

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

FALL MEETING

Date: November 4, 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
S. Marshall-Paetzel (Downstate)
B. Rodriguez- (NYSCLA Executive Director)
J. Thompson (Guest)

Absent: D. Annese-Downstate (Honorary member)
D. Brackett- Upstate
R. Collins-Upstate
N. Pouder-Downstate

General Business:

NYSCLA Board Members- D. McCord opened the meeting by introducing potential new Upstate Board member Jeanine Thompson, nominated by Downstate Board member S. Marshall-Paetzel. Ms. Thompson currently works in the New York State Assembly as a Legislative Fiscal Analyst and in the past has worked as a Project Manager for Clough Harbor Associates in Albany and as a designer with Rodgers Consulting in Maryland. She holds a B.S. in landscape architecture from SUNY-ESF and an MBA from RPI. There was discussion among all regarding potential conflict of interest with serving in the Assembly while being a NYSCLA Board Member. Consensus by NYSCLA members was for approval as conflict of interest appears to be a non-issue. D. McCord said he would take this to the upcoming Upstate ExComm meeting Nov. 10 for their approval before a decision could be made. With regard to other Board Member nominations, there was discussion as to whether once or twice a year, members could teleconference in to Board meetings. D. McCord will also bring this up to ExComm. E. Olinger pointed out the bylaws for a quorum requires 3 downstate, 3 upstate, and 2 officers present for business and will check into the viability of teleconferencing for one or two meetings per year per member.

Previous Meeting Minutes- the Apr. 1, 2006 Spring minutes previously submitted by N. Bateman were approved.

Treasurer's Report-submitted in writing and presented by E. Olinger; the 2006 year continues to show overall excellent financial status. We will make our targeted interest income and bills have gone out for chapter rebates. For the fourth quarter, since "LA and the Law" is not being published this year, our biggest expenses are AIA management fees and the Professional Directory. As always, the 2007 draft budget will be prepared and distributed by the end of the year to all Board members for review including B. Rodriguez's successor.

Legislative Session Report- submitted in writing and presented by B. Rodriguez with handouts presented to all. She announced her successor, Edward Farrell, beginning Jan. 1, 2007. Mr. Farrell is former Executive Director of the NY Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials, who, as a former legislative staffer, brings with him more than 30 years of government experience. She is available to introduce Mr. Ferrell to NYSCLA members D. McCord and N. Bateman in Albany sometime during Nov. 20 and Dec. 7. The Board again extended their special thanks for her dedicated effort to NYSCLA over the years and the important role she has played in establishing the partnership between NYSCLA and AIANYS. Her report was as follows:

Administration-

Landscape Architecture and the Law- B. Rodriguez noted that E. Olinger's final version has been received and is included in her handout. She is still trying to get the NYS Building Officials mailing list and requested NYSCLA advise her as to how NYSCLA wants to move ahead with joint mailing efforts- either with another association or with AIANYS Building Officials (should the list be obtained). B. Rodriguez noted that since school business officials are not in charge of selecting design professionals, it is not advised to pursue them for mailings.

2007 Management Fee- AIANYS approved its 2007 operations budget recently and NYSCLA's management fee was increased %10 or \$500. She included a copy of the Management Contract in her handout. E. Olinger will mention this to the Chapters and noted that NYSCLA's preference is to be billed quarterly rather than monthly.

Government Affairs-

Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE)- The MCE Rules and Regulations for Landscape Architects were approved by the Regents. A copy was also provided in today's handout. Board Member R. Gibney represented NYSCLA at the May State Board of Landscape Architects meeting in NYC where this was discussed.

Lobby Day Report- On behalf of AIANYS Board of Directors, B. Rodriguez thanked President D. McCord for joining them for dinner the day before Lobby Day May 2. Board members D. McCord and D. Conklin represented NYSCLA at this year's Lobby Day.

Proposed NYSCLA 2006 Legislative Program- Noting that 2007 is a new session year for all legislation, all legislation that "died" this year are typically reintroduced by sponsors for the new 2007-2008 two-year session.

