

**MINUTES**  
**SC Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners Board Meeting**  
**November 3, 2021 at 10 a.m.**  
**Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive, Room 204**  
**Columbia, SC**

---

**Call to Order**

Chairman McLeod called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Statement of Public Notice**

Mr. McLeod stated that Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

**Introduction of Board Members and Others**

Board members participating included: J. Parks McLeod, PLA, Chairman; Edward Kinney, PLA, Vice-Chairman; and Jean Catalano, Public Member.

Staff members participating included: Hardwick Stuart, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel; Pam Dunkin, Administrator; and Sherri Moorner, Program Assistant.

Others participating included: Courtney Glover (Creel Court Reporting).

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda of the November 3, 2021, Board meeting.  
Catalano/Kinney/approved

**Approval of Excused Absences**

**MOTION:** To excuse Laura Dukes from the meeting.  
Catalano/Kinney/approved

**MOTION:** To excuse Barret Anderson from the meeting.  
Kinney/Catalano/approved

**Board Chairman Remarks**

There were no Board Chairman remarks.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. McLeod asked for proposed changes to the minutes of the August 4, 2021, meeting.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the August 4, 2021, meeting. Kinney/Catalano/approved.

## Staff Reports

Mrs. Dunkin gave the Administrative Report:

- The Board has 688 individual landscape architects and 209 firms actively licensed.
- The Board had a cash balance of \$217,205.77 as of September 30, 2021.
- Duane Christopher has agreed to serve as a professional member of the Investigative Review Committee.
- One individual has not completed the continuing education audit. Mrs. Moorer is following up with this individual on the deficiency. It will be turned over to the Office of Investigations and Enforcement if she does not receive a reply by the November 12, 2021, response deadline.
- CLARB is holding a Uniform Standard Analysis webinar today at 3 p.m. Mrs. Moorer has forwarded information to register for this webinar by email. This is a discussion item on today's agenda.
- CLARB will hold a webinar titled "It's All Connected: HSW and DEI" on November 10 2021, at 3 p.m. This will examine the dynamics of diversity, equity, and inclusion and tell how it relates to health, safety, and welfare. Mrs. Moorer has forwarded the registration information to the Board members by email, and will participate in this webinar.
- The Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) will be offered December 6-18, 2021. Registration closes on November 29, 2021.
- There is no update on Board member appointments.
- The next Board meeting will be February 2, 2022. The Board has resumed in-person meetings.

### Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) Report

Mrs. Dunkin said here have been 10 complaints received in the Office of Investigations and Enforcement since January 1, 2021. 1 is pending complaint analyst review, and nine are "do not open" cases.

### Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Report

Mrs. Dunkin said there is no Investigative Review Committee report.

### Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report

Mrs. Dunkin said there are no cases in the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

## Board Member Reports

1. **CLARB Annual Meeting Report.** Mrs. Catalano and Mrs. Dunkin gave a report from the CLARB Annual Meeting, which they attended virtually on September 22-24, 2021. Highlights from the meeting include:
  - **Evolution of the LARE.** 30% of candidates for the August 2021 LARE took advantage of Sections 1 and 2 of the exam being offered as on-demand exams. The April 2022 exam will introduce PSI as the new testing provider, and have Sections 3 and 4 available as on-demand exams. There is a goal to offer immediate, automatic notification of exam scores by 2023.
  - **Implementing the Uniform Standard.** This is a discussion item later on the agenda. CLARB is in the process of modifying the Council Record to conform to the standard, and to set up for electronic transfer of scores and records with the State Boards.
  - **Increasing access and equity in licensure.** This was the theme for the Annual Meeting. CLARB is striving to increase and support diversity, ethnicity, and inclusion in all aspects of

the licensure process. This will be discussed specifically at the HSW and DEI Webinar on November 10, 2021.

- **Election of Officers:** Carisa McMullen was elected President-Elect, Joel Kurokawa was elected Treasurer, and Daniel Biggs and Julia Manley were elected for the Leadership Advisory Council.
- **Future meetings:** The 2022 Annual Meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held in Omaha, Nebraska. CLARB will continue to offer the annual meeting as a hybrid event.

## New Business

- 1. CLARB Uniform Standards.** Mrs. Dunkin distributed a slide from the Annual Meeting with the Uniform Standard Recommendation. The goal is for all states to adopt this standard to achieve consistency amongst jurisdictions. All candidates would have to pass the LARE, but it offers two methods to become licensed by education and experience. The “traditional method” is an LAAB/LAAC-accredited degree in landscape architecture, and two years of diversified experience. The “alternative method” is education through practical experience, which is eight years documented in one of two ways: having a non-accredited degree or certificate in landscape architecture that substitutes one year of diversified experience for each year of schooling up to a maximum of four years, or any post-secondary degree or certificate credited with six months of diversified experience for each year of schooling up to a maximum of two years of credited experience. Mr. Stuart said the “alternative method” would require a statute change. The Board can’t propose changes to statute, so the SC Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (SCASLA) would have to be involved in this process. Mrs. Moorer said the Board had a similar requirement in the law until 2010, but was removed at the request of the Senate because they thought landscape architecture was specialized enough that methods of initial licensure should specifically require a degree. The Board members agreed that they are receptive to more conversation with CLARB about the Uniform Standard. Mrs. Moorer will participate in the CLARB Webinar on the Uniform Standard and organize follow up for the next meeting.
- 2. Age Exemption for Continuing Education and/or Changes to Emeritus Status.** Mrs. Dunkin said the Board was approached about an age exemption for licensees who are sixty years of age or older, and have been licensed for thirty or more years in August 2019. Staff ran a report of the age demographics, and found there were 84 licensees who were 50-55; 85 licensees were 56-60; 84 licensees were 61-65; and 31 licensees were 66-70. Mr. Stuart said this would require a regulatory change, and the Board may need to form a study committee to determine if it would be beneficial to the profession and have the support of SCASLA.

**MOTION:** To enter Executive Session for legal advice.  
Kinney/Catalano/approved

**MOTION:** To exit Executive Session.  
Catalano/Kinney/approved

Mr. McLeod said no action was taken in Executive Session.

**MOTION:** To contact SCASLA to gauge their interest in supporting an age exemption for continuing education, and bring Mrs. Dukes into the conversation.  
Catalano/Kinney/approved

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Notice of Next Meeting**

Mr. McLeod said the next meeting of the SC Board of Landscape Architectural Examiners will be held on February 2, 2022, at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC, and will begin at 10 a.m.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To Adjourn.  
Kinney/Catalano/approved

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sherri Moorer*

Sherri Moorer, Program Assistant