**Occupational and Professional Licensing**

**District of Columbia Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Landscape Architecture**

**1100 4th Street, SW Suite 400**

**Washington, DC 20024**

**November 15, 2024, 2024**

**Minutes (Virtual Meeting)**

**\*\*This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at** **opengovoffice@dc.gov**

The District of Columbia Board of Architecture, Interior Design, and Landscape Architecture held its scheduled meeting on Friday, November 15, 2024. This meeting was held virtually.

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Mr. Ronnie McGhee, Chairman.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Mr. Ronnie McGhee, Chairman, Ms. Melissa Cohen, Mr. Bob Alter, Mr. Maurice Walters, Ms. Asha Shagle

Board Staff: Ms. Jacqueline Noisette, Deputy Director, BPLA, DLCP; Mr. Leon Lewis, Program Manager, Ms. Avis Pearson, Board Administrator, Ms. April Randall, Legislative Director, DLCP, Ms. Nicole Bramsted, Legislative Specialist, Jah-mai Jefferson, Program Support Specialist, Mr. Terron McAbee, Program Support Specialist, Mr. Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator

Legal Counsel: Mr. Justin Orrison, Esq., Ms. Jessica Rice, Esq.

Guest: Ms. Shauna Stallworth, Mike Ernst, Ms. Annette Adams Beckford,

 Senior Architect, DC Housing Authority

**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public**

Mr. Mike Ernst inquired about the final steps of his application. He was informed that all information has been received and he would receive follow up information from Ms. Pearson in a couple of days regarding next steps.

Ms. Adams-Beckford stated that she did not have any questions. She was attending the meeting to observe.

**Agenda Item: Draft Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alter and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 6, 2024, minutes.

**Agenda Item: Review of Administrative Approved Applications**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Cohen and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted unanimously to approve the administrative-approved applications for October 25, 2024, with corrections, attached hereto, and made a part of the November 15, 2024 meeting minutes.

**Agenda Item: Legislative Update**

Ms. Randall provided an update on pending legislation. The Landscape Architect Sales Tax Clarification Amendment Act of 2023 has been approved by Council and transmitted to Congress on November 1st. An enactment date has not been set. This bill stipulates that when a Landscape Architect provides services in DC or a Landscape Architect who is employed with a firm, will be exempt from sales tax for services rendered.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alter and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted to form a subcommittee and will include Mr. McGhee, Ms. Stallworth and Mr. Walters. This committee will review the Model Codes for each of the three professions along with the Ethic Codes from the associated professions and make recommendations to the full Board about the changes to the DC law codes and regulations with regard to ethics for the three professions to make them mutually compatible.

A second sub committee will be established in January to review the new competency standards. Mr. McGhee asked that Mr. Lewis and/or Ms. Pearson contact a representative from NCARB ,too, and possibly CLARB and CIDQ attend the next meeting to discuss the proposed standards.

**Agenda Item: Education**

Mr. McGhee discussed outreach with the Board – specifically ideas to reach out to ages K-12 to present information on the professions. Mr. Lewis did inform the Board that Ms. Jefferson will be working with Ms. Pearson and himself to focus on more outreach in the upcoming year. Mr. McGhee asked the Board to send any resources, contact information, etc. regarding outreach to Ms. Pearson.

Mr. Lewis asked the Board to begin thinking of courses and speakers for the next Education Symposium. This symposium is tentatively scheduled for April 18, 2025, at the Martin Luther King Library in the auditorium. The symposium will provide an opportunity for DC licensed architects to earn continuing education credits.

Mr. McGhee did ask the Board to send Ms. Pearson ideas of possible themes, names of speakers, topics, etc. before the January meeting. Mr. Walters, Ms. Shagle and Mr. Cyrus will work on this subcommittee to assist with the planning of the symposium.

**Agenda Item: Old Business**

Mr. McGhee and Mr. Lewis provided feedback from the CLARB Annual Meeting and the CIDQ Annual Meeting. Reports were also completed that will be attached to the meeting minutes.

**Agenda Item: New Business**

All Interior Designer renewals have been completed. We are currently in the late filing period. Renewal notices for Landscape Architects and Professional Design Firms will go out in mid-February. Mr. Alter offered recommendations of sending out the renewal notices.

Ms. Pearson discussed the travel process. All flights and lodging will be paid for by DLCP following pre-approval if the traveler is using DC funding. Any upgrade in seating must be paid for by the traveler. It is imperative that all receipts been submitted following travel to assist with the reconciliation process.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Cohen the Board approved to accept the 2025 meeting calendar and approved Board members and staff to attend the association meetings and conferences.

**Agenda Item: Review of Correspondence**

All correspondence was reviewed during the Executive Session.

**Agenda Item: Executive Session** –

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alter and properly seconded by Mr. Walters, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) (4) (A); D.C. Official Code § 2-575 (b) (9) and (13) to discuss complaints/legal matters, applications, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 12:29pm

**Agenda Item: Recommendations**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Ms. Cohen in the matter of Mr. Shlomo Wygoda, the Board unanimously voted to impose probation for a 1-year period, complete a one-year ethics course approved by the Board and issue a Consent Order with a civil fine of $1,000 for numerous disciplinary actions received in other jurisdictions.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alters and properly seconded by Mr. Walters, in the matter of Mr. Paul Davey, the Board unanimously voted to offer a Consent Order with a $1500 fine for practicing on an expired license.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Cohen, in the matter of Mr. Michael Finn, the Board unanimously voted issue a Consent Order with a civil fine of $500 for practicing on an expired license.

The Board entered back into public session at 1:13pm

**Agenda Item: Adjournment:**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Cohen and properly seconded by Mr. Walters, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

 Mr. Ronnie McGhee, Chairman

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Date

Recorder/transcriber: Avis Pearson