

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

MAY 18, 2021

The Board of Landscape Architects held a regular meeting via ZOOM Webinar on May 18, 2021 which was called to order by Chairman Mark Arigoni at 9:40 AM.

Board Members Present:

Mark R. Arigoni	Chair, Landscape Architect
W. Phillips Barlow	Landscape Architect
Dominick Celtruda	Landscape Architect
Anne L. Penniman	Landscape Architect

Board Members Not Present:

None

Vacancy:

Three (Public Members)

DCP Staff Present:

Robert M. Kuzmich, License & Applications Specialist
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division
Pamela Brown, Director, Investigations Division

Others Present:

Genevieve F. Shepard

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, Richard M. Hurlburt, Director.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp

E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

1. Review of minutes of the February 16, 2021 Board of Landscape Architects Meeting

It was noted under “4. Old Business” Item (2), that the last sentence in the first paragraph shall be changed to read “She will also speak with Mr. Arigoni by telephone subsequent to today’s meeting.” Further, the last sentence in the second paragraph shall be changed to read “Mr. Arigoni wants to be sure that Ms. Fernandez knows that this matter has come before the Board in the past and that any communication should be very specific.”

As such, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the minutes as amended herein.
(Barlow/Penniman)

2. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today

There were no comments or concerns from anyone present at the meeting.

3. DCP Investigation Division Complaint Status Report

3A. Board to review complaint status report when provided.

Ms. Brown stated to the Board that they were given advance notice by e-mail from Ms. Janita Hamel that there is no report to be submitted for this meeting and that they have no new or older cases to report.

4. Old Business

1. Continuation of discussion concerning the involvement of State Board’s with their accredited university (UCONN) regarding outreach and understanding of the licensure process.

Mr. Arigoni noted that he now has a Power Point presentation from CLARB that he has asked to be slightly changed to correctly reflect exam eligibility as it pertains to required work experience prior to taking the examination. This was a discussion he had with CLARB regarding incorrect information on this matter posted graphically by them on material made available to examination candidates.

In response to a question from Ms. Penniman, Mr. Arigoni explained that the Board has recently received applications from CLARB that do not necessarily reflect the Board’s position but, instead, reflect an interpretation made by CLARB as it pertains to education and/or work experience required by Connecticut.

Mr. Arigoni reminded the Board that Mr. Celtruda has volunteered to make a presentation to students regarding outreach and understanding of the licensing process. Mr. Celtruda will be working with Mr. Barlow on this presentation to be made at the University of Connecticut.

2. Continuation of discussion regarding letter from Mr. Philip Doyle, PLA, dated October 22, 2020, concerning Restriction of Licensed Practice.

Mr. Arigoni gave the Board a summary of his conversation he had with Ms. Cynthia Fernandez from the Department of Consumer Protection. She had discussed this matter with the Ms. Julianne Avallone, the Department's Legal Division Director. It was decided that this issue be taken up with Mr. Raul Rodriguez, the Board's Attorney, from the Attorney General's Office. The Board now understands that any further discussions and/or complaints on this matter be held directly with Mr. Rodriguez. Mr. Arigoni did e-mail Mr. Rodriguez giving him the background on this new issue and also noting that he is unsure whether or not their previous issue, concerning the Department of Transportation and the matter raised by Mr. Barlow, was ever resolved. It was agreed that these items will be carried forward under "Old Business" on future meeting agendas.

Mr. Arigoni asked if a file can be created by the Department documenting the history of the matter; perhaps calling it a "barriers to practice". Ms. Penniman stated the importance of the Board advocating this issue going forward..Mr. Barlow asked that it be noted that this matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Raul Rodriguez in the past and documented in the Board's Meeting minutes and was never resolved. Also, per the suggestion of Mr. Celtruda, these matters shall be carried forward to future meeting agenda's under "Old Business" so as not lose focus on them. Mr. Celtruda also raised the matter of Board vacancies and the importance of this issue being carried forward to future Board meetings as "Status of Public Member Appointments". Mr. Kuzmich gave Mr. Celtruda the Department contact information concerning Board vacancies.

Mr. Barlow gave the Board a history of the nature of Public Member appointments as it relates to the individual's personal background and interest in Landscape Architecture. He noted that many public member appointments, for whatever reason, have been short lived. Mr. Kuzmich noted that the Statutes define the requirements of Public Member appointments.

5. New Business

5A. Discussion concerning the "Live" Attendance requirement for Landscape Architect Continuing Education relative to the COVID Pandemic.

Mr. Arigoni noted the current position of the Board is to carry forward this discussion at their quarterly meetings to assess what their policy will be. Mr. Celtruda suggested that the Board continue to waive the live requirement at least to their August 17, 2021 Board

Meeting at which point they will discuss the matter again. The Board agreed with this action unanimously.

5B. Applications for licensing by written examination:

Mr. Arigoni noted that all the applicants have accredited degrees and verified employment. It was noted that Ms. Genevieve F. Shepard is present at today's meeting and is available for any questions the Board may have. Mr. Celtruda noted that Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Shepard both sat for portions of their examination prior to the completion of two years' work experience under a licensed Landscape Architect. This relates to the issue discussed in the past by this Board concerning a conflict between the Statute and Regulation on this work experience requirement.

