

Maryland Board of Architects Business Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 20, 2024, Wednesday

TIME: 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 1100 North Eutaw Street
5th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201

Video conferencing via: meet.google.com/byw-mkbj-vad

By Phone: (US) +1 234-719-3728 PIN: 756 731 100#

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair
Paul Edmeades
Kevin Sneed, Architect
Casey Dawkins, Consumer Member
Stephanie Hopkins, Consumer Member
Douglas Polt, Architect
Mark Flemming, Architect

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, Executive Director
Matthew Venuti, Board Counsel
Noraida Lozano, Board Administrator
Hannah Belcher, Design Boards Office Secretary

Call to Order

Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair, called the Business Meeting of the Maryland Board of Architects to order at 11:06 a.m., virtually via meet.google.com/byw-mkbj-vad, (US) +1 234-719-3728 PIN: 756 731 100#.

Approval of Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on February 21, 2024. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Sneed, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes with corrections.

Complaint Committee Report

Ms. Hopkins presented the following report on behalf of the Complaint Committee:

03-AR-23 - No Change (OAH hearing is scheduled for Mar 21, 2024)

04-AR-23 - Waiting for OAH ruling. Forwarded to State's Attorneys Office of
Baltimore City for possible criminal charges

05-AR-23 - Possible criminal charges

02-AR-24 - Waiting on a response

04-AR-24 - Currently on hold

05-AR-24 - Waiting on a response

06-AR-24 - Waiting on a response

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Sneed, and carried by the Board to accept the Complaint Committee Report.

Review of Applications

Applications for Architectural Registration Exam (A. R. E.)

Mr. Edmeades presented the report for the applicants for the Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.) and reciprocity.

There were **eight (8)** A.R.E. applications administratively approved:

BERNHARD, Kevin

DHAMAT, Yogini

FARAHPOUR, Behnam

GALARZA, Jose

GARCIA JR., Daniel

GILDAY, Kathleen

ORALLO, Joanna Marie

VAZQUEZ JR., Carlos

There were **three (3)** A.R.E applications approved by the Board:

McDONALD, Ryan

PERKINS, Richard

THOMAS, Carey

Applications for Reciprocity

HAUSMAN, Levi Anthony

Motion (III) was made by Ms. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Flemming, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve **eleven (11)** A.R.E. applications and **one (1)** application for reciprocity.

Old Business

Proposed Fee Increase

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Flemming, seconded by Ms. Hopkins, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the amended Architects Board 12% fee increase as presented by Mr. Venuti.

2024 NCARB Annual Business Meeting Draft Resolutions

The Board reviewed the NCARB Resolutions one by one as follows:

- Resolution 2024-A:** Omnibus Sunset of Resolutions in Conflict with Current Council Policies
(The Board agreed that this resolution is straight forward)
- Resolution 2024-B:** Omnibus Sunset of Remaining Resolutions in Conflict with Current Council Policies
(The Board agreed that this resolution is straight forward)
- Resolution 2024-C:** New Mutual Recognition Agreement with the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACAA) and the New Zealand Registered Architects Board (NZRAB)
(The Board had no further comments about this resolution)
- Resolution 2024-D:** Mutual Recognition Agreement with the National Association of Architects, R.O.C. (NAA)
(The Board agreed to table this resolution for more discussion until the Annual meeting)
- Resolution 2024-E:** Tri-National Mutual Recognition Agreement for International Practice – Amendment
(The Board agreed to table this resolution for more discussion until the Annual meeting)
- Resolution 2024-F:** NCARB Model Law and Regulations Amendment – Examination Eligibility Updates
(The Board agreed that this resolution is something to consider for more discussion)
- Resolution 2024-G:** NCARB Bylaws Amendment – Update to Certificate Requirement for Board of Director Positions
(The Board agreed to vote for this resolution)
- Resolution 2024-H:** NCARB Bylaws Amendment – NCARB Regions
(The board agreed to oppose this resolution)

Chair Shonaiya proposed that the NCARB Board of Directors candidates be discussed and possibly voted upon at the next month's board meeting.

Committee Reports

DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

Mr. Sneed reported that the DEI Forum is moving forward with the presentation which is scheduled for April 18, 2024. Invitations to the presentation are being prepared by Mr. Edmeades. The collaboration with NCARB and AIA Baltimore was also confirmed.

Code Officials

Ms. Hopkins and Mr. Polt did not receive the edited copy of the Code Officials Handbook. Chair Shonaiya alluded that she would send them a copy with her comments.

Board Responsibilities to MD

Mr. Flemming confirmed he received the latest version of the handbook from Mr. Edmeades. He plans to coordinate with Mr. Venuti about the Board Responsibilities MD Handbook the week after the meeting.

Strategic Plan

Chair Shonaiya stated that the Strategic Plan has already been referred to our NCARB Regional Committee for review.

New Business

Mr. Thomas shared with the Board the US Congress Bill H.Con.Res.96 which expresses the sense of Congress regarding the public health, safety, and welfare implications of licensure of design professionals. Ms. Shonaiya suggested putting it on the agenda at the next meeting for the Board's comments and discussion.

Correspondence - NONE

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Thomas asked each member of the Board to confirm their attendance at the NCARB Annual meeting scheduled on June 13 -15, 2023 in Chicago, Illinois. The following attendees were recorded. Chair Shonaiya mentioned that the funding confirmation will be discussed at the next meeting.

Shonaiya - Yes

Edmeades - Yes

Sneed - Yes

Hopkins - Yes

Venuti - To be determined.

Dawkins - No

Polt - Yes

Flemming - Yes, if funded

Thomas - Yes

He also reminded the Board that the deadline for submission of Ethics Financial disclosure is on April 30, 2024.

Mr. Edmeades followed up with him about the hiring for the Assistant Director's position. He stated that there's currently a freeze in hiring for this position.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Venuti stated that the approved fee increase would be forwarded to the Secretary's Office after the meeting. He also confirmed that Mr. Ernie Dominguez was assigned as the permanent Litigation Counsel for the Design Board. He will try to update the Board about the new legislation that will impact the Board at the next meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (V) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Polt, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be on April 24, 2024, Wednesday at 11:00 am.

_____ With Corrections X Without Corrections

(Signature on File)

Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair

04/25/2024

Date