AIANYS will be tracking the same bills, yet these same bills will be assigned new tracking numbers which will be available before Lobby Day. She noted in her handout of the **2006 Legislative Agenda** (as of Oct. 30, 2006), #8, Preservation Revolving Loan Program, shows an incorrect bill number. This has since been corrected on all documents. NYSCLA's entire bill file of all tracked legislation was handed out, in addition to some other related bills which may be of interest for our consideration/review for next session. Also handed out was AIANYS' Blueprint, the new e-news update on new legislation as well as serving as their year-end legislative report. In closing, B. Rodriguez thanked the Board for the honor of serving us and noted it has been a privilege to work NYSCLA over the years. She offered her help during the transition and NYSCLA in turn, thanked her again for her invaluable service.

Old Business:

MCE status- D. McCord noted that at the June ASLA License Summit in Burlington, VT, ASLA has formed a Committee to consider becoming a Provider for Continuing Education-this is envisioned to be a Committee comprised of ASLA, CLARB and CELA representatives. As a start, we need to keep prodding ASLA post-Conference regarding the high priority of this. Discussion continued and E. Olinger and D. Conklin suggested a good idea would be to have B. Rodriguez call Nancy Somerville with ASLA to expedite this for New York. The Board unanimously agreed and will follow up.

Research on State Agencies as future Providers- R. Gass noted that within Region 10 DOT, Transportation Engineers training has been inclusive of Landscape Architects with PIE as the main provider. He noted has received certificates of attendance at events he has attended and this would appear to count towards MCEs now. He also suggested that DEC's Releaf Program would also make a good candidate for sponsorship. E. Olinger agreed noting that Releaf offers many Rochester area events as well. As requested by the Board, N. Bateman has been researching possible state agencies as providers and, based on approved topics for MCEs, presented a handout of agencies by topic, contact and and status. Possible candidates for agency sponsorship are DEC, DOS, and DOT to start. When you combine the college sponsors with these, the field of possibilities expands-for example, many DEC events are co-sponsored with Cornell or SUNY-ESF. D. McCord said more info would be available regarding school sponsorship at the upcoming ExComm meeting. N. Bateman said she has already had preliminary discussions with DEC staff involved with stormwater, invasive species, and the Releaf Program and the next step would be to meet with DEC Training staff should the Board agree. The Board unanimously agreed this was a good idea. She noted DEC's concern would likely be sponsorship costs (since DEC only has 1 Landscape Architect) as well as opening DEC events to non-DEC staff. She said she would keep everyone apprised of progress. Discussion continued noting that since PIE, AIA and IACET are already approved providers with State Ed, state agencies may be able to come up them at no cost or administrative burden. N. Bateman emphasized

we should approach all potential providers with the notion of setting up the framework for MCE approved events so that, in addition to meeting the regulations, they are equitably distributed throughout each region of the state and open to all landscape architects, both public and private sector. D. Conklin suggested that to make this lucrative, perhaps an extra fee could be charged to private sector LAs to attend state agency events. The Board agreed.

New Board member nominations- D. McCord noted that 2 Upstate and 1 downstate vacancy exist on the Board. In addition to confirming Jeanine Thompson, D. McCord will check into the status of Pauline Burnes who has expressed interest in Upstate.

New Business:

Web Site update and update of LA Finder- Discussion of creating a website link for MCE announcements on NYSCLA's website was suggested by S. Marshall-Paetzel and seconded by N. Bateman. It was unanimously agreed by all to move ahead with making this happen. S. Marshall-Paetzel noted that updates for the LA Finders have been smooth and N. Bateman noted that she forwarded some requests to N. Pouder who took care of them efficiently. Discussion continued with suggestions that Chapter links for the MCE announcements be included in each Chapter newsletter. S. Marshall-Paetzel said she would check into this for Downstate and D. McCord said he would check with Nicole Lipp of the Upstate newsletter.

Certificates for past members-D. McCord suggested we put together certificates of recognition for past Board members who have contributed diligently to NYSCLA. D. McCord said he would check to see what was used previously with D. Annese's certificate. S. Marshall-Paetzel volunteered to help with creation of a draft.

Other Business: **

Jan. 16, 2007	ADA Training (watch Chapter/NYSCLA websites)
Jan. 20, 2007	NYSCLA Winter meeting
May, 2007	Lobby Day in Albany (date TBD in January, 2007)
April 14, 2007	NYSCLA Spring meeting

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned; the next meeting set for **Saturday, Jan. 20, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. at the NYSCLA's office, 33 Elk Street, Albany.