

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

SUMMER MEETING

Date: July 23, 2005

Location: SUNY-ESF, Syracuse, NY

Present: K. Mathews- (President)
E. Olinger-Officer (Treasurer)
N. Bateman- Upstate (Secretary)
D. Annese-Downstate
D. Brackett- Upstate
E. Brescia –Downstate
D. Conklin- Upstate
D. McCord-Upstate
S. Marshall-Paetzel-Downstate
J. Paetzel (Guest)
D. Young-Upstate

Absent: R. Gibney-Downstate
N. Pouder-Downstate
B. Rodriguez- (NYSCLA Executive Director)

General Business:

NYSCLA Board Members- K. Mathews opened with the acknowledgement that the Summer Meeting was indeed a special event since it was both at a different location (SUNY-ESF) and to celebrate the vibrant career of long time Board member, Nick Annese.

Previous Meeting Minutes- the April 9, 2005 Spring meeting minutes previously submitted by N. Bateman are still under review and will be sent for an email vote.

Treasurer's Report-submitted in writing, presented by E. Olinger and approved by the Board; the third quarter Chapter dues submitted and Lobby Day went slightly over budget; NYSCLA offices officially moved to a new location in Albany recently and NYSCLA phone service transfer was seamless-the same NYSCLA phone number/fax will be used and only the address has changed.

Legislative Session Report- in her absence, B. Rodriguez had previously submitted a written report:

2005 Legislative Report:

This year's session officially wrapped up June 24, 2005 with the introduction of

14,889 bills, 8984 in the Democratic-controlled Assembly and 5905 in the Republican-controlled Senate. This year, AIANYS tracked some 250 bills of interest to our respective professions and AIANYS will track an additional 150 bills in the upcoming 2006 session, the second year of the two-year session. The most significant results from the 2005 session for Landscape Architects include the successful passage of the **MCE (S.842B, A.3633B)** (Mandatory Continuing Education) bill and the inclusion of Landscape Architects into the **QBS (S.1894A, A.5672A)** (Qualification Based Selection) bill. **The MCE bill will become law when signed by the Governor.** Also passing this session was the **phase out of Creosote** as a wood preservative (**S.5419A, A.8478A**). (No movement occurred with **Wicks Reform (S.4759, A. 8081)**, **Tort Reform (S.1533, A.269)**, **Corporate Practice for Design Professionals (S.1477, A.2755)** and **Design/Build (S.4785 A.270)** legislation this session and these will once again remain issues for 2006. D. Conklin will follow up with Assemblyman Canestrari on the current status of the Landscape Architect's MCE bill with respect to the Governor's signature. Other high priority bills that will continue to be issues in 2006 include: **Smart Growth (S.2070, A.3574)** , **Affordable Housing initiatives** and **Historic Preservation Tax Credits (A. 2751, S.3316A, A.3527A)**, **"Crumbling" Schools initiatives (S.5727, A.8699B)**, **Outdoor Lighting (S.756, A.1842) (S.4474, A.7404)**, and **Toxic Mold (S.1771B, A.4577)**

(for a full text of bills: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/> and insert bill number where indicated)

Lobby Day Report- This year's Lobby Day on April 19 in Albany had K. Mathews, D. Conklin, E. Olinger representing NYSCLA, and Dave Cutter representing the Upstate Chapter. Discussion focused on ways NYSCLA can improve the overall packages and presentation strategy. Under consideration for next year are: ways NYSCLA can target more specific bills, improve schedule and timing in preparation leading up to Lobby Day, effective outreach to local legislators and how to encourage more participation in Lobby Day. K. Mathews noted that all NYSCLA members should be reaching out at some point during the year to their local legislators. Other suggestions included having regular announcements in Downstate Chapter newsletter (E. Brescia) and utilizing the web site to inform Chapter members as to how legislation NYSCLA tracks impacts their practice (S. Marshall-Paetzel). A motion was proposed by D. Annese to create a "Fact Sheet" as a clear, concise marketing tool. To do this, D. McCord agreed to speak with Marshall Goff of the Upstate Chapter to see if he could do this within a month for \$1000. E. Olinger suggested we also check into the printing costs and status beforehand with B. Rodriguez of "**LA and the Law**". Motion as proposed, carried and D. McCord will follow up with Marshall Goff.

Old Business:

MCE- E. Olinger said we need to go to leadership and the Chapters when the Bill hits the Governor's desk. If not signed, then arrange a meeting as soon as possible with Jim Tinney of the State Board of LAs and Robert Lopez at State Ed. D. Brackett noted that newly appointed Mr. Lopez is responding well to our concerns. E. Olinger noted that in the next step of writing the regulations for the law, we need to be involved throughout with the bureaucracy and Mr. Lopez can be helpful. K. Mathews suggested we invite Mr. Lopez to our next NYSCLA meeting in the Fall. Majority agreed, expressing interest in extending an invitation to Mr. Lopez to all NYSCLA meetings.

