

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners
Board Meeting
10:00 a.m., January 19, 2011
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 204
Columbia, South Carolina

1. Meeting Called to Order

Morgan Grimbball, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners to order at 10:10 A.M. Other members participating in the meeting included: Parks McLeod, Vice-Chairman, John Tarkany and Laura Dukes. Barret Anderson had to accompany his spouse to a doctor's appointment as a result of recent surgery and was excused from the meeting.

Subcommittee members present were: Christopher Thompson.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Jan Simpson, Administrator, Sherri Moorer, Program Assistant, and Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel.

Others attending included: Chris Lambka.

a. Public Notice

Mr. Grimbball announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners office, Synergy Office Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requested persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

2. Introduction of Board Members and All Persons Attending

The Board members, staff members, and members of the public attending the meeting introduced themselves.

3. Approval of the October 20, 2011 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion the Board approve the October 20, 2010 meeting minutes with minor corrections. Mr. Grimbball seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion the Board approve the agenda. Mr. Tarkany seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

5. Office of General Counsel – Hearings

No disciplinary hearings were scheduled for this meeting.

6. Application Review

- a. John D. Boudreau

Mr. Boudreau is applying for licensure via reciprocity with Georgia.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

- b. Peter R. Crowley

Mr. Crowley is applying for licensure via CLARB Certification.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

- c. Jason Matthew Hurst

Mr. Hurst is applying for licensure via reciprocity with Georgia.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

- d. Michael John Kaiser

Mr. Kaiser had been previously licensed as a landscape architect and is seeking reinstatement. He is now licensed in Tennessee.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

- e. Andrew Duncan Kohr

Mr. Kohr is applying for licensure via reciprocity with Georgia.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

- f. Christopher Andrew Lambka

Mr. Lambka is applying to take the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

The Board members expressed concern because Mr. Lambka's experience is under the direct supervision of planners, with some work supervised by licensed engineers. All of his projects have been reviewed by a licensed landscape architect.

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion to enter executive session. Mr. Grimball seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. McLeod seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Dantzler stated that no votes were taken during executive session.

Mr. Lambka addressed the board with work examples for major projects and additional details regarding his job duties and responsibilities with his current employer.

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion to enter executive session. Mr. Grimball seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mr. Grimball made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. McLeod seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Dantzler stated that no votes were taken during executive session.

MOTION

Ms. Dukes made a motion to approve Mr. Lambka to sit for the LARE and licensure contingent on successful completion of the LARE and an additional three months of experience. Mr. Grimball seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Council thanked Mr. Lambka for his presentation.

g. Mikel Wayne McKee

Mr. McKee is applying to take the Landscape Architect Registration Exam.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

h. Nature Forms, LLC

Nature Forms, LLC is applying for a Certificate of Authorization.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

i. Pike Energy Solutions, LLC

Pike Energy Solutions, LLC is applying for a Certificate of Authorization.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

j. Andrew James Porter

Mr. Porter is applying to take the Landscape Architect Registration Exam.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

k. Pamela Marie Porter

Ms. Porter is applying to take the Landscape Architect Registration Exam.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

l. Erin Finch Stevens

Ms. Stevens is applying to take the Landscape Architect Registration Exam.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

7. Administrator's Remarks, For Information – Jan Simpson, Sherri Moorer

a. Legislative Update

Ms. Moorer stated that the proposed regulations were presented in the State House on January 13, 2011. She receives weekly reports on what's been filed and the schedule for the upcoming week every Friday. Ms. Moorer stated that she would notify the Board and Subcommittee members of upcoming subcommittee meetings and asked that at least two landscape architects be present for these meetings.

Ms. Dantzler stated that the regulations will probably be in the House first. Subcommittee meetings are the only place where people can speak and testify. There is no public participation in committee meetings unless a question is posed. The 120 day period began on January 13, 2011 and will end on May 13, 2011.

Ms. Simpson stated that staff will get a report if any other legislation is presented that affects the profession. The Board can select three levels of tracking: Opposed, tracking only, or no interest.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Moorer presented the members with financial reports for July – December 2010.

c. Licensure Statistics Report

Ms. Moorer stated there are currently 122 active firms and 680 active landscape architects. 8 landscape architects have been approved for Emeritus Status.

d. Update on Board Progress

Ms. Moorer stated that license renewals are now open, and the deadline to renew for the current biennial period is January 31, 2011. After January 31st, the late penalty fee will be applied without exception. Paper notices are available for individuals that wish to mail in a check as payment of their renewal fee.

