

New York State Council of Landscape Architects

New York Chapter and New York Upstate Chapter-American Society of Landscape Architects
33 Elk Street, 2nd floor Albany, NY 12207 (518) 465-5176

WINTER MEETING

Date: January 21, 2006

Location: Albany, NY

Present: D. McCord- (President)
E. Olinger-Officer (Treasurer)
N. Bateman- Upstate (Secretary)
D. Brackett- Upstate
R. Collins-Upstate
R. Gibney-Downstate
R. Lopez-Executive Secretary, State Ed (Guest)
S. Marshall-Paetzel-Downstate
B. Rodriguez- (NYSCLA Executive Director)

Absent: D. Annese-Downstate (Honorary member)
E. Brescia –Downstate
D. Conklin- Upstate
N. Pouder-Downstate

General Business:

NYSCLA Board Members- D. McCord opened the meeting by introducing and welcoming Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary of the State Education Department (SED). Mr. Lopez will be assisting NYSCLA towards development of the regulations for the Landscape Architect's CEU legislation as they are being written, finalized and implemented. Mr. Lopez described the process involved for regulatory adoption for CEUs. Now that the draft regulations have been developed, a working session to review/comment on the draft will be held in Albany Feb. 8, 2006. Both practitioners, including NYSCLA, and each college and university offering accredited degrees in Landscape Architecture have been invited to participate. A laundry list of related items will be discussed and presented at the Feb. 8 meeting focusing on a number of important issues. The comments received will then be referred onto SED attorneys who will draft the final version. Mr. Lopez anticipates the final regulations will then be ready by the end of March. They will then be published in the State Register as a matter of public record for review/comment. All interested stakeholders will also receive a copy. This will then lead to the Regents Meeting in June where the regulations will be formally presented in anticipation of the Jan. 1, 2007 deadline when they become law. Mr. Lopez noted the 3 major SED requirements for the CEU

regulations include having an approved format, an approved subject area, and an approved sponsor. Currently engineers, architects and surveyors have 36 CEU hours required, 24 of which must be in what is classified as “health, safety and welfare”. Of those 36 hours, 18 must be in direct, face-to-face instruction courses with the other 18 hrs. in self training courses. Mr. Lopez emphasized that critical to the Landscape Architect’s CEU regs will be course offerings specifically geared towards landscape architecture, not engineering, with the term “engineering” not used in course titles. Examples of non-acceptable courses would fall under categories such as risk management (how to mitigate risks, how to lower your insurance rate, etc.), business development, marketing, personal development, and construction law. Mr. Lopez said what NYSCLA should be focusing on now should be coming up with acceptable providers and acceptable subject areas. He explained that while we work with ASLA and CLARB on various CEU items, we can go through AIA national to get courses approved in the interim. The website www.op.nysed.gov may be of interest under “list of professions”, “architects/engineers”, question 15 or 16. The Board thanked Mr. Lopez for taking the time to meet today and welcomed him in his new role at SED.

Previous Meeting Minutes- the Nov. 5, 2005 Fall minutes previously submitted by N. Bateman have been distributed to all members, but due to a lack of a quorum, will be sent for a vote of consideration of approval via email prior to the Spring Meeting.

Treasurer’s Report-submitted in writing and presented by E. Olinger; the 2005 year in review was presented with a solid financial standing. Due to a lack of a quorum, the proposed 2006 budget will be distributed to all members for an email vote of consideration of approval very soon.

Legislative Session Report- submitted in writing and presented by B. Rodriguez submitted to all the 2005 NYSCLA Legislative Program for consideration this year.

Administration-

Landscape Architecture and the Law- B. Rodriguez requested permission from NYSCLA to send R. Lopez Landscape Architecture and the Law for his review soon, in addition to doing another joint mailing with the AIANYS. It was agreed that E. Olinger will revise Landscape Architecture and the Law for R. Lopez’s review and B. Rodriguez will develop a tentative schedule for the mailing.

Government Affairs-

Joint Design Professions meeting- B. Rodriguez noted a meeting to discuss the joint program was held last November. A meeting will hopefully be set for February and AIANYS will try and give NYSCLA at least 2-3 weeks notice of the date.

Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE)- B. Rodriguez noted that R. Lopez indicated that the rules and regs for implementation of the MCE law will be discussed at the Landscape Architecture Board Feb. 8, followed by Regents review in June. It will be on a fast track.

