**Occupational and Professional Licensing**

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

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

**Washington, DC 20024**

**July 19, 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**](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov)

The District of Columbia Board of Architecture, Interior Design, and Landscape Architecture held its scheduled meeting on Friday, July 19, 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, Ms. Barbara Jones

Board Staff: Ms. Jacqueline Noisette, Deputy Director, BPLA, DLCP; Mr. Leon Lewis, Program Manager, Ms. Avis Pearson, Board Administrator, Mr. Kevin Cyrus, Education Liaison, Ms. Jah-mai Jefferson, Program Support Specialist, Ms. Stephanie Johnston, Program Support Specialist, Occupational and Professional Licensing; Ms. April Randall, Legislative Director, Ms. Nicole Bramstedt, Legislative Affairs Specialist, DLCP

Legal Counsel: Absent

Guest: Mr. Kahil Francis, Mr. Terrance Kean, Mr. Michael Vallese

**\**WELCOME to the Board Ms. Shagle. We’re glad that you are here.\****

**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public**

Mr. Kean and Mr. Vallese spoke with the Board regarding their reinstatement applications.

**Agenda Item: Draft Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Cohen and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 8, 2024, meeting minutes.

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

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Mr. Alter the Board voted unanimously to approve the administrative-approved applications for July 19, 2024, attached hereto, and made a part of July 19, 2024, meeting minutes.

**Agenda Item: Education**

The next Education Symposium will be scheduled for 2025.

**Agenda Item: Old Business**

DLCP hosted a Career Day. This summer youth event was held at the Department of Health on Shannon Street in SE. Members of the licensing boards gave an overview of their respective boards and professions. DLCP is hoping to make this an annual event. Mr. McGhee presented for this Board.

Mr. McGhee and Mr. Lewis informed the Board that all of the proposed NCARB Resolutions were passed during the NCARB Annual Business Meeting except the realignment of the regions.

Ms. Randall gave a legislative update. The final rulemaking regarding continuing education was published on July 12, 2024. This rulemaking will amend the continuing education licensure renewal requirements for architects, interior designers, and landscape architects. Specifically, it allows an applicant for the renewal or reinstatement of an existing license to attest to their having completed continuing education requirements as part of the application process.

The change in education requirement to obtain licensure was discussed. Currently, any applicant seeking licensure must obtain a NAAB-accredited degree. NCARB has proposed a change in the Model/Law Regulation requirement of completing an approved education program or being enrolled in an Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) option as a qualifier for exam eligibility, instead of requiring a high school diploma or equivalent. This change aligns with the entry requirement for NCARB’s experience program as well as NCARB’s efforts to increase access to the exam. The Board will further discuss this topic during the September meeting.

The Landscape Architect Sales Service Tax Amendment Act (B25-277) is still in process. It has been reviewed by the Business on Economic Development and has been forwarded to the City Council for review following their summer recess. Ms. Randall will continue to monitor progress and provide updates to the Board.

The AIA Conference on Architectural and Design was held on June 5-8th at the DC Convention Center. This event was well attended. Ms. Pearson worked with NCARB representatives and Board administrators from Maryland and Virginia to assist with answering questions from each jurisdiction.

Mr. Cyrus is working on the newsletter. He has requested Board members to submit articles by the end of August.

**Agenda Item: New Business**

The CLARB Annual Business Meeting will be held September 19-21, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Buffalo, NY.

CLARB will hold its elections for its Board of Directors and Leadership Advisory Council. Information regarding the candidates has been sent out to the Board. Voting packages are due back to the CLARB by September 13, 2024.

A DRAFT copy of CIDQ Model Law was given to the Board for review. This information will be discussed in the September meeting.

During the renewal period for Architects, there were 4176 that renewed.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alter and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted unanimously to conduct an audit of 5% of the Architect licenses two months following the renewals.

**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. Ms. Jones, 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 11:17 am

The Board returned to public session at 12:51 pm.

**Agenda Item: Recommendations**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Jones that Mr. Alter be issued a $500 fine and a Consent Order for his professional design firm practicing on an expired firm license.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Cohen the Board unanimously voted to allow Mr. Kean to complete a reinstatement application for review by the Board. Mr. Kean will also be notified of his options to obtain a license in DC; by filing an appeal with the Office of Administrative Hearing; applying for a license in another jurisdiction; applying to DC by endorsement or meeting the education requirement for DC.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Jones the Board unanimously voted to reinstate the license of Alexander von Loebbecke contingent that he has met his continuing education requirements for reinstatement. Ms. Pearson will follow up with Mr. von Loebbecke.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alter and properly seconded by Ms. Cohen the Board voted to reinstate Michael Vallese’s license.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Cohen the Board unanimously voted that Mr. Donald Keppler be issued a $1500 fine and a Consent Order due to him practicing on an expired license.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Ms. Jones the Board unanimously voted to approve the reinstatement of Mr. Gary Kleisch contingent that he does not have infractions in other jurisdictions. Ms. Pearson will research.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Jones and properly seconded by Mr. Walters the Board voted to approve the reinstatement application for Mr. Wygoda contingent that he does not have infractions in other jurisdictions. Ms. Pearson will research.

**Agenda Item: Adjournment:**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Walters and properly seconded by Mr. Alter, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Ronnie McGhee, Chairman

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Date

Recorder/transcriber: Avis Pearson