Status of bills- D. Conklin will follow up on **MCE** bill with A. Canestrari; E. Olinger and D. McCord will follow up with B. Rodriguez also. NYSCLA members have been researching specific bills beyond the standard bills as listed below:

Creosote phase out-NYSCLA sent support for this (S5419)

Illegal Practice-will add an additional \$10/3 years to License renewal fees to monitor illegal practice; supported (all)

Old Growth Forests- recommends support (K. Mathews will write position paper).

Urban Reforestation Act (S. 5572)- questionable as it may encourage billboards; more info needed (D. Annese, K. Mathews); motion by D. Conklin to not support; D. Brackett said we should be clear why we do not support; D. Annese will follow up and write draft position paper; **Motion tabled for now.**

Dark Skies- S. Marshall-Paetzel reported on this and has been following this closely as it is an active, complex issue now on Long Island; both safety and model lighting ordinance are in the works; she will monitor and provide status updates and distribute to all Board members to review/comment; as it now stands, the same exterior lighting can remain if existing; all drafts have common issues with respect to being "least obtrusive", support uplighting of flags/banners, and less glare; she advises we need to monitor this closely, not act right now; she noted that "preserving" dark skies (i.e. less glare) is a good concept for us but there is potential conflict in some cases with safety concerns; Jim Tinney's comments on Dark Skies was given to her.

Candidates for NYSCLA President (Fall 2005-2007 term)- Status as of today, no viable candidate; Pete Auyer is a possibility; D. McCord will follow up with him.

New Business:

Licensure Summit- K. Mathews attended for NY State and NYSCLA at this past June's annual conference in Denver June 10-12; representatives from ASLA Chapters, CELA and CLARB were in attendance with heavy focus on CEs. Colorado, one of the few remaining states without Licensure law, is modeling their licensure effort on ours; consensus was for CLARB to take the lead with respect to CEs nationally; K. Mathews will draft a summary of key items.

NYSCLA new address- Our new address is: NYSCLA, 33 Elk Street, 2nd Floor, Albany, NY, 12207

NYSCLA Letterhead- E. Brescia noted that a new design for letterhead is advisable, especially for the Governor's Office; quality paper/1 color can be a good change; S. Marshall-Paetzel will look at ASLA's logo for our use in addition to another design that is in digital format easy to insert onto a word processing template and makes sharp, clear hard copies ; S. Marshall Paetzel will email a draft for comment to all members; E. Brescia will assist.

Other Business:

New Board member needed- Rich Collins has expressed interest; D. McCord will follow up.

CIP grant to Upstate- NYSCLA letter of support came from K. Mathews for the CIP grant application for Upstate Chapter on May 27, 2005

Lobby Day article- K. Mathews wrote a summary article of Lobby Day for the Downstate Chapter newsletter.

Calendar:

Annual Upstate ASLA/APA Joint Conference Sept. 21-23 in Buffalo
(www.ubevents.org/event/apa)

Fall NYSCLA meeting: Nov. 5, 2005 in Albany

ASLA National Conference: Oct. 7-11, 2005, Ft. Lauderdale

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned and Members and other Guests gathered for an informal social prior to a buffet luncheon to honor Nick Annese at SUNY-ESF; the next meeting (Fall) is set for Saturday, Nov. 5, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. in NYSCLA's new office location.

A Social and Luncheon in honor of **Nick Annese** for "**A Lifetime Achievement Award for dedication and service to the Profession of Landscape Architecture**" was hosted by SUNY-ESF Landscape Architecture Program Chair Rich Hawks and NYSCLA President Kim Mathews and included all NYSCLA members and many guests. Rich Hawks gave an overview of Nick's career path, while the hallway displayed some drawings and reports Nick had produced over the years. Over his long and successful career, Nick's talent can be seen today not only in New York and the Northeast (such as the Palisades Parkway, Copley Square in Boston, the Long Island Expressway) but also on a national scale (Washington/Baltimore Parkway, Cumberland Gap Tunnel/Parkway). Nick's extensive involvement in support of the profession also included creating an archive of the profession in NY for ESF and being a contributing editor for the nationally acclaimed "TimeSaver Standards for Landscape Architects".

Attendees for the special event included: Nick Annese, Daniel DelBene, Doug Brackett, Kim Mathews, Ed Olinger, Mary Olinger, Nanci Bateman, Elena Brescia, Doug McCord, Dave Young, Dale Conklin, Stacy Marshall Paetzel, Jon Paetzel, Dick Powell, Donna Walcavage, Alfred Obrist, Bradford Sears, Robert Reimann, George Curry, Rich Hawks, Patrick Costello and Christina Diehl Selvek (Domenico and Serafina Annese Scholarship Recipients for '00-'01 and '99-'00 respectively).