
Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects
Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes

DATE: June 12, 2023

TIME: 01:00 PM

LOCATION: 1100 N. Eutaw St.
5th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201
(Teleconference via Google Meet)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher Schein, *Chair*
Grace Fielder, *Vice-Chair*
Cameron C. Duncan, *Consumer Member*

MEMBERS ABSENT: David O'Dell, *Landscape Architect*

STAFF PRESENT: John Dove, *Commissioner of O&P*
Zevi Thomas, *Executive Director*
Faith Green, *Board Administrator*
Jessica Praley, *Board Counsel*
Matthew Venuti, *Board Counsel*
Danielle Anderson, *O&P Web Coordinator*

OTHERS PRESENT: Heather English, *Landscape Architect*

Meeting Called to Order

Christopher Schein, Chair, called the Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of April 17, 2023 Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on April 17, 2023.

Motion (I) was made by Ms. Fielder, seconded by Mr. Duncan, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes without corrections.

Proposed CPC Regulations

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Fielder, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the new CPC Regulations.

Mr. Schein asks Mr. Thomas if all consumers and public members that submitted comments received a response. Mr. Thomas responded that all comments had been acknowledged.

Ms. Praley informed the Board that she received two objections regarding the proposed Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) regulations. The first issue is the proposed language regarding professional development hours (PDH) contact hours based on 50 minutes as opposed to 60-minute hours. She stated that the proposed language is not in violation of 09.03.09., and is an industry standard. Ms. Praley continued to explain the second issue concerned the criteria for how continuing education "standard activities" listed were described. In her estimation, the document is worded and formatted correctly, and it's unlikely to lead to confusion with the CPC process. She advised the Board to move forward with the proposed regulations. If any changes or edits are required after submission, this could be addressed with the Maryland Registry.

Correspondence

None

Review Applications

Mr. Schein stated the following issues of the applications:

- 06-DL-23: Did not have college transcript added to the application
- 06-AC-23: Applicant had 2 degrees but did not submit a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture transcript

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Duncan, seconded by Ms. Fielder, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve all applications, including 06-DL-23 and 06-AC-23 pending receipt of the appropriate academic transcripts.

Executive Director's Report

L.A.R.E. Pre-Approval

Mr. Thomas informed the Board that he spoke to the CEO of CLARB regarding the prospect of qualifying L.A.R.E. candidates with a Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (L.A.A.B) accredited Masters in Landscape Architecture (MLA) without direct approval by the Maryland Board. Ms. Fielder inquired if it was for the total exam. Mr. Thomas confirmed that they would be able to take any section of the exam.

Mr. Schein inquired if this meant that the Board review of applicants would be completely omitted. Mr. Thomas clarified that it would only be for applications with an L.A.A.B accredited MLA. Mr. Schein asks Mr. Thomas if this is the same concept as decoupling. Ms. Fielder explained that these specific applicants would go directly to CLARB, bypassing the Board. However, Mr. Thomas clarified that this would not be the case for Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) or other non-LAAB) academic programs.

O&P Commissioner

Mr. Thomas introduced the new Commissioner of Occupational and Professional Licensing (O&P), John Dove. Mr. Dove proceeded to introduce himself to the Board members.

Board Counsel's Report.

Ms. Praley introduced Matthew Venuti, the new Board Counsel for the Design Boards. Mr. Venuti has experience with boards and commissions for Prince George’s County Court of Law.

New Business

Mr. Schein stated that the list of CPC Providers will be posted when the regulations are finalized.

Old Business

None

Complaint Committee Report

None

Public Comment

Heather English

Ms. English introduced herself to the Board as the oncoming member of the Board who will begin her tenure in July 2023.

Adjournment

Motion (IV) was made by Ms. Fielder, seconded by Mr. Duncan, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

The next Board meeting will take place on October 16, 2023.

Chair’s Signature: Signature on File

Date: 10/16/2023