

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

TEL. NO. (860) 713-6135

*-MINUTES-*

MARCH 13, 2012

The Board of Landscape Architects held a regular meeting on March 13, 2012, which was called to order by Chairman Vincent McDermott at 9:40 AM in Room No 121 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

### **Board Members Present:**

Vincent C. McDermott	Chairman
W. Phillips Barlow	Board Member
Paul E. Courchaine	Board Member
Nancy J. Rudek	Board Member
Shavaun Towers	Board Member

### **Board Members Not Present:**

Stephen Wing	Board Member
--------------	--------------

**Vacancy:** One (Public Member)

### **Others Present:**

William M. Rubenstein	Commissioner, Department of Consumer Protection
Richard M. Hurlburt	Department of Consumer Protection
Robert M. Kuzmich	Department of Consumer Protection

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: [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp)

Division E-Mail: [occtrades@ct.gov](mailto:occtrades@ct.gov)

## 1.) Old Business

1A. Minutes of the January 3, 2012 meeting of the Board; for review and approval. *The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the minutes as submitted. (Towers/Rudek)*

1B. Continuation of discussion of issues pertaining to meeting held with Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on February 7, 2012 and Department of Consumer Protection Representatives concerning the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater; for discussion by the Board. Mr. McDermott stated that he and others were invited to participate in a meeting with the department of Energy and Environmental Protection recently. Mr. McDermott personally thanked our Commissioner Rubenstein for being so instrumental by intervening and laying the groundwork to make this “meeting of the minds” happen and to ensure its productivity. The Department was represented staff Attorney Steven Schwane in addition to representatives from the Connecticut Chapter - American Society of Landscape Architects, the Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board, American Society of Civil Engineers, the Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers, and the Connecticut Home Builders Association.

The meeting was very productive and essentially came down to a lack of understanding on the part of DEEP who was confused by the points of view between consumers and professional while keeping a common end goal. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)’s program is addressed to those people who are reviewing and inspecting plans made by other professionals. Their intent was not to allow unlicensed individuals do the work of licensed design professionals.

Mr. McDermott clarified that this proposed law does not prohibit design professional from preparing plans within their perview but does require that the third part review of such plans be done by certified professionals. DEEP will be revising their language to state that authorized individuals reviewing plans must be licensed in addition to a higher standard consisting of four years of experience in erosion and sedimentation control. DEEP hopes to have this new implemented by October 1, 2012.

1C. Continuation of Discussion concerning the preparation of Site Plans for Municipalities and Declaratory Ruling on Municipal Requirements; for discussion by the Board. Mr. McDermott gave the Board a copy of a letter he drafted that needs approval from our Commissioner that will be reviewed by him very shortly. The letter is addressed to Mr. Harold Alvord, Director of Public Works for the City of Norwalk

concerning Norwalk's requirement that Grading Plans required under their Application for a Permit to Excavate and Fill, Section 97-4 of the City Code must be prepared by a licensed land surveyor. The letter focus on the fact that their requirement prohibits landscape architects as well as other licensed design professionals from performing services for which they are authorized to perform under the Connecticut General Statutes as amended.

As previously mentioned, Mr. McDermott stated that he personally spoke with the Commissioner at today's Board Meeting and was assured by him that this letter will be reviewed and expedited as appropriate shortly.

## **2.) New Business**

Consumer Protection Commissioner William M. Rubenstein in attendance with Department Director Richard M. Hurlburt addressed the Board regarding the resignation of Ms. Shavaun Towers; longtime professional member of the Board. He stated that it is his pleasure and very heartwarming on behalf of the Department to thank Ms. Towers for her service noting that public citizens like her that volunteer for the job make this position work and protect the consumer's well-being. The Commissioner presented Ms. Towers with a Proclamation of Service Appreciation from Governor Malloy in appreciation of Ms. Towers diligence in service to the State and its residents. Mr. McDermott also added that Ms. Towers institutional knowledge of the profession has been of great benefit to the Board and the public. All the Board thanked her for her service and noted that she will be missed very much.

**2A. Application of Mr. Eric M. Dorsch for licensing by written examination;** Mr. Dorsch is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 34044) 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. Dorsch's application. (Towers/Barlow)*

**2B. Application of Ms. Wa Guo for licensing by written examination;** Ms. Guo is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 39402) 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. Guo's application. (Towers/Barlow)*

**2C. Application of Ms. Kerrie L. Harvey for licensing by written examination;** Ms. Harvey is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 38143) 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. Harvey's application. (Towers/Barlow)*

2D. Application of Mr. John R. Perry for licensing by written examination; Mr. Perry is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 39996) 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. Perry's application. (Towers/Barlow)***

2E. Application of Ms. Elizabeth M. Sanderson for licensing by written examination; Ms. Sanderson is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 34224) 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. Sanderson's application. (Towers/Barlow)***

2F. Application of Mr. Charles T. Spinella for licensing by written examination; Mr. Spinella is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 16002) 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. Spinella's application. (Towers/Barlow)***

2G. Application of Mr. Brennan S. White for licensing by written examination; Mr. White is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 39030) 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. White's application. (Towers/Barlow)***

2H. Application of Ms. Barbara A. Yaeger for licensing by written examination; Ms. Yaeger is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 28996) 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. Yaeger's application. (Towers/Barlow)***

2I. Updated list of applications processed for licenses subsequent to the January 3, 2012 meeting of the Board. The Board acknowledged this information and thanked the Department for this update.

NAME	METHOD OF LICENSURE	DEPT. APPR'D DATE
Theeder, Tyler L	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 31603; WI	February 2, 2012
Baird, Charles T.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 38994; PA	February 7, 2012
Zick, Kyle S.	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 38640; MA	February 9, 2012

2J. Report from Trade Practice Division regarding complaints pertaining to Landscape Architecture; for the Board's information. Mr. Kuzmich has not received a report from the Trade Practices Division. Mr. McDermott personally knows of two potential cases both of which are related to advertising; one of which in Connecticut Magazine. The complaints are in the Western part of the State.

2K. Update from the Department's Legal Staff regarding any Board issues or otherwise. Mr. Schwane was not present at today's meeting.

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

1. Mr. Barlow raised the discussion concerning the last Board meetings discussion involving the Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and the credential that their members use after their name and the promotion of their PLA designation. He questioned the past minutes which stated that CLARB wondered why ASLA is involved in this matter since title and licensing is a Board function. Mr. McDermott noted that the Board's position is not to get involved in this matter, at the advice of their Counsel, and see how the matter works itself out in the private sector.

2. Mr. Kuzmich updated the Board regarding the licensing of landscape architect corporations and integrating the practice of landscape architecture on the joint practice registration forms. He advised the Board that the Department is currently very actively involved in integrating the Department of Special Revenue with Consumer Protection per the Governor's directive and as such, has somewhat postponed getting the registration forms for these new license types online. Every effort will be made to get these forms posted before the July renewal date.

3. The Board again thanked Ms. Towers for her hard work and diligence as a professional member of this Board. She will be missed.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**                    **JUNE 12, 2012**

State Office Building  
165 Capitol Avenue  
Room No. 121  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
Tel. No. (860) 713-6143