Ms. Moorer stated that the June 2010 LARE Review Session was held on November 18, 2010 at the Board Office. CLARB will administer the exam reviews in the future since

South Carolina is utilizing a CLARB Regional Testing Center for administration of the vignette sections of the LARE.

Ms. Moorer stated that the December 2010 LARE was administered at the CLARB Regional Testing Center in Columbia, SC on December 13-14, 2010. Ms. Moorer visited the test site each day. Scores for this administration of the LARE will be available in early to mid-February. Ms. Moorer stated that the Board voted to auto license individuals that pass the LARE if they have proceeded through the exam process without incident and if their application update indicates no derogatory information. A list of candidates that pass the December 2010 LARE and are licensed will be presented to the Board at the April 13, 2011 meeting.

Break

The Board took a break at 11:55 a.m. and resumed public session at 12:00 p.m.

Ms. Simpson stated that the Board needs to set parameters to review non-routine applications. Parameters are guidelines to allow staff to handle these applications without involving the entire Board by offering a consent agreement with Board-approved sanctions, or by recommending a Board hearing. Examples of items addressed in parameters are sanctions by another state board, misdemeanors, or practicing without a license. The purpose is to speed up the application review process. Mr. McLeod asked if documentation can be available for review at the next meeting. Ms. Moorer will prepare a model for discussion at the April 13, 2011 meeting.

Ms. Simpson stated that the Board should consider establishing a review committee for applications. This committee would be one or two Board members that review applications outside of meetings and determine if they need a full Board review in order to grant a license. This will be discussed at the April 13, 2011 meeting..

Ms. Dukes asked if it's possible to set up a secure website where applications can be posted. It would be a more secure way to distribute this information than by E-mail. Mr. McLeod agreed that it could be used to disseminate meeting materials as well. Ms. Simpson said she would check on getting that set up for the Board.

Ms. Dukes asked if new certificates have been designed for licensees. Ms. Moorer said she is working on a new certificate design. Ms. Dukes asked if it's possible to use an 8.5" X 11" version of the old certificate with modified information to reflect the new Department. Ms. Simpson said that would be fine as long as it could be printed in-house. Ms. Moorer said she would check her files for the template of the old certificate.

8. Office of Investigators and Enforcement Report and Office of General Counsel Report

Ms. Moorer stated there are currently no cases in OGC regarding the landscape architects.

9. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for discussion during this meeting.

10. New Business

There was no new business for discussion during this meeting.

11. Discussion Topics

a. Process of Appointing New Board Members

Ms. Moorer stated that Board members are now appointed by the Governor, so the process of appointing new members has changed. Currently, there are two vacancies on the Board for public members, and Mr. Grimball's term expires on June 30, 2011; however, sitting members are legal until their successors are replaced.

Ms. Simpson stated that anybody interested in serving on the Board needs to submit a letter of interest and resume to the Governor. They can also submit letters of support, if those are available. The Board can also recommend people to serve vacant seats.

Ms. Moorer stated that she will post information about the Board member appointment process on the website.

b. Statement of Economic Interest

Ms. Simpson stated that Board members are required to file a Statement of Economic Interest by April 15, 2011. This statement is to inform the State Ethics Commission of potential conflicts of interest to the Board. Ms. Moorer will forward the link to the online form to the Board Members so they can file this report by the deadline.

12. Board Member Reports

a. John Tarkany – CLARB Update

Mr. Tarkany stated that the CLARB Regional Meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado on February 25-26, 2011. Key issues that will be addressed at this meeting are:

- The definition of "welfare,"
- Proper ethics in the profession, and
- Relationships amongst allied professionals.

Mr. Tarkany and Ms. Simpson will attend the meeting.

13. Public Comments

No public comments were made during this meeting.

14. Executive Session

The Board did not enter executive session at this time.

15. Adjournment

MOTION

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, Ms. Dukes made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Grimball seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The January 19, 2011 meeting of the SC Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners adjourned at 12:39 p.m.