# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# **BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

TEL. NO. (860) 713-6135

#### -MINUTES-

### **DECEMBER 8, 2015**

The Board of Landscape Architects held a regular meeting on December 8, 2015 which was called to order by Chairman Vincent McDermott at 10:08 AM in Room No 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

### **Board Members Present:**

Vincent C. McDermott Chairman, Landscape Architect

Jeffrey P. Hutton Public Member

Anne L. Penniman Landscape Architect Stephen Wing Landscape Architect

**Board Members Not Present:** 

W. Phillips Barlow Landscape Architect

**Vacancy:** Two (Public Members)

**DCP Staff Present:** 

Jonathan A. Harris, Commissioner

Robert M. Kuzmich, License/Applications

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Specialist

Others Present: None.

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135 or Fax (860)-706-1255.

Agency Website: <a href="https://www.ct.gov/dcp">www.ct.gov/dcp</a>

**Division E-Mail**: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

### Resignation of Mr. Vincent C. McDermott

Commissioner Harris thanked Mr. McDermott for his 35 years of dedicated service to the State and his work on this Board as Chairman. Commissioner Harris presented Mr. McDermott with a Proclamation from the Governor for his service to the State. Mr. McDermott gave the Board and the Commissioner a brief history of its existence and history with the legislature. Mr. Wing offered his personal thanks to Mr. McDermott for his "steady hand" in leading this Board during his 16 year tenure.

# 1. <u>Review of minutes of the September 22, 2015 Board of Landscape Architects Meeting.</u>

The Board voted to approve the minutes as submitted. (Wing/Hutton)

### 2. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today.

No one scheduled before the Board today. In addition, there were no additional comments from anyone present at this meeting.

## 3. Old Business

3A. First review of draft of amended Regulations and Landscape Architect Application reflecting the passage of Public Act 15-104; for review and discussion by the Board.

Mr. McDermott distributed a draft of the revisions to the regulations that need to get made to accommodate the requirements of Public Act 15-104. The prior law allowed an individual without a landscape architecture degree to take the examination if he or she had eight years' practical experience in landscape architectural work of a grade and character satisfactory to the State Board of Landscape Architects. Public Act instead requires these applicants to have at least:

- 1. A Bachelor's degree in a discipline related to landscape architecture or in landscape architecture from an unaccredited college, if the board determines, with the Consumer Protection Commissioner's consent, that the curriculum is consistent with an accredited program and
- 2. Four years' practical experience directly supervised by a licensed landscape architect.

The proposed revisions also eliminate various inconsistencies which over time are no longer applicable. Mr. McDermott noted this Board also needs to have a process in place to acknowledge to the Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards

(CLARB) that a candidate's educational background has been approved by the Board for admission to the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed regulation revisions as amended at today's meeting and to instruct the Department to proceed with approval process. (Wing/Penniman)

### 4. New Business

4A. Inquiry from Ms. Lan Ma concerning alternate exam eligibility requirements and application for a Landscape Architect license; for discussion by the Board. Mr. McDermott noted that Ms. Lan Ma works for his company. It was noted that Ms. Lan Ma addressed the Board in writing providing them with her educational background and a brief employment history. Mr. McDermott noted that this application shall be handled via the process recently put into law by Public Act 15-104 as detailed earlier in this meeting.

The Board reviewed and discussed in detail her letter to them concerning alternate exam eligibility requirements and becoming a Landscape Architect in Connecticut. They requested she provide them with all academic transcripts she wants reviewed in consideration for admission to the Landscape Architect Registration Examination. The Board will review this documentation at their next regular meeting scheduled for March 8, 2016.

- 4B. Application of Mr. Nathaniel J. Bernard for licensing by written examination; Mr. Bernard is applying with a *CLARB Council Record (No. 40437)* and has passed the *Landscape Architect Registration Examination* with the *Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards*. Upon a thorough review, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Bernard for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Wing/Hutton)
- 4C. Application of Ms. Lisa C. Frazier for licensing by written examination; Ms. Frazier is applying with a *CLARB Council Record (No. 39682)* and has passed the *Landscape Architect Registration Examination* with the *Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards*. The Board voted to conditionally to approve Ms. Frazier's application subject to receipt of a notarized affidavit which verifies that Lisa C. Frazier and Lisa Costich are in fact the same person. Both names are used throughout her application package with no legal supporting documentation regarding the name change. (Wing/Hutton)
- 4D. Application of Ms. April M. Maly for licensing by written examination; Ms. Maly is applying with a *CLARB Council Record (No. 42939)* and has passed the *Landscape Architect Registration Examination* with the *Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards*. The Board voted to conditionally approve Ms. Maly's application

subject to receipt of a notarized application. The application she submitted is not notarized. (Wing/Hutton) It is noted that Ms. Penniman recused herself from the vote because the applicant is her employee.

4E. Updated list of applications processed for licenses subsequent to the September 22, 2015 meeting of the Board. The Board acknowledged receipt of this list and thanked the Department for this update.

NAME	METHOD OF LICENSURE	DEPT. APPR'D
Lemon, Christian S.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 45556; California	October 13, 2015
Ciardella, Richard N.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 1773; California	November 12, 2015
Cappellari, Brandon R.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 32775; New York	November 12, 2015

<u>4F. DCP Trade Practices Division Complaint Status Report;</u> review of complaint report submitted by the DCP Trade Practices Division including open, closed, and dismissed cases. There was no report received from the Trade Practices Division to present to the Board.

4G. Department of Consumer Protection's 2016 Schedule for Board, Commission, and Council Meetings; for the Board's information. The Board acknowledged receipt of this list and thanked the Department for this update.

4H. Any correspondence and/or business received in the interim.

4J. Letter from Ms. Britt Zuckerman dated November 11, 2015 concerning alternate exam eligibility requirements and application for a Landscape Architect license; for discussion by the Board. It is noted that the Board voted to add this item to their meeting agenda today. Ms. Zuckerman's letter outlines her educational background and employment history. Ms. Zuckerman provided the Board with academic transcripts from New York University and Columbia University. In addition, she also provided the Board with a CLARB Council Record Summary.

The Board reviewed the academic transcripts submitted to them Ms. Brittany Taylor Zuckerman in consideration for her admission to the Landscape Architect Registration Examination. Upon completion of their review, the Board determined that the subject matter of these transcripts is consistent with that of an accredited education program in landscape architecture and pursuant with Section 20-370 of the General Statutes of Connecticut. As such, the Board voted, unanimously, to allow Ms. Zuckerman to sit for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination. (Wing Hutton)

The Board also instructed Mr. Kuzmich to notify the Council of Landscape Architects of their decision today. As an aside to their discussion on this agenda item, the Board also discussed the procedural aspects, going forward, on applications that in their

determination do not meet the requirements of Public Act 15-104. In such cases, the applicant shall be notified in writing that their educational background is not generally equivalent to what would be expected in an accredited program. Should the candidate challenge the Board's decision, they can come before them to plead their case. If the candidate is still not approved by the Board, he or she can then appeal the Board's decision to the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection.

## 5. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today.

No one scheduled before the Board today. In addition, there were no additional comments from anyone present at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 117, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A. Board Administrator