

**Minutes of the Meeting  
State Board for Architecture**

1411 Broadway; Regents' Room  
New York, NY 10018

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

Absent: Giuseppe Lauro

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

**February 5, 2026**

**OPEN SESSION**

1. **Motion:** Bentel/Canaras: That the Board enter Executive Session.
2. The Board resumed Open Session.
3. **Approval of Minutes**  
**Motion:** Pearson/Mosher: That the minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.  
**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
4. **Board Chair Report**  
Chair Dosso distributed information on the committees that Board members serve on in addition to their State Board participation. She reported on non-confidential items regarding the NCARB R&D Committee upon which she serves. Chair Dosso noted that NCARB hasn't sent out its annual call for volunteers to serve on its committees. The Executive Secretary will inquire about when that volunteer application will be sent out by NCARB.
5. **Board Office Report**  
The Executive Secretary delivered the Board Office Report, which included updated statistics, recent activities, and proposed legislation. The Executive Secretary attended the most recent ARPL webinar, shared that the AIA has recently rejoined ARPL, along with some legislative updates from other States. He noted that the bill to modernize continuing education (CE) requirements for landscape architects had been signed into law by the Executive, with an effective date in May 2027. Drafting of regulatory amendments will begin in the first quarter of 2026.
6. **Old Business**  
**ICOR Practice Overlap Guidance Overlap**  
The Executive Secretary distributed this long-awaited document to the State Board, and, per ICOR's request, he asked that this document not be shared with non-State Board members. The document provides a defensible framework for identifying where professional competencies

amongst architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, interior design and land surveying overlap – and where they remain distinct. The document may be useful in future practice conversations involving architecture and interior design and landscape architecture and engineering. The Executive Secretary noted that the document does not always reflect New York State law, citing as one example the coterminous relationship between architecture and engineering with regard to designing buildings.

### **Licensure Trends in New York**

The Executive Secretary reviewed statistics shared in NCARB's Jurisdictional Data reports from 2022-2025 as requested by the Board. Several statistics stood out in the report related to demographics and improved pass rates for underrepresented groups. NCARB has cited improved pass rates for many candidates due to the increased use of practice exams.

Member Peterson raised a related issue about challenges associated with some architecture firms not accepting experience duration towards promotional opportunities and paid time off. Member Pearson noted she is hosting a high school student to shadow her and to offer the student a more complete picture of what an architect does during their workday. The Board discussed a few New York high schools that offer programs introducing the field of architecture to their students and how early mentorship is important when choosing a career.

### **Project Construction Cost Estimates - NYC**

The Executive Secretary mentioned that AIA NY representatives will be meeting shortly with the NYC Department of Buildings' leadership. AIA NY will be bringing the questions related to architects certifying cost estimates in their submissions to the DoB at this meeting.

### **Architecture as STEM**

AIA NYS has been informed about the issue of architecture as a STEM profession. They are having conversations with other AIA chapters around the US to best gauge how to move this effort forward. The issue is that architecture does not have its own CIP (Classification of Instructional Program) code title in the DHS STEM designated degree program list.

The Board also reviewed an article and AIA and NCARB statements regarding the impact of architecture no longer being considered a professional degree. This proposed regulation, if implemented, will limit the amount of federal loans available to graduate students. The Board advised that architecture should be included in a list of professional degreed programs at the federal level and supported any efforts on behalf of the Department regarding this matter.

### **Possible Regulatory Amendments**

The Executive Secretary described bundling regulatory amendments to include technical corrections to an architect's seal and an endorsement pathway for UK architects with proposed regulatory amendments in landscape architecture.

### **Women in Architecture Series**

Member Pearson updated the Board on the Women in Architecture series, including a recent event about skills growth in leadership capacity, mentoring, and a master class in grant writing. Most of the events continue to occur virtually, given that attendees come from around the US.

## **7. New Business**

### **Private Design Build**

The Executive Secretary described some recent history with design build, including the context of public design build allowances that have been included in prior legislation. He described the

potential issues related to misconduct for architects in New York who are approached about being hired by non-professional service entities if it falls outside of these allowances. Should the question about private design build be raised in New York, he will ask the State Board for its technical assistance regarding this issue.

#### **Education and Experience Question**

The Board discussed a scenario that was not envisioned during the Board's recent review of the education and experience policies affecting licensure candidates that resulted in the May 2025 update. The question raised was for those candidates receiving 10 units of education award and whether they should be permitted to have a 50/50% split in allowance for Category I and J experience. After discussion, the Board agreed that a 50/50 split to align with the other pathways outside of the all-experience pathway is appropriate.

#### **Professional Degree:**

This agenda items was discussed under possible regulatory amendments.

#### **Professional Member Search**

Professional members are still needed to replace three soon to be outgoing members of the State Board. Interviews for potential candidates are ongoing and the Executive Secretary has reached out to several potential candidates. All Board members were encouraged to recommend individuals who may be a good fit for the work of the State Board.

#### **2026 NCARB Annual Meeting**

Should permission to attend be granted by the State of New York, Member Peterson has volunteered to attend this meeting. Should any professional members have a desire to attend, they are encouraged to reach out to the Executive Secretary.

#### **2026 NCARB MBC/MBE Meeting**

Member Pearson may have interest in attending this biennial meeting and will confirm with the Executive Secretary.

The 2027 Regional Summit was also discussed, with Chair Dosso and Member Peterson showing interest in attending.

#### **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

**Motion:** *Pearson/Bentel*: That Chair Dosso be re-elected as Chair.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Motion:** *Dosso/Pearson*: The Member Canaras be elected as Vice Chair.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **Changes to the ARE Coming in 2026**

Minor adjustments to the ARE were included in the Board package and discussed by the Board. The changes should have minimal impact on candidates.

#### **Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings**

Member Peterson has invited the Executive Secretary along with NCARB to meet with the Large Firm Roundtable in NYC in April. They will also hold a meeting with the small firm HR roundtable via Zoom. Member Peterson also updated the Board on a conversation with NCARB regarding outreach efforts.

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

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA  
Executive Secretary

DRAFT

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**February 5, 2026**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. **Disciplinary Cases**

The Board reviewed three recent disciplinary cases, and the Executive Secretary described some recent events as a follow-up to an already decided case.

2. **Practical Exam:**

There may be 1 or 2 candidates for practical exams in May. Members Mosher, Canaras and Pearson volunteered for the first practical exam. If there is a second candidate, the Executive Secretary will request three additional volunteers.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** *Pearson/Mosher:* That the minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. **Motion:** *Pearson/Sainvil:* That the Board resume the Open Session.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA  
Executive Secretary