

ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING BOARD

Tel. No. (860) 713-6145

February 23, 2009

State of Connecticut
Department of Consumer Protection
Occupational & Professional Licensing Division
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The six hundred and eighty sixth meeting of the Architectural Licensing Board, held on March 27, 2009, was called to order by Acting Robert B. Hurd at 8:39 AM in Room No. 121 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Board Members Present:	David H. Barkin Carole W. Briggs Robert B. Hurd	Board Member Board Member Board Member
Board Members Not Present:	S. Edward Jeter	Chairman/Board Member
Others Present:	Robert M. Kuzmich Peter R. Huntsman Christian D. LaVigna Diane Harp Jones Bruce Spiewak	License and Applications Specialist/Department of Consumer Protection Attorney General's Office; Board Counsel Applicant for Architect License AIA/CT AIA/CT

Note: The administrative functions of this Board are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, call Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135.

1. Old Business

1A. Submission of the minutes of the January 16, 2009; for review and approval. *After a thorough review, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the minutes as submitted. (Barkin/Briggs)* It is noted the Ms. Briggs abstained from the vote.

1B. Request for consideration of Application for Architect's License by Mr. Christian D. LaVigna; for further discussion by the Board; Mr. LaVigna is scheduled to appear before the Board today. Mr. Hurd noted that at the last Board meeting, he suggested that Mr. LaVigna come before the Board today. Mr. Hurd noted that the architect that Mr. LaVigna has been associated with has not been licensed in Connecticut since 2000. Mr. Hurd was not clear from what the applicant submitted what the work relationship was between the two after this time and is concerned about potentially unlicensed practice.

Mr. Hurd questioned what type of work Mr. LaVigna's design-build business was involved with. Mr. LaVigna noted that the construction was residential wood frame construction. He also was very surprised that his former partner's license was lapsed. Examples of his work were shown to the Board and from this; they determined that this type of work does not require an architectural seal by statute. In addition, they believe that there was no intent on the part of Mr. LaVigna's partner to allow his license to lapse.

Mr. Hurd questioned if Mr. LaVigna ever established an NCARB Council Record and completed a formal internship. Mr. LaVigna stated that he did not and read aloud to the Board a prepared statement outlining his educational and professional background. Mr. Hurd explained, in detail, the process by which the Board can grant Mr. LaVigna a license by admitting him as an examination candidate as opposed to a "reciprocity" application since he does not meet the required ten years of licensed practice. *Mr. Kuzmich explained the mechanics of this procedure and after some brief discussion, the Board voted to approve Mr. LaVigna as Connecticut Architect Registration Examination candidate and have his New York State examination scores transferred to Connecticut. (Barkin/Briggs) It is noted that Mr. Hurd abstained from the vote.*

1C. Request from AIA/CT for discussion concerning the *The National Council of Building Designer Certification*, 2962 Saklan Indian Drive, Walnut Creek, California 94595; continuation of discussion. Mr. Hurd noted that the thrust of this discussion centered on whether or not these individuals are pretending to offer a license to practice architecture. Mr. Hurd visited their website and did not see anything that was encouraging people to think they were architects. Most of their references were to residential building types. Mr. Barkin noted that any action the Board may take at this time would be premature. He stated that if an individual was actually using this certification to design buildings and a complaint was made to the licensing Board regarding the same, then the Board at that time could take action.

The Board noted to AIA/CT that if they believe there is reason to file a complaint against this entity, then they should. Mr. Hurd again stated that he saw nothing on this website that suggests that people with his certification should think they are architects.

AIA/CT will continue to monitor this entity and send to the Department any appropriate information.

2. New Business

2A. Letter dated January 7, 2009 from Mr. Thaddeus M. Stewart concerning Docket No. 05-362; for discussion by the Board. Mr. Huntsman briefly reviewed Mr. Stewart's case and the Board's Final Decision and Order they issued to him on January 20, 2006. Mr. Stewart is asking the Board to consider removing the probationary status of his architectural license which was put in place as a part of the Board's Order. He claims that he has experienced financial and professional hardships due to this limitation placed on his license.

After extensive discussion by the Board, they requested that Mr. Stewart send to them, in writing, evidence of those elements of their *Final Decision and Order* he believes he has completed. The Board noted that they have not received any documents from him bearing the seal of a Licensed Connecticut Professional Engineer, as required by the final paragraph of that Order.

Further, the Board also required more detailed information from Mr. Stewart regarding the course he has completed at the University of New Haven; specifically, how this course satisfies the elements of structural engineering covered in the description of courses specified in the *Final Decision and Order*. It appears to the Board that it does not encompass all aspects of the courses set forth in that Order.

In addition, to date, the Department has not received notice that he has been reexamined and received passing grades for the *General Structures* and *Lateral Forces* Sections of the *Architectural Registration Examination*. Upon receipt of his written response to these directives, the Board will, again, review his request to have his architect license removed from Probationary Status.

2B. Letter to NCARB from Susan Tamsett; at the request of AIA/CT; for discussion by the Board. Ms. Harp Jones and Mr. Kuzmich explained Ms. Tamsett's situation to the Board. She choose not to take a scheduled section of the Architect Registration Examination due to impending incimate weather although the test center was open for business. NCARB's policy clearly states that she must forfeit the examination fee to which Ms. Tamsett's objected to strongly and hence corresponded with the Department of Consumer Protection and AIA/CT asking them to plead her case.

In addition, Mr. Kuzmich discovered that she is a New York Examination candidate which she did not disclose in her correspondence. The Board has no jurisdiction in this matter because she is registered with New York State. Ms. Tamsett was told this but she insisted they do because she was going to take the test in Connecticut.

Mr. Barkin noted that this matter has been thoroughly discussed by all parties involved and this Board has no action to take in this matter and suggested that perhaps we tell her to take the matter up with the New York State Board which the Department has already done. The Board agreed with Mr. Barkin and the matter was closed.

2C. Request for consideration to sit for the *Architect Registration Examination* by Mr. William T. Harke; for discussion by the Board. Mr. Kuzmich noted that Mr. Harke's request came in to the Department subsequent to their last Board meeting. He sent a copy of the correspondence to Mr. Hurd in advance of today's meeting. Mr. Hurd volunteered to step down and meet with the candidate if necessary and report back to the Board at their May meeting.

As an aside, Mr. Hurd noted that one of the NCARB's proposed resolutions to be voted on at the upcoming June 2009 Annual Meeting establishes some timeframe guidelines for the Broadly Experienced Architect Program based upon different levels of education and experience. The information in the resolution can assist the Board in future case reviews such as this one.

2D. Updated reports from the Trade Practices Division regarding Complaints by Type - Alleged Issues; for the Board's information. This information was presented to the Board. Ms. Briggs asked if the reports can show the dates the investigations were opened.

2E. File No. 2007-7775 presented by Mr. Steven Schwane from the Department's Legal Division; for action by the Board. Mr. Schwane explained that he reviewed this case and is not sure if there is any violation and that the matter involves a complaint filed against an architect by a land surveyor. *After detailed discussion, the Board decided to dismiss the complaint. (Briggs/Barkin)*

2F. File No. 2007-8817 presented by Mr. Steven Schwane from the Department's Legal Division; for action by the Board. Mr. Schwane briefly explained the details of this case noting that it involves a company that provides telecommunication services and uses the term "Communication Architects". *After detailed discussion, the Board decided to dismiss the complaint. (Briggs/Barkin)*

2G. Update from Mr. Steven Schwane from the Consumer Protection's Legal Division regarding any Board issues. Mr. Schwane advised that the State Library Regulations have not made any progress since his last update to the Board.

2H. The following candidates have passed the *Architect Registration Examination* and are recommended by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as Architects in the State of Connecticut; *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following individuals for licensing as architects in Connecticut. (Briggs/Barkin)*

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Richard Berdan | 5. James T. Murphy |
| 2. Rudi D. Elert | 6. Victoria Su |
| 3. Karri Lacourciere | 7. Theodore B. Whitten |
| 4. John C. Marinelli | |

2I. Applications for licensing by waiver of examination; the following individuals are recommended by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as architects in the State of Connecticut on the basis of waiver of examination with an NCARB Certificate Record or by Direct Endorsement; *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following individuals for licensing as architects in the State of Connecticut. (Briggs/Barkin)*

1.	Bafitis, Peter	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 137682)
2.	Bernard, Joel R.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	(NCARB File No. 134464)
3.	Blau, Heidi L.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 51341)
4.	Bley, Llewellyn E.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 60684)
5.	Bourget, Edward R.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 75192)
6.	Bradley, Tamar M.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 123637)
7.	Carlson, Robert J.	Waiver of Examination; Kentucky	(NCARB File No. 49360)
8.	Dougherty, Nancy	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
9.	Durkee, Stephen	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 56513)
10.	Fine, Albert D.	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	(NCARB File No. 116097)
11.	Glines, Gary A.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 98839)
12.	Greenberg, Robert	Waiver of Examination; District of Columbia	(NCARB File No. 22549)
13.	Hale, Allen W.	Waiver of Examination; Virginia	(NCARB File No. 60973)
14.	Hay, Charles M.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 102767)
15.	Hrycaj, Richard A.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 77418)
16.	Jost, Daniel E.	Waiver of Examination; Ohio	(NCARB File No. 91923)
17.	Kepley, Drew H.	Waiver of Examination; Virginia	(NCARB File No. 50338)
18.	Lessel, Robert E.	Waiver of Examination; Ohio	(NCARB File No. 92804)
19.	Marks, Philip C.	Waiver of Examination; Rhode Island	Direct
20.	Matlock, Audrey	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 84661)
21.	Munn, Jeremy	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 119261)
22.	Munro, Christopher	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 43857)
23.	Nagan, David	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
24.	Rasic, Timothy H.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 80867)
25.	Robar, David L.	Waiver of Examination; Michigan	(NCARB File No. 60255)

26.	Romero, Juan F.	Waiver of Examination; Missouri	(NCARB File No. 29057)
27.	Sheehan, Neil	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	Direct
28.	Siegel, Janet B.	Waiver of Examination; New Jersey	(NCARB File No. 179973)
29.	Smith, Sylvia J.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 97921)
30.	Sullivan, Michael J.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 49748)
31.	Vasil, Jensen C.	Waiver of Examination; New Jersey	(NCARB File No. 87035)
32.	Visconti, Jr., Frank A.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 47177)
33.	Walter, Randall	Waiver of Examination; New Hampshire	(NCARB File No. 67064)
34.	Warlop, Elizabeth	Waiver of Examination; Colorado	(NCARB File No. 86978)

2J. Applications for the Corporate Practice of Architecture; the Department has reviewed and recommends for approval the following applications; *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following applications for the corporate practice of Architecture in Connecticut: (Briggs/Barkin)*

Anmahian Winton Associates, Inc.
650 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Alex Anmahian, CEO
Connecticut Lic. No. 11759

The Design Alliance Architects, Inc.
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Martin E. Powell, CEO
Connecticut Lic. No. 11418

Hart Howerton, Inc.
10 East 40th Street
New York, New York 10016

A. James Tinson, CEO
Connecticut Lic. No. 10985

William Rawn Associates, Architects, Inc.
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

William L. Raun, III, CEO
Connecticut Lic. No. 7103

2K. Any correspondence and/or business received in the interim.

1. Mr. Hurd distributed the draft copy of the recent meeting of the *New England Council of Architectural Boards (NECARB)*. He noted that, unfortunately, Mr. Jeter was not elected as the Region One Director. Mr. Hurd explained that the Chairman's office is a one year term and a person can only serve three consecutive one year terms which is why Mr. Jeter had to step down as Regional Chairman.

2. Ms. Harp Jones gave the Board copies of e-mail correspondence regarding an individual wishing to apply for admission to the Architect Registration Examination by means of alternate equivalent experience and training. This correspondence will be on the Board's May 2009 Meeting Agenda.

3. Ms. Harp Jones received an e-mail from an associate member who has communicating with NCARB. This person is asking that NCARB consider extending the deadline for the ARE 3.1. She noted the fact that there are several Connecticut candidates in the pipeline with examination sections pending who have lost their jobs and the examinations costs have become a major issue.

Ms. Jones is asking on behalf of all the Connecticut examination candidates in the ARE 3.1 pipeline if this Board will consider asking NCARB take this request into consideration. The Board believes this request is appropriate and will write a letter to NCARB asking for their consideration in this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM. The next regular meeting of the Architectural Licensing Board is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.; State Office Building; Room 119; 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
Board Administrator