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Board of Registration of Registration of Architects
August 20th, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Architects (the Board) was held in person and via conferencing pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022, allowing remote participation by Board members and the public.

Attending Members: Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Kwesi Sam, and Tony Ransom

Members Absent: None

Staff: Colleen Maloney, Lynn Read, John Hill

Meeting Called to Order

- Remote meeting procedures – Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Acting Executive Director noted that the meeting was being recorded.
- **Read and Approve Minutes from April**
 - **MOTION** by Emily Grandstaff-Rice. Second by Tony Ransom
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Kwesi Sam, Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Tony Ransom
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion Passes
- **Read and Approve Minutes from June**
 - **MOTION** by Emily Grandstaff-Rice Second by Kwesi Sam
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Kwesi Sam, Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Tony Ransom
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion Passes
- **DOL Report**
 - Administrative Report – Colleen Maloney noted she is filling in for Margie Campbell who is running the Funeral Board meeting.
 - Requested moving the virtual October meeting to October 1st.
 - Agency continues to work with the Administration on filling the Public Seat.



- **Discussion Items**

- Chair would like staff to reach out to NCARB and inviting them to the October or December Board Meeting. Staff noted they will work to coordinate.
- Review and Discussion of Sections I and II, of the Analysis of Massachusetts' Architecture Licensing Law and Regulations Memorandum: Board continued their ongoing review of the Licensing Law and Regulations Memorandum.
 - Chair asked for guidance on what is required for updates. Board Counsel Lynn Read noted the Board will need to go item by item, and facilitated discussion.
 - Board will provide guidance to Board Counsel as subject matter experts and Board Counsel will draft potential modifications for future review.
 - Board will continue to discuss sections of the Memo, and when completed the Board will vote on the updates once final.
 - Board requested a new definition for technical submissions. Board expressed interest in closely replicated NCARB definitions.
 - Practice of Architecture: this item is a part of the statute, but does not exactly line up with NCARB Model Law, which will be in the packet for next month.
 - Memo argues NCARB Model law language more clearly articulates Responsible Control. Board Counsel noted various parts of the Board's regulations accomplish the desired outcomes on not sealing a document without understanding all of the technicalities. Board agrees with leaving Responsible Control as currently written.
 - Building Code provides clarity for exemptions, as does statute. Board agrees with leaving Exemptions as is.
 - Section two discusses Board seats. Board agrees with the good standing and registered, and feels no changes are needed there.
 - Engaged in the practice for 10 years: Board would like to see that lowered, possibly to 5 years, but understands it is in statute. Chair asked if there is flexibility with how 'engaged in the practice' is defined in the regulations. Discussion around this requirement limiting eligible members. Board Counsel will continue to review options with General Counsel.
 - Conflict of Interest: Chair noted training every two years. Board would like to leave as is.
 - Removal of Board members: Board Counsel noted it is not within the Board's power, as they do not appoint and remove.
 - Fees: Board Counsel noted the Board fees are set by Administration & Finance, as dictated by statute.
 - Catch all provision: Board Counsel noted this is also a matter of statute.
 - Next meeting Board will go through sections 3 and 4.
- Feedback from the NCARB Annual Business Meeting: Emily Grandstaff- Rice found the breakout sessions interesting. Tony Ransom is looking forward to learning more about potential AI use in the field. The Chair noted the presenter is local and can be a good resource. She also noted alternatives to the exam appear to be something NCARB is looking at.
- NCARB Committee Appointments – Chair is on the credentials committee.
- NECARB Fall Meeting – Manchester, NH – November 8 & 9. Chair asked if anyone is planning to attend, Board discussed the agenda.

- **CEU Review:**

- Board reviewed correspondence regarding CEU credits. Typically, the Board requires an AIA CEU. Also noted individuals who volunteer on certain Boards

can get up to 3 credits. Chair asked the Board if the individual should receive 12 hours or, in similar circumstances, 3. Board thinks 3 is reasonable, but 9 is still required.

- **MOTION** to approve 3 credit hours towards annual requirement and clarify that the individual needs 12 total for renewal by Emily Grandstaff-Rice Second by Kwesi Sam.
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Kwesi Sam, Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Tony Ransom
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion Passes
- Board would like this updated on the FAQ's, if not already stated.

- **Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:** None
- **Public Comment:** Chair recognized Stefan Modzelewski, who stated he is having trouble reaching the Board and asked what takes 3 to 4 months to get his license. He is very eager to get his license. Board staff stated they will follow up with him once she can check what we have in our system. Tony Ransom asked about the timing, and the applicant noted that is what he has heard from counterparts.

Moving into closed session at 11:15 am

- **MOTION to exit open meeting and move into Closed Investigative Conference per M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C, and Board will not return to Open Meeting,** by Emily Grandstaff-Rice. Second by Kwesi Sam.
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Kwesi Sam, Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion Passes

Mr. Ransom left the meeting at or around 10:38 a.m.

There were no items for reserved Executive Session or Quasi-Judicial Sessions, not held.

CLOSED SESSION

I. Investigative Conference (Closed per M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C):

The following actions were taken during the Investigative Conference:

Settlements:

- None

Cases:

- 2024-000290-IT-ENF : Dismiss
- 2024-000289-IT-ENF : Dismiss
- 2024-000254-IT-ENF : Refer to prosecutions
- 2024-000463-IT-ENF: Refer to prosecutions

Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn** by Emily Grandstaff- Rice. Second by Tony Ransom
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Tony Ransom, Kwesi Sam, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Aelan Tierney,
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion passes
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- **Meeting Adjourned at 12:18 pm**

The above minutes were approved at the open meeting held on
Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Campbell, RN, JD
Executive Director

Documents Used During the Open Meeting:

- Agenda for the June 11, 2024 Open Meeting
- Documents supporting 50518-AR, reinstatement request
- NCARB Resolutions 2024
- NCARB Analysis Mass. Statutory and Regulation Parity to Model Law
- Public query email regarding CEU question