

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 5, 2005

Location: Albany, NY

Present: K. Mathews- (President)
E. Olinger-Officer (Treasurer)
N. Bateman- Upstate (Secretary)
D. Brackett- Upstate
E. Brescia –Downstate
R. Collins-Upstate
D. Conklin- Upstate
R. Gibney-Downstate
D. McCord-Upstate

Absent: D. Annese-Downstate
S. Marshall-Paetzl-Downstate
N. Pouder-Downstate
D. Young-Upstate
B. Rodriguez- (NYSCLA Executive Director)

General Business:

NYSCLA Board Members- K. Mathews opened the meeting by introducing Rich Collins, new Upstate Board member. The Board welcomes Rich who is a Landscape Architect with Bergmann Associates, PC in Rochester. This was the first meeting held at the new office location. Only the street address has changed (as shown above); the phone and fax number remains the same. NYSCLA thanks AIANYS staff assistance in helping us coordinate this first meeting in the new location. K. Mathews noted that after today's meeting she will resign from the Board and requested to continue to lead today's meeting before the new Board President. K. Mathews then resigned as NYSCLA President and noted that since she is now a Downstate member, a quorum of 3 Upstate and 3 downstate members in addition to 2 officers were present. K. Mathews then made a motion to nominate Doug McCord as NYSCLA President for the next two years; motioned carried by all including proxy votes. D. McCord accepted and was welcomed by the Board. The Board thanked K. Mathews for all her hard work and contributions both as President for the past two years as well as her 15 years of dedicated effort as a NYSCLA downstate Board member.

Previous Meeting Minutes- the April 9, 2005 Spring minutes and the July 23, 2005 Summer minutes previously submitted by N. Bateman were approved.

The draft Fall minutes will be sent for initial review in a couple weeks, followed by full Board review via email prior to the Winter Meeting.

Treasurer's Report-submitted in writing, presented by E. Olinger and approved by the Board; the fourth quarter Upstate Chapter dues are forthcoming; account balances presented and all intact.

Legislative Session Report- in her absence, B. Rodriguez submitted to all a full updated listing of all current bills in both houses for 2005 to assist us in keeping up with all relevant legislation related to the design professions. She also submitted the Legislative Report as follows:

Administration-

2006 Contract- the 2006 management fee and our contract with AIANYS remains the same as 2005.

Landscape Architecture and the Law- we have put this on hold as we plan to update our graphic look and need to get this back to B. Rodriguez soon in order to do another joint mailing with AIANYS.

Government Affairs-

Joint Design Professions meeting- B. Rodriguez noted a November, 2005 meeting is being set up to discuss the 2006 Legislative Program and will advise up of possible dates. K. Mathews asked for Board members in the Albany area to consider this since the meeting is always held in Albany.

Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE)- B. Rodriguez congratulated us on passage of the MCE Bill which was signed by the Governor on Oct. 4, 2005. Once we get a timeline for regulation implementation, we will need to work again with AIANYS.

Lobby Day Report- The next Lobby Day is set for May 2, 2006. NYSCLA will be invited if AIANYS decides to again host a Board or Executive Committee meeting the night before Lobby Day, and hopes NYSCLA will participate jointly with AIANYS in all functions. B. Rodriguez said the AIANYS 2006 focus will likely be Sustainable Design/Livable Communities.

Proposed NYSCLA 2006 Legislative Program- B. Rodriguez requests NYSCLA input regarding the priority and sequence and any additional items for our 2006 Legislative agenda and to let her know by January, 2006. Both AIANYS and NYSCLA's 2005 legislative agenda was attached for our use. She noted that since 2005 was the first year of the typical two-year session, and the only legislation acted into law was the MCE bill, the 2006 agenda will continue in large part from 2005.

2005 Legislative Session Wrap Up (as of July 11, 2005)- The 2005 session ended Thursday, June 24, 2005 with 14,889 bills introduced-8984 in the Democratic-controlled Assembly and 5905 in the Republican-controlled Senate. AIANYS tracked approximately 250 bills during the 2005 session and will track an additional 150 more in 2006, the second year of the two-year session. Those bills that only passed one house this session will be referred back to their house committees and the legislative cycle begins anew when the second-year session begins in January, 2006. The passage of the MCE bill for Landscape Architects was the highlight of this session.

Old Business:

MCE- Passed and signed by the Governor on October 4, 2005; D. Conklin noted that drafting the regulations for the MCE bill would likely take one year so a two-year window is a likely timeframe to include actual implementation. **The MCE law passed mandates the regulations to take effect by January 1, 2007.** The State Education Department (SED) must write our regulations by then. K. Mathews will write an article for the Downstate Chapter to inform everyone as to the general timeframe of the legislation so they will know how the new law affects them (15 months away). D. Brackett confirmed that the new State Board head for Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Robert Lopez, is very supportive and interested in having a solid working relationship with NYSCLA. He noted that R. Lopez already has an assistant, and this will facilitate communication for us. As a Board member of the State Board for Landscape Architects, D. Brackett will also confirm what representatives will comprise the ad hoc Committee to assist SED in writing the new MCE regulations for Landscape Architects. He felt at least one NYSCLA Board member should also be a part of the Committee, in addition to R. Lopez of State Ed. and a State Board for Landscape Architects representative. D. Brackett said he will confirm with R. Lopez as to the appropriate members/strategy for the ad hoc MCE regs Committee and let us know, hopefully by next week. D. Conklin noted that NYSCLA should continue to have a strong presence throughout the process, since the initiation of the MCE legislation for Landscape Architects came from NYSCLA. The Board agreed. K. Mathews noted that since NYSCLA MCE Committee consisting of D. McCord, E. Olinger, and N. Poudier had already written a white paper and spearheaded our effort for MCE, at a minimum, they should represent NYSCLA on the ad hoc MCE reg Committee. The Board agreed. D. McCord and E. Olinger said the NYSCLA committee will begin to draft a white paper on the regulations now. D. McCord pointed out that CLARB is still not ready to serve as a clearinghouse for CE provider approvals. He noted that CLARB does offer a form of requirements that a CE provider should meet. Discussion continued and it was agreed that colleges and universities, for example, could hopefully meet these requirements to be a pre-approved CE provider for us. D. Conklin noted that a flyer should be sent soon to inform all Landscape Architects, whether they are an ASLA member or not, about the new CEU requirements. Discussion continued and it was agreed that the NYSCLA MCE Committee would create and send the flyer after the first meeting of the full ad hoc MCE Committee takes place with all Boards.

Legislative Updates and Responsibilities- D. Annese drafted a model letter regarding the Urban Reforestation legislation (S. 5572) he and K. Mathews had reviewed and critiqued this summer. K. Mathews distributed a copy to all and asked for comments later. She will send an email soliciting comments after D. McCord has finalized the edits on the draft letter submitted. She noted that this can be a good form letter which can be modified as needed to send to bill sponsors, etc. as we try to expand our tracking and review of current legislation affecting Landscape Architects. Board members currently researching individual

issues/legislation include: R. Gibney-Smart Growth, S. 2070; E. Brescia-Community reforestation, A.1820, A.1886, A.1958, A.2402; S. Marshall-Paetzel-Dark Skies; K. Mathews and D. Annese-Urban Reforestation, S. 5572; D. McCord-Playgrounds, A.5312, A.5374; E. Olinger-historic preservation, A.5721; D. Conklin-Waterfront revitalization, A.6399; N. Bateman, will pick an issue soon.

Lobby Day Brochure- D. McCord had emailed the pdf file Marshall Goff had sent as a draft Brochure for us to comment which we plan to distribute at Lobby Day; Board members will continue to review the draft and get comments soon to D. McCord; E. Olinger noted that annual budget item should be considered for edits/updates with an estimated \$250-\$300/ 500 copies-printing cost only. K. Mathews said we could consider placing this on our website. R. Gibney suggested sending it in digital format several weeks prior to Lobby Day. E. Olinger noted that we should pay M. Goff now so we can pay him before the end of this fiscal year since we have a surplus. The Board noted that we should review the legal ramifications of M. Goff's contract for services more-E. Olinger and D. McCord agreed to do this. K. Mathews said a working group to liaison with M. Goff to facilitate progress on this is a good idea since MCE and Lobby Day are our most important priorities right now. E. Brescia volunteered to work with M. Goff on production of the brochure/fact sheet, noting we will also use the new NYSCLA logo which she and S. Marshall-Paetzel are working on. Discussion continued and there was general agreement that our Lobby Day information materials are in need of improvement. R. Gibney and E. Brescia volunteered to begin work now to collect Lobby Day agenda issues to finalize them earlier for next May. K. Mathews suggested a Lobby Day Committee be formed-E. Brescia, R. Gibney, and R. Collins volunteered for this.

New Business:

New Stationary, labels, envelopes- in progress; S. Marshall-Paetzel is working on this.

Candidates for NYSCLA 2006-2008 term and Election of Officers- K. Mathews chaired the Nominations Committee and nominated E. Olinger for Treasurer and N. Bateman for Secretary; motion carried and both members were approved for new terms. D. McCord, new NYSCLA President, stated he is looking forward to continuing the leadership tradition of past NYSCLA Presidents. K. Mathews announced that D. Young notified the Board that he will resign as Board member effective November 6, 2005. The Board thanked Dave for his long service and contribution to NYSCLA efforts and wished him well. The Board also approved D. "Nick" Annese as a Board Member emeritus, after he officially stepped down as a regular Board Member recently.

Other Business:

New Board Members- K. Mathews noted the following vacancies for Board members, Upstate-two, Downstate-one.

2006 Meeting Dates- K. Mathews then turned the meeting over to new President D. McCord to set the 2006 NYSCLA calendar as follows:

January 21, 2006	Winter Board meeting
May 2, 2006	Lobby Day in Albany
April 1, 2006	Spring Board meeting
July 15, 2006	Summer Board meeting
November 4, 2006	Fall Board meeting

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned; the next meeting (Winter) is set for Saturday, January 21, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. in NYSCLA's new office location at 33 Elk Street, Albany.