

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

SPRING MEETING

Date: April 1, 2006

Location: Albany, NY

Present: D. McCord- (President)
E. Olinger-Officer (Treasurer)
N. Bateman- Upstate (Secretary)
D. Conklin- Upstate
R. Gass-Downstate
R. Gibney-Downstate
B. Rodriguez- (NYSCLA Executive Director)

Absent: D. Annese-Downstate (Honorary member)
D. Brackett- Upstate
E. Brescia –Downstate
R. Collins-Upstate
S. Marshall-Paetzel-Downstate
N. Pouder-Downstate

General Business:

NYSCLA Board Members- D. McCord opened the meeting by introducing and welcoming new Downstate Board member Richard Gass, nominated by Downstate Board member R. Gibney. Mr. Gass is a Licensed Landscape Architect with the Regional Hauppauge office of NYS DOT. D. McCord noted that E. Brescia has recently resigned so there are current vacancies for new Board members both Upstate and Downstate. B. Rodriguez also announced her retirement after 29 years at the end of this year and the search for her replacement has begun. If AIANYS can fill the new position by our Fall meeting, both she and the new NYSCLA Executive Director can attend. D. McCord will write a letter to AIANYS to express NYSCLA's interest in assisting AIANYS with this process and are available for input/questions. The Board thanked her for all her dedicated service for the design professions, and in particular, for her efforts on behalf of NYSCLA. She will continue to work with us until the new Executive Director is on board. The Board wishes her a great retirement and hopes to be able to continue to work with her as she shapes her new career path.

Previous Meeting Minutes- the Jan. 21, 2006 Winter 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 this coming week.

Treasurer's Report-submitted in writing and presented by E. Olinger; the 2006 year first quarter update shows both Chapters paid, with an overall excellent financial status.

Legislative Session Report- submitted in writing and presented by B. Rodriguez with handouts presented to all:

Administration-

Landscape Architecture and the Law- B. Rodriguez has sent a draft to Robert Lopez at State Ed. for his review and will forward comments to us when available. We need to decide whether we should do a joint mailing with AIANYS and to whom. She is working on getting the list of NYS Building Officials. In addition to building officials, the mailing will also go to Towns, School Boards, and the Association of Towns. "Landscape Architecture and the Law" is produced to educate the public about what Landscape Architects can legally do in order to both increase awareness about the profession and to prevent illegal practice. E. Olinger distributed copies of the NYSCLA position paper he finalized for Landscape Architecture and the Law.

Government Affairs-

Joint Design Professions meeting- B. Rodriguez attended this meeting held in Albany March 14 and agreed that the 2005 legislative issues would remain on our joint agenda. These include: Wicks Reform, Design Liability Reform, 10-year statute of repose, Certificates of Merit, Good Samaritan legislation, Design/Build, Quality Business Selection (QBS) extension to public authorities and corporations, and Corporate Practice for Design Professionals. This is a joint design meeting held twice a year in Albany for Landscape Architects, Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors. There is currently a Design Coalition forming in Rochester which may help jump start Landscape Architects' involvement.

Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE)- B. Rodriguez noted that while she was not able to attend the Feb. 8 Landscape Architecture Board meeting where MCE was discussed, it is her understanding that discussions will continue with the Regents in June for their action in July. Attending the Feb. 8 meeting for NYSCLA included D. McCord, E. Olinger, and Dan Krall of Cornell. E. Olinger handed out R. Lopez's memo developed from input and discussions from the Feb. 8 meeting on Acceptable Subject Areas for MCEs, and noted that Cultural Resource Management and Visual Resource Management courses will now be acceptable. MCEs can also be obtained through teaching a course or writing an article on an acceptable topic. The next Landscape Architecture Board meeting will be held in New York City May 3 with State Ed. NYSCLA plans to have a representative there.

Lobby Day Report- B. Rodriguez invited all NYSCLA members and interested Landscape Architects to convene at the Capital at 10:30 a.m. on May 2, 2006 for Lobby Day at the Legislative Office Building. She handed out copies of the AIANYS Legislative Program and schedule and invited everyone to stay to attend the Legislative Reception from 5:00-6:30 pm, a new event this

year. The AIANYS Executive Committee dinner is again being held May 1 in Albany, and D. McCord is invited to attend for NYSCLA. All material for the NYSCLA Lobby Day packets must be received to AIANYS in Albany by April 21. Thanks to the efforts of R. Gibney, ASLA Landscape Architecture magazines and decals have been received and will be included in each packet.

Proposed NYSCLA 2006 Legislative Program- B. Rodriguez handed out a list of bills AIANYS will be tracking this year.

Old Business:

Lobby Day Brochure- D. McCord has submitted an invoice to Marshall Goff for his completed work on the Lobby Day brochure which can be updated annually. E. Olinger and D. Conklin noted that getting digital files of Chapter awards can be used in future updates and we will need to get a sign off agreement from both Chapters. 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- The Board thanked S. Marshall-Paetzel for all her work developing the new NYSCLA logo. Thanks to her revisions through March, the new logo is now available for all the Lobby Day materials. R. Gibney suggested we use the new logo/letterhead digital file for all NYSCLA envelopes, letters, etc. using a standard bond bright white paper. The Board agreed this was the most efficient method.

New Board member nominations- D. McCord noted that 2 Upstate and 1 downstate vacancy exist on the Board. D. McCord has invited Pauline Burns, a Licensed Landscape Architect with NYS DOT's Regional Hornell office, to our July meeting.

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 either completed or underway:

Dark skies, S. 4474-S. Marshall-Paetzel
Smart Growth, S. 2070, and Corporate Practice-R. Gibney
Revolving Loan for Historic Preservation, A.5721-E. Olinger
Green Trails, S. 5837-N. Bateman
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 will send the completed position papers soon to B. Rodriguez to be included in the Lobby Day packets.

New Business:

NYSCLA archives update- E. Olinger reported that Dick Powell of the Upstate Chapter has kindly volunteered to coordinate this. We need to move ahead to coordinate collection and storage of all the valuable archive material perhaps at ESF's Moon Library. In the past, a student has assisted in this effort and we would like that to continue. D. McCord will formally request to Dave Cutter of the Upstate Chapter that NYSCLA's current archives be accepted.

Elimination of the Landscape Architecture Bureau at NYS DOT- R. Gass presented a brief overview of this which occurred in the past few months. Fortunately no Landscape Architect positions were eliminated-only transferred to other DOT units within the Main Office in Albany. D. McCord will investigate to see if NYSCLA should draft a letter to the Commissioner of Transportation.

Columbia Masters Program being offered in Landscape Design- Elena Brescia brought this to the Board's attention last fall and D. McCord will draft a letter from NYSCLA stating our opinion that this should not be seen as an equivalent or as an acceptable replacement to a design degree from an accredited program offering a Master's in Landscape Architecture (MLA).

ASLA Licensure Summit- June 2-4, Burlington, Vt.; D. McCord will be attending for New York.

Other Business:

May 2, 2006	Lobby Day in Albany
June 2-4, 2006	ASLA Licensure Summit, Burlington, VT
July 22, 2006	Summer Board meeting **
Oct. 6-9, 2006	ASLA National Conference, Minneapolis, MN
November 4, 2006	Fall Board meeting

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned; the next meeting (Summer) **HAS BEEN CHANGED from July 15 to **Saturday, July 22, 2006** at 10:30 a.m. at the NYSCLA's office, 33 Elk Street, Albany.