Mr. Celtruda also noted that the Board of Landscape Architect in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts now meets on a regular basis. In addition, Ms. Shepard clarified for the Board that the examination dates posted in her CLARB Record are the dates she sat for the examination sections and not the date she passed. Results are not released until three months afterward.

1. Application of Ms. Meredith Juliana for licensing by written examination; Ms. Juliana is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 59812) 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 Ms. Juliana for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow)

2. Application of Mr. Alexander S. Kelley for licensing by written examination; Mr. Kelley is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 45932) 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. Kelley for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow)

3. Application of Ms. Katherine A. Montgomery for licensing by written examination; Ms. Montgomery is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 54750) 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 Ms. Montgomery for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow)

4. Application of Ms. Genevieve F. Shepard for licensing by written examination; Ms. Shepard is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 61216) 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 Ms. Shepard for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow) Ms. Shepard noted is an advocate for examination

candidates being able to sit for the examination while still in school. She cited her experience versus her coworkers who sat for the examination after completing all their work experience and were well out of college. Ms. Shepard noted she was very acclimated to standardized testing because of the fact that she was doing so as a part of her employment. She believes this gave her an advantage when it came to taking the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

6. Application of Ms. Tianjiao Zhang for licensing by written examination; Ms. Zhang is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 59194) 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 Ms. Zhang for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow)

5C. Updated list of applications by Waiver of Examination processed for licenses subsequent to the February 16, 2021 meeting of the Board.

No.	Name	Method of Licensure	Approved Date
1575	Keiter, Jeffrey.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 66434; NY	March 11, 2021
1572	Mason, Mark C.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 61222 GA	March 24, 2021
1577	LaGuardia, Christopher	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 50263; NY	March 29, 2021
1578	Frushour, Carl	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 60990; CA	April 6, 2021
1574	Piscitelli, Joseph L.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 38412; GA	April 7, 2021
1556	Maggio, Kalle E.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 50158; NY	May 7, 2021

The Board acknowledged the Department’s action on the above applications.

5D. Applications for License for Corporate Practice of Landscape Architecture

1. The BSC Group Connecticut Inc.
655 Winding Brook Drive
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033-4335

Personnel in responsible charge; Jesse A. Harris; Lic. No. 1224

2. Copley Wolff Design Group
10 Post Office Square Suite 1315
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-4603

Personnel in responsible charge; Sean Sanger; Lic. No. 1389

3. IBI Group Professional Services (USA) Inc.
21 Custom House Street Floor 3
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-3507

Personnel in responsible charge; John N. Amodeo; Lic. No. 1468

4. Tavella Design Group
414 Sycamore Lane
Orange, Connecticut 06477-2744

Personnel in responsible charge; Thomas R. Tavella; Lic. No. 692

Mr. Barlow asked the question who needs to apply for the corporate licensing. He believes it was only firms that did not have the owner in their names had to apply. Mr. Kuzmich stated that the requirement is a function of how the contract was entered into for Landscape Architectural services. Mr. Kuzmich also noted that landscape architectural services can be offered as a part of a Joint Practice entity.

6. Correspondence

1. Mr. Arigoni noted that the upcoming CLARB Quarterly Meeting in June 2021 will be held virtually. The CLARB Annual Meeting will be a hybrid meeting due to the many jurisdictional restrictions on Boards and travel. The meeting will have a maximum live attendance of 60 in-person. This live attendance will include one Board Member from each jurisdiction plus the Member Board Executive. Mr. Arigoni does not count towards either of these positions. The meeting will be held in Phoenix, Arizona at the end of September.

7. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today

1. Mr. Barlow noted that several years ago CTASLA lobbied the Department of Construction Services (DCS) to include landscape architects in their on-call list which, in the past, excluded landscape architects. Because of diligent lobbying, landscape architects are now a part of their on-call rosters.

2. Ms. Penniman advocated for the virtual meeting format for future Board Meetings in terms of Board Member schedules and convenience. She also suggested that once things resume to being more “normal”, perhaps the Board can meet in person at the State for one out of their four annual meetings. Mr. Arigoni believes this format can be enticing for the recruitment of Public Members. Mr. Celtruda also agrees with this. As Landscape Architecture is a “green profession”, Ms. Penniman noted that the virtual type meeting format reduces the carbon footprint for the environment.

3. Regarding the Public Member vacancies, Mr. Kuzmich will e-mail Mr. Celtruda the Department contact for this matter so he can follow-up.

4. The format for the next Board Meeting was discussed and will most likely be virtual. Mr. Kuzmich will advise the Board as necessary.

There were no further comments or concerns from anyone present at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 9:30 AM; location to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
Board Administrator

Board of Landscape Architects Meeting Dates for 2021:

1. February 16, 2021
2. May 18, 2021
3. August 17, 2021
4. November 16, 2021

All meetings will take place at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT at 9:30 AM unless otherwise noted.