MARYLAND BOARD OF ARCHITECTS

BUSINESS MINUTES

DATE: April 27, 2022

TIME: 11:00 am

PLACE: 1100 N. Eutaw Street

5th Floor Conference Room

Baltimore, MD 21201

JOINING IN: Virtual

Video Conference – meet.google.com/cmp-vqnj-zic

Phone: (US) + 1 617-675-4444‬ PIN:

PRESENT: Paul Edmeades, Chair

Cynthia Shonaiya, Vice Chair

Stephanie Hopkins, Consumer Member

Douglas Polt, Architect

Mark Flemming, Architect

Gary Ey, Consumer Member

Kevin Sneed, Architect

LABOR OFFICIALS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Zevi Thomas, Executive Director

Jessica Praley, Legal Counsel

Noraida Lozano, Board Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: John Corkill, Architect

Kausar Syed, Deputy Commissioner, O&P Department

CALL TO ORDER:

Paul Edmeades, Chair, called the Business meeting of the Maryland Board of Architects to order, virtually, at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business meeting held on March 23, 2022. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Ey, seconded by Ms. Hopkins, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes with corrections.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ey presented the following report on behalf of the Complaint Committee:

03-AR-21 - No change

10-AR-21 - No Change

03-AR-22 – Closed as of 04-27-2022

Motion (II) was made by Ms. Hopkins seconded by Mr. Polt and unanimously carried to accept the Complaint Committee report.

APPLICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION EXAM (A.R.E.)

Chair Edmeades presented the report for the Applications for Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.).

There were six (6) A.R.E. applications administratively approved:

SLACK, JAMES HENSEL, JENNIFER

SHAMIM, MOHAMMED CHISHOLM, ADAM

MEISTER, LAUREN OREIZI-ESFAHAN, FERESHTEH

There were five (5) A.R.E. applications approved by the Board:

DAVALOS, ALFREDO JONES, NANCEY

SITAFALWALLA, ZAHRA YU, QINGYANG

ZANNONI, ANA

APPLICATIONS FOR RECIPROCITY - None

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Polt, seconded by Mr. Flemming, and unanimously carried to approve eleven (11) A.R.E. with one (1) denial and no reciprocal application.

During the review of applications, the Chair suggested denying an application due to an unofficial college transcript being submitted and an evaluation that wasn’t directly sent to the Board. Ms. Praley agreed and offered Mr. Thomas to draft the letter for the candidate.

Ms. Shonaiya asked if MD has established 40 hours as full-time for work experience. Chair Edmeades confirmed that it is mentioned in the Education Equivalency Matrix. Ms. Shonaiya and Mr. Flemming both suggested that the evaluation of foreign degrees should be mentioned in the application rather than address these in each application instance. Mr. Thomas agreed to work on an update to this application form.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Edmeades discussed the Annual Business Meeting with the Board with the following attendance.

Zevi Thomas – will attend virtually Kevin Sneed – will attend in person

Cindy Shonaiya – will not attend Mark Flemming – will attend in person

Stephanie Hopkins – registered Jessica Praley – will not attend

Doug Polt – will attend in person Paul Edmeades – will attend in person

Gary Ey – will attend in person

Chair Edmeades inquired if the current MD law allows for NCARB’s IPAL program in the state. Ms. Praley reported that according to NCARB Maryland doesn’t permit IPAL. She stated that she will revisit Maryland’s application form and will have the full report at the next board meeting.

Mr. Ey updated on Resolution 22A Mutual recognition agreement with the United Kingdom. He said that UK is leaning towards the NAAB degree requirement. The committee agreed to allow 3 years and revisit later to see if there is progress in the alternative path to licensure and avoid the EESA and Education Equivalency.

Ms. Shonaiya asked Mr. Ey to bring this issue up for discussion at NCARB Annual Meeting as part of the organization’s stand on equity and diversity in the profession. Mr. Ey stated that at this time there is no time to negotiate with UK as the resolution is almost done. The resolution has been forwarded to the membership and the results will be given at Annual Meeting.

Chair Edmeades agreed and replied to Ms. Shonaiya that diversity is important not only in MD but also nationwide. He also mentioned that he can bring it up to the Annual Business Meeting and they can both discuss it prior to the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Corkill updated the Board that the AIA resolution for an alternative path to licensure was withdrawn and was put to a task force to obtain further statistics on this subject. He asked Mr. Ey if he could reach out to NCARB members in support of this resolution. Chair Edmeades requested that they keep the board updated on this resolution from AIA Maryland.

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Thomas shared with the Board that following NCARB Council meeting on April 7th Maryland was working with NCARB on the Analysis of Practice survey to license and licensure candidates in the state. This is an extensive survey the council tries to conduct at least every ten years.

He also mentioned that the new Board Meeting conference room is ready for those who may opt to attend in person. The meeting will still have a hybrid component; however, the Office of the Commissioner would like to determine what proportion of the meetings the board would like to hold as in-person meetings. This is something for each board to consider given the preference of individual board members.

COUNSEL’S REPORT

Ms. Praley reported that the Bill intended to include demographic information on the application forms did not pass. She also mentioned that the Architect’s Sunset Bill did not pass, which means that the Title Act for Architects will terminate in 2023. According to Ms. Praley the plan is to re-introduce the Sunset bill in the next session to avoid the termination. She would monitor this matter closely and if board members have any questions, they should contact her via email, however, they should do this individually.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (IV) made by Mr. Flemming, seconded by Mr. Ey, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ With Corrections \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Without Corrections

\_\_\_ Signature on File\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_06/14/2022\_\_

Paul Edmeades, Chair Date: