
Maryland Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects
Business Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, October 21, 2024

TIME: 11:00 A.M.

LOCATION: 1100 N. Eutaw St.
5th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201
(Teleconference via Google Meet)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher Schein, *Chair*
Grace Fielder, *Secretary*
Heather English, *Landscape Architect*
Cameron C. Duncan, *Consumer Member*
David Thaler, *Consumer Member*

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, *Executive Director*
Raquel Meyers, *Assistant Executive Director*
John Dove, *Commissioner*
Sarah McDermott, *Assistant Commissioner*
Matthew McKinney, *Director of Government Affairs*
Faith Green, *Board Administrator*
Matthew Venuti, *Board Counsel*

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris D. Ellington, *Public Member, ASLA*

Meeting Called to Order

Chris Schein, Chair, called the Board for Examiners of Landscape Architects meeting to order, virtually, at 11:04 a.m.

Approval of July 15, 2024 Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of the business meeting held on July 15, 2024. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Ms. English, and unanimously carried by the board to approve the minutes without corrections.

Correspondence

None

Review Applications

The board approved (6) L.A.R.E applications, and (8) reciprocity applications.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Thaler, seconded by Mr. Duncan, and unanimously carried by the board to approve the applications

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Thomas highlighted to the board the main topics of discussion from the CLARB Annual Meeting that took place on September 19 – 21, 2024, in Buffalo, NY. Among the topics discussed was the impacts of artificial intelligence on the landscape architecture industry. The recent designation of landscape architecture as a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines, and how it allows colleges and universities to acquire more funding for degree programs. Presentations by the International Federation of Landscape Architects and the growth of the profession globally. Mr. Thomas continued to report that during the CLARB Annual Meeting the new CLARB Board of Director and Leadership Council were inaugurated. A copy of the Councils survey will be shared with the Maryland board following today's meeting.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Venuti reported that the board does not have any proposals for the upcoming legislative session which begins on January 8, 2025.

He shared that the Board of Architects is currently reviewing their regulations to more closely correspond to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) model laws.

New Business

None

Old Business

Ms. English inquired on the feasibility of including electronic seal and signatures similar to requirements of the other design boards in Maryland. Mr. Venuti recommended the formation of a task force/committee to evaluate a regulatory proposal.

Emeritus Status

Mr. Ellis inquired to the board for the most straightforward, financially efficient path to obtain the emeritus status for licensees. Mr. Schein responded that the language has already been drafted by Mr. Venuti, and can be forwarded to him shortly following the meeting. He continued to reiterate that the draft should come from the American Society of Landscape Architects, (ASLA) Maryland Chapter, since the deadline for agency proposals has concluded for the upcoming legislative session.

Complaint Committee Report

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Thaler, seconded by Ms. Fielder, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

With Corrections_____

Without Corrections: __X__

Chair's Signature: Signature on File

Date: 01/27/2025