

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

1411 Broadway; Regents' Room
New York, NY 10018

Present: Adrienne Weremchuk – Chair
Valerie Aymer, Vice Chair
Daniel Biggs (*departure 12:45*)
Rita Kwong
Gentry Lock
Kimberly Lorenz
Christopher Nolan
Stacy Paetzel

Guests: Henry Cao (*11:59*)
Shreya Sharma (*12:15*)
Jordan Jennings (*12:23*)
Elle McEnroe (*12:23*)

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

April 29, 2026

OPEN SESSION

1. **Motion:** *Weremchuk /Lock:* That the Board enter Executive Session.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
2. **Introductions/Welcome:**
The Board welcomed new landscape architect member, Rita Kwong. All present introduced themselves.
3. **Approval of Minutes:**
Motion: *Gentry/Lorenz:* That the minutes of the December 3, 2025 State Board meeting be approved as written.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. **Board Chair Report:**
Chair Weremchuk will discuss the CLARB Annual Meeting later in the Board's agenda.
5. **Board Office Report:**
The Executive Secretary provided the Board office report and included updated statistics for the total number of landscape architects as of January 1, 2026 and the number of candidates licensed in New York in 2025.

OP/Staff Activities: The Executive Secretary virtually attended the ASLA/CLARB Licensure Summit in November. He noted that the focus for the first quarter of 2026 is on defending the scope of practice for landscape architects and efforts to advance the national alignment with CLARB's Uniform Standard. He also went over certain jurisdictional bills that had been reviewed during this Summit.

Legislative/Regulatory Activity: The Executive Secretary discussed S1834 that will include an exemption for individuals employed as a junior or assistant landscape architect by NYS in a title that was approved and in use before the effective date of the laws of 2026 so long as that individual acts under the general supervision of a licensed landscape architect. This language is virtually identical to

the current exemption for NYC employees in Education Law. The Board did not have any technical assistance to offer with this proposed bill.

6. **Old Business:**

Education and Experience Review:

The Executive Secretary went over the current New York education and experience requirements for licensure as well as comparable and neighboring states. He asked the Board to review these standards to determine if any changes or updates should be made to them. He also provided information about the CLARB Uniform Standard compared to New York's licensure requirements.

The Board had an extensive discussion and made the following recommendations:

- New York should permit a 50/50 split between experience directly under the supervision of a lawfully practicing landscape architect and certain related experience currently noted as experience category A.1, B.1 and C.1 on the Board's website (except the "all-experience" pathway, as noted below). This recommended change will remove the 2-year maximum allowances that exist for employment under an architect, professional engineer, planner, government agency, landscape contractor, general contractor, and teaching of landscape architecture courses within an LAAB-accredited program.
- Remove the 50% discount for experience in experience categories B.1 and C.1 on the website, with these categories now being counted as full credit.
- Remove the 2-year minimum requirement under a landscape architect to allow for greater flexibility in the licensure process.
- Permit LAAB-accredited programs in landscape architecture of either 4-year length or 5-year length (education categories A.1 and A.2) to be awarded the maximum of 9 units. The Executive Secretary noted that the change to A.1 can only be made effective with a change in statute for 4-year degrees.
- Permit a graduate degree in landscape architecture and an LAAB-accredited undergraduate program (education category B.1 and B.2) to be awarded 10 units of education credit, maximum. The Executive Secretary noted that the change to B.1 can only be made effective with a change in statute for 4-year degrees.
- Permit 4-year non-landscape architecture degree AND a degree from an LAAB-accredited graduate program (education category C) to be awarded 9 units of education credit, maximum, up from the current 8 units of credit.
- Permit a degree in landscape architecture from an undergraduate or graduate curriculum that is **NOT** ASLA accredited (education category D) to be awarded 8 units of education credit, maximum, up from the current 7 units of credit.
- Permit an ABET-accredited civil engineering program or an NAAB- accredited architecture program (education category E) to be awarded 7 units of education credit, maximum, up from the current 6 units of credit.
- Permit two-year degrees in landscape architecture-related technical programs (education category F) to be awarded 4 units, maximum.

