



# N Y S C L A

NEW YORK CHAPTER & NEW YORK UPSTATE CHAPTER - AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
52 South Pearl Street - 3rd Floor Albany, New York 12207 518.465.5176 www.nyscla.org

## SPRING MEETING

**Date: April 18, 2009**

**Location: Albany, NY / Teleconference from various locations**

**Present:** R. Gibney-President  
E. Reynolds- Secretary  
A. Hart- Treasurer  
R. Kraft, Upstate  
C. May-Downstate  
D. McCord- Upstate  
N. Bateman- Upstate  
J. Thompson- Upstate  
K. McAndrew- Downstate  
P. Lester- Downstate  
R. Gass- Downstate

**Absent:** D. Conklin- Upstate  
E. Farrell- (NYSCLA Executive Director)

### General Business:

- 1. NYSCLA Board Members** - R.Gibney called the meeting to order at 10:40 am.
- 2. Previous Meeting Minutes** - R.Gibney voted to approve the minutes from the January, 17 2009 meeting; seconded by R. Kraft.
- 3. Treasurer's Report** - A. Hart states that the Upstate assessment has been paid but he is waiting on Downstate's \$1,400.00. This quarter's expenses are more than the income, but should balance out when Downstate catches up. We have borrowed from savings for current accounts payable. D. McCord has a few bills related to Lobby Day, and will forward them to A. Hart. R.Gibney thinks we have the opportunity to create revenue from signing up vendors to the Mainstreets Conference next year. There is a potential maximum of \$700.00 which should go to NYSCLA, not the Chapters. D. McCord explains that R. Rivers is not involved in Mainstreets. The board members should refer vendors they are involved with.
- 4. Legislative Tracking** - R.Gibney states that Lopez had unfortunate news about the progress of our issues, i.e. the state may have to slow down issuing L.A. licenses. However, the Legislation is beginning to recognize D. McCord, and R.Gibney. They were able to have a productive conversation. R.Gibney has tried to get the Chapter president's reactions of Firm Finders actions and the "ASLA" suffix use. R. Kraft is concerned about N. Summerville's comment that ASLA membership has nothing to do with licensure. The AIA only allows licensed professionals to use the title. Lopez is concerned that if it doesn't resolve itself, action may have to be taken against ASLA for Firm Finder listings. R. Gass says we need support of the licensure board. C. May suggests it's an economic issue and revenue from memberships is critical. Perhaps a different designation for non-licensed professionals would help. D. McCord agrees that a different designation would be helpful. P. Lester thinks we need to become more proactive and less critical by offering suggestions. Abuse occurs more where there is more residential work and competition. P. Lester thinks activity in those areas should be targeted. R.Gibney will give a few names to each board member for individual contact. D. McCord said the path of action is through the trustees and how they vote. Over 100 firms were illegally listed.

**5. Website** – R.Gibney urges everyone to check out the re-vamped website. R.Gibney moves that a \$100 one time per course fee for outside groups (for-profit), and vendors to advertise on NYSCLA website be levied. This would not include not-for-profits (NFP's), but we may ask for a donation. R. Kraft says its traditional for even NFP's to pay a fee, albeit a smaller one, like \$50. Esolve has provided J. Thompson with a way to edit the website without cost to us. We pay them for member updates and misc services. P. Lester will ask Jeff Mills how the Connecticut Chapter handles their calendar, and getting the info to members in a timely fashion. Also, how is revenue dispersed? R. Gibney makes a motion to add listings for \$100 for profit groups, and leave the NFP's for a later date. R. Kraft seconds. R. Gibney will put together verbiage for fees and discuss with J. Thompson. We will revisit it during the July meeting. R. Kraft would like to see consistency with capitalization for titles, i.e. L.A. R. Kraft will give red lines to J. Thompson. N. Bateman and J. Thompson are able to condense Esolve services. N. Bateman will work with J. Thompson to keep the updates covered. R. Gibney suggests always having two people trained for web work. They are drafting procedures now.

### **Old Business:**

**1. Tool Kit Update** - S.Marshall-Paetzel is still working on the Tool Kit and may have something for our review in the next few months, possibly for the July meeting. Each state has a representative and they are creating a sample one that each state can modify for their own needs. No updates on any engineering groups suing LA's for practicing "engineering" with storm water management.

**2. Incorporation for NYSCLA** - R. Gibney suggests working the Incorporation into next year's budget, as an approx. \$1000 item. R. Kraft adds we may need to look into insurance. ASLA's incorporation doesn't cover the Chapters, and other organizations such as NYSCLA. Since we act on behalf of the Chapters, we need their input via the Chapter President.

### **New Business:**

**1.** Nominations for officers need to be discussed. If anyone needs to step down, please contact R. Gibney ahead of the meeting. The division between Upstate and Downstate needs to be found in the Chapter bi-laws. P. Lester will look into it. R. Gibney may have a hard copy and will see about having it typed. P. Lester has volunteered to do any typing necessary. D. McCord thinks we need to have E. Farrell present at the next meeting in order to follow the new bills. R. Gibney will email him to follow up.

The next meeting is on July 18, 2009 at 10:30 am. The following meeting is tentatively November 7.

P. Lester made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:35, and it was seconded by R. Kraft.

Submitted by E. Reynolds.