Lobby Day Report- B. Rodriguez stated that AIANYS's 75th anniversary coincides with this year's Lobby Day set for May 2, 2006 and extended an invitation for all NYSCLA members and landscape architects statewide. The annual Executive Committee dinner will again be held May 1, with NYSCLA's President, President-elect, or other member invited to attend. A Legislative Reception is also a new event and all Lobby Day participants are invited to attend at 4:00-4:30 the afternoon of May 2 on the 3rd floor of the South Terrace. In honor of the 75th anniversary, AIANYS will be emphasizing Smart Growth/Livable/Sustainable Communities throughout Lobby Day in addition to their regular issues. B. Rodriguez will email NYSCLA members the LA bill file which should be ready by next week. D. McCord then noted that position papers must be finalized to appear on the LA brochure planned for Lobby Day. April 1 is a reasonable target date for NYSCLA agreement on Lobby Day legislative agenda items. B. Rodriguez will need this no later than April 1. R. Gibney will coordinate with ASLA to get 325 LA magazines mailed to B. Rodriguez for Lobby Day distribution.

Proposed NYSCLA 2006 Legislative Program-

Noting that the 2006 session is the second of a two-year session, B. Rodriguez noted that except for the MCE bill which passed last session, the 2006 session will carry over. She asked for NYSCLA to prioritize their 2006 legislative agenda items which D. McCord said will be done by April 1 and sent to B. Rodriguez by April 15.

Old Business:

Lobby Day Brochure- D. McCord had emailed a revised second draft for review of the Lobby Day brochure which Marshall Goff is working on. Board members are finalizing their review and should get last call comments to D. McCord as soon as possible. E. Brescia has been working to get final photos from downstate so the brochure is nearly complete. The brochure will be a new marketing tool promoting and educating both legislators and the public about the critical value of landscape architecture and current legislation affecting the profession.

New Stationary, labels, envelopes- a draft logo for NYSCLA created by S. Marshall-Paetzel was distributed for comments. E. Brescia has also assisted with comment on the logo and for the new stationary layout. Both the new logo and stationary design will be finalized soon in order to meet Lobby Day deadlines as well as new stationary orders needed for the recent NYSCLA address change. S. Marshall-Paetzel will fine tune the logo design before the April 1 meeting/deadline for Lobby Day. The logo will also be used for NYSCLA's Lobby Day handout folder and NYSCLA stationary.

New Board member nominations- D. McCord noted that 2 Upstate and 1 downstate vacancy exist on the Board. R. Collins nominated Garret Jobson of Poughkeepsie as a possible candidate for downstate, and will invite him to the April 1 Board meeting. R. Gibney noted that Richard Gass may also be interested in a Board seat and will follow up with him.

NYSCLA Position Papers- As a part of its continuing effort to remain informed on the latest current issues affecting the profession, D. McCord discussed the status of position papers underway by NYSCLA members. The following position papers are underway:

Dark skies-S. Marshall-Paetzel

Smart Growth, S. 2070, and Corporate Practice-R. Gibney (done-distributed prior to the meeting for comment)

Community Reforestation, A.1820, A.1886, A.1958, A.2402 -E. Brescia

Revolving Loan for Historic Preservation, A.5721-E. Olinger (done-distributed prior to the meeting for comment)

Affordable Housing-N. Bateman (should see if AIANYS has a position paper on A.2781, S.2431, A. 4633-get this from B. Rodriguez and try to tailor NYSCLA's with this)

Waterfront Revitalization, A.6399 -D. Conklin

Billboards/Urban Reforestation, S. 5572 -D. McCord will finalize drafts done previously by D. Annese and K. Mathews

Playgrounds, A.5312, A.5374 -D. McCord

D. McCord noted he would like to have these drafts by the end of February so they can be distributed for review/comment by NYSCLA members.

New Business:

PE Continuing Education classes- N. Bateman distributed handouts to MCE committee (E. Olinger, D. McCord, N. Pouder) of PE CEU offerings at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. This included a list of requirements by the law, course details breakdown, CEU coordinators, course development and timeframe for accreditation, accreditation flowchart, and CEU approval packet and post-course documentation coversheets.

NYSCLA archives update- E. Olinger reported that we need to move ahead to coordinate collection and storage of all the valuable archive material; he will work on a strategy for this.

Training opportunity- D. McCord announced an Advocacy training seminar, Feb. 24, for Local Waterfront Revitalization and Preservation and BOA Informational Training Module—location/time to be announced soon-check Upstate Chapter website.

Other Business:

Feb. 24, 2004 LWRP/BOA training (see above)

April 1, 2006 Spring Board meeting

May 2, 2006 Lobby Day in Albany

July 15, 2006 Summer Board meeting

November 4, 2006 Fall Board meeting

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned; the next meeting (Spring) is set for Saturday, April 1, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at the NYSCLA's office, 33 Elk Street, Albany.