- Permit two-year associate's degree non-landscape architecture programs (education category G) to be awarded 3 units of education credit, maximum, up from the current 2 units of credit, and bachelor's degree non-landscape architecture programs continue to be awarded 4 units of education credit, maximum.

The Board also recommended that there be a reduction from the current 12 years to 10 years for the all-experience pathway, however, such a change would require a change in the Education Law. They agreed with the Architecture Board's recommendation that candidates seeking an all-experience pathway would benefit from additional experience under a landscape architect in a diversified landscape architecture practice. The Board unanimously agreed that under the current 12-year all-experience pathway, candidates must have a minimum of 7 years of experience under a landscape architect and could have a maximum of 5 years in experience in categories A.1, B.1 and C.1. Should a statutory change occur that reduces this pathway to 10 years, the Board recommended a minimum of 6 years of experience under a landscape architect and a maximum of 4 years in experience in categories A.1, B.1 and C.1.

The recommendations made by the State Board regarding the education and experience requirements will be brought to Department leadership to determine the best course of action to affect these changes.

2025 CLARB Annual Meeting Summary:

Chair Weremchuk noted that the Annual Meeting continued conversations related to CLARB's involvement in international practice standards and the Uniform Standard for licensure. She encouraged the Board members to review the Executive Secretary's summary of the meeting for additional information.

Continuing Education (CE) Modernization Update:

The Executive Secretary discussed the proposed regulatory amendments to New York's CE requirements that have been sent to Department leadership. The proposed amendments are currently scheduled to be presented to the Board of Regents in December for discussion, followed by a 60-day public comment period. The Executive Secretary and Chair Weremchuk, if available, will meet with NYSCLA leadership to discuss the proposed amendments.

The Executive Secretary asked for volunteers to do the annual ASLA continuing education review ahead of the August Board meeting. Members Gentry, Lorenz, and Weremchuk volunteered.

Regulatory Amendments Recommended by Board:

The Executive Secretary discussed the additional regulatory amendments recommended by the State Board that have been sent to Department leadership. Currently, these proposed amendments are also scheduled to be presented to the Board of Regents in December for discussion, followed by a 60-day public comment period. The Executive Secretary and Chair Weremchuk, if available, will meet with NYSCLA leadership to discuss the proposed amendments.

Public Member Search:

The Executive Secretary discussed a potential person that was recommended and asked whether there could be outreach by a Board member to discuss interest. The Executive Secretary Lopez also noted that Board members should contact him if they know anyone that may be a good fit for a Public Member.

7. **New Business:**

2026 CLARB Annual Business Meeting:

Motion: *Paetzel/Nolan:* That Chair Weremchuk be New York's voting delegate should travel approval be granted by New York State.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ICOR Practice Overlap Guidance:

The Board agreed to table discussion on this document until the August meeting.

Practice Question

The Board discussed a question regarding the scope of practice for a landscape architect involved in stormwater management and when said services become engineering services. This question will be discussed in more detail by the Board at its August meeting in conjunction with the ICOR Practice Overlap Guidance document.

8. **Motion:** *Aymer/Paetzel:* Moved to adjourn.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Board will be August 12, 2026, in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Practical Exam**
The Board conducted a practical exam and, after discussion, voted 6-0 that the candidate passed the practical exam, and recommended that the Department license the candidate. Members Paetzel and Aymer abstained.
2. **Update on CE Sponsor:**
The Executive Secretary reviewed a second complaint received against a CE provider for including proprietary information in its presentation. The Board issued a second and final warning to the provider outlining the issues encountered, and noted that if the issues occur again, the provider's status as a CE provider will be revoked in New York.
3. Motion: Paetzel/Nolan: That the Board resume the Open Session.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary