identifying as a person of color, and that women were shown to earn their architectural license faster than men. Member Pearson noted that a comparison of these statistics to prior years, especially as it concerns demographics and pass rates, may be important to understand their meaning. The Executive Secretary will contact Jennifer Kawecky to see if historical data can be shared with New York.

Expansion in Use of Fraudulent Seals

The Executive Secretary reviewed an article related to the creation and use of fraudulent architectural stamps. He also shared that a prior complaint submitted to OPD has been sent to the

FBI. The Board discussed how other states are trying to address this issue, including the viewing of a short video of a seal verification company. Ohio may be looking for a process to verify a licensee's seal when submitting it to public officials.

The Department met with NYS Department of State (DoS) officials to raise their awareness of the issue that is occurring throughout the US. To date, DoS officials have not heard of any such occurrences in New York. The Board acknowledged that this issue is important and should be monitored, and there may need to be a change to the signing/sealing process when submitting working drawings for permit.

Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings

The Executive Secretary reviewed the OnSite program that was presented to Member Sainvil and himself on November 6th by the founders of the program. He explained how New York would view such experience as it pertains to licensure. The experience would be a great opportunity for candidates to get AXP credit, especially within the Construction and Evaluation area. However, given that it would most likely be less than one month in duration in total, it would not count towards the experience duration requirement.

The Executive Secretary asked the Board if it would be beneficial to have this program presented at a future meeting. The Board felt that they have solid understanding of the program but would be interesting to review statistics related to the number of participants in the future.

Motion: *Mosher/Canaras:* Moved to adjourn.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2026 in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary

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

Present: Carol Bentel, Vice Chair
Greg Canaras
Giuseppe Lauro
Fred Mosher, Jr.
Anik Pearson
Joel Peterson
Talisha Sainvil

Absent: Nicole Dosso, Chair

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Practical Exam:**

The Board conducted a practical exam. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously that the candidate passed the practical exam and recommended that the Department license the candidate.

Member Peterson provided commentary to the Board on his observations of the practical exam.

2. **Motion:** *Mosher/Pearson:* That the Board resume the Open Session.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary