
Maryland Board of Architects Business Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 11, 2024

TIME: 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 1100 North Eutaw Street
5th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201

Video conferencing via: meet.google.com/byw-mkbj-vad

By Phone: (US) +1 234-719-3728 PIN: 756 731 100#

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair
Paul Edmeades, Architect
Kevin Sneed, Architect
Mark Flemming, Architect
Douglas Polt, Architect
Casey Dawkins, Consumer Member
Gretel Lott, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, Executive Director
Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director
Matthew Venuti, Board Counsel
Noraida Lozano, Board Administrator

OTHER PRESENT: Abraham Kalantary, ARE Candidate

Call to Order

Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair, called the Business Meeting of the Maryland Board of Architects to order at 11:02 a.m., virtually via meet.google.com/byw-mkbj-vad, (US) +1 234-719-3728 PIN: 756 731 100#.

Approval of Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on October 23, 2024. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Polt, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes without corrections.

Complaint Committee Report

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

04-AR-25 - Contract dispute recommended for closure.

03-AR-25 - Possible violation of the MD Statute. Contacting the respondent for information.

02-AR-25 - Requesting the respondent for additional information.

02-AR-24 - Notified parties of the complaint status.

04-AR-23 - A final order was signed on 12/06/2024 and posted on the website 12/10/2024.

Mr. Flemming stated that the Legal Counsel advised the Complaint Committee to aim to make decisions before the complaint committee at least 30 days before the 180-day deadline provided for in the board statute. This would ensure there's adequate time in the event the cases need to be forwarded to the Office of Administrative Hearing (OAH).

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Polt, seconded by Mr. Edmeades, and carried by the Board to accept the Complaint Committee Report.

ARE Candidate Audience before the Board

Mr. Abraham Kalantary, an ARE candidate, asked for the Board's consideration for the 6 Divisions of the ARE 3.0 and 3.1 exams that he passed in 1990, which are affected by the NCARB Rolling Clock.

The Board advised Mr. Kalantary to direct his request to NCARB, which administers the exams to address this issue since the Board adheres to NCARB ARE Rules. The Board offered to provide Mr. Kalantary with contact information for NCARB representatives who could address the particular aspects of his case. Mr. Thomas agreed to share contact information with Mr. Kalantary for this purpose.

Applications for Architectural Registration Exam (A. R. E.)

Mr. Edmeades presented the report for the Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.) and reciprocity applications.

There were **eleven (11)** A.R.E. applications administratively approved:

AGRAWAL, Ashish
EDWARD, Joseph Chase
GARCIA, Aylin
CHILDRESS, Aviva
HAYES, Teresa Marie

CARRINGTON, Courtney
MAVRONIS, Georgios
HUANG, Zhen
JONES, Shauni
McCLURE, Katherine Grace

RESNICK, Eric Joshua

There were **two (2)** ARE applications approved by the Board:

GAUDREAU, Ayla

PARDOE, Daniel

There were **two (2)** reciprocal applications approved by the Board:

FAULKNER, Mark

FELICE, Marjorie

The Board unanimously considered and granted one candidate whose qualifications fell shy of work experience, 109 semester hours of education hours to meet his 10-year experience requirement.

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Sneed, seconded by Mr. Flemming, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve **thirteen (13)** A.R.E. applications, **two (2)** reciprocity applications with **one (1)** pending ARE application due to incomplete work experience hours.

Old Business

Committee Reports

Board of Architects Annual Report

Mr. Flemming reported that the draft has been forwarded to Ms. Shonaiya, Mr. Edmeades, and Mr. Venuti. Ms. Shonaiya agreed with Mr. Flemming to circulate the report to the full Board for their review and comments. He will send the draft to the Board after the meeting.

DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Forum

Mr. Dawkins stated that their next meeting is scheduled for Dec 12, 2024, their next goal is to include the community colleges in future forums.

Legislative Task Force

Mr. Edmeades reported that the legislative committee met prior to this meeting. They went through the existing law to identify the changes and discussed the process. They are scheduled to meet early in January next year.

Outreach Opportunity

Mr. Polt would be attending the year-end program at AIA Chesapeake Bay, which is scheduled for December 11, 2024, at 5:30 pm. Mr. Flemming also confirmed he would be attending this event.

Ms. Shonaiya reported that she attended the December 10, 2024, End of the Year Party of AIA Potomac Valley in Silver Spring. She was given the opportunity to award two (2) newly licensed architects in Maryland. She acknowledged the presence of AIA member Mr. John Corkill in the event who expressed his gratitude to the Board for the Outreach Program.

Ms. Shonaiya and Mr. Edmeades also confirmed that they attended the December 5, 2024 -

AIA Baltimore event where they awarded one (1) newly licensed architect with an AIA pin and wall certificate.

Mr. Edmeades reminded the Board of the DC verification process mentioned by Mr. Sneed at the last meeting which he believes can be done in Maryland to prevent fraudulent activities which was seconded by Mr. Flemming.

Mr. Venuti interjected that he and Mr. Thomas discussed creating a Task Force not only for Architects but across the Design Boards. He offered to do research and discuss it with the Board before the next step. Ms. Shonaiya suggested including this topic in the agenda and discussing it at the next meeting.

Mr. Sneed confirmed that he and Mr. Thomas attended the Annual NOMA (National Organization of Minority Architects) Conference and Exposition, in Baltimore last October 23–27, 2024. The event was well attended by students and license candidates from across the country. He said the next Annual Conference would be held in Kansas City.

New Business

Mr. Edmeades announced that Region II is inviting candidates who are interested in becoming an officer of Region II. He said the self-nomination process form is now available and could be submitted.

Ms. Shonaiya announced the Regional Summit 2025 will be Feb 28-March 1st in Philadelphia and the Annual Business Meeting will be in Scottsdale, Arizona on June 19-21, 2025.

She shared that NCARB will fund for 2 board members, 1 public member, 1 member board executive, 1 legal counsel, and a new member board member. Mr. Edmeades also mentioned that Region II will be funding 1 architect board member. As for the State funding, Mr. Thomas said he would check the budget and let the Board at the next meeting.

Correspondence - None

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Thomas confirmed that the Code Officials Handbook has been distributed to the various jurisdictions. He presented and updated the Board with the new State building location at 100 South Charles, Baltimore, MD 21201 which will take place in early 2025. He said the exact date would be announced later.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Venuti reiterated that the Final Order has been issued for the hearing held last August 28, 2024, for 04-AR-23. The respondent has 30 days to appeal to the Circuit Court. Should there be any additional issue it will be discussed between the board's legal counsel and the respondent's attorney.

Mr. Thomas also informed the Board that if someone contacted any member of the Board about this case, particularly the news media, they should refer to these inquiries for his attention.

