

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS ARCHITECTURE LICENSING BOARD

Open Minutes

Illinois Architecture Licensing Board

Date: November 13, 2020
Convened: 9:34 am
Adjourned: 11:35 am
Location: WEBEX

Members Present: Dina Griffin, Chair
E. William Reichert III, Vice Chair
Kimberly Kurtenbach, Member
Michelle Gillette-Murphy, Member
Norman Lach, Member
Thomas Lawler, Public Member
Steven H. Pate, Member

Member(s) Absent: None.

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager
Chau Nguyen, IDFPR General Counsel
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Investigator
Eduardo Fernandez, IDFPR Prosecuting Attorney

Guests Present: None.

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 9:34 am.
Roll Call:
The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**A. Announcements,
Correspondence,
Guest comments**

Ms. Griffin welcomed everyone and asked if anyone had announcements or correspondence.

Mr. Lach shared that SIU-Carbondale recently concluded a 5-day NAAB re-accreditation process, which was conducted virtually.

Ms. Griffin shared that she is finding that some aspects of holding virtual meetings are beneficial and referenced the recent NOMA conference – noting that at the conclusion of the conference, they usually host a Black woman architecture brunch. Given that this year's conference was held virtually, there was a much larger number of participants than usual which would bode well for having a virtual option for future meetings to allow that as many participants are able to attend.

Mr. Pate shared that he says he understands that virtual meetings are required given the situation we are facing; however, he prefers meeting in person.

Mr. Lazell asked that two items be added to New Business as Item C.

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He also shared that the latest quarterly newsletter has been recently published and sent out to over 35K licensees.

II. Review of Open Minutes

The Board reviewed the open minutes of the September 11, 2020 meeting.

Motion was made, seconded (Lach/Reichert) and passed to accept the open minutes as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members via roll call.

III. Old Business

A. Cloud Based Firm Management

The Board did not take up discussion of Cloud Based Firm Management at this time; however, Mr. Reichert shared a concern he has seen, stating that participating in project reviews this year on a virtual platform, he is seeing the “virtual” aspect as becoming an excuse of sorts by certain people for missing deadlines and also has seen a degradation of the quality in work in some cases and it concerns him for future projects as this “virtual” aspect continues.

Ms. Griffin shared that her firm has seen this a little with some of the younger staff members and they are addressing that be ensuring that additional “eyes” are reviewing project documents.

IV. Report from Subcommittees

A. Rules sub-committee

A. Rules sub-committee – review of Section 1150.90
Mr. Reichert stated he would like to continue to review and add applicable aspects of the NCARB Model Law to this section and report back at the next meeting.

The Board discussed and agreed to have the Rules sub-committee track current and future perceived issues pertaining to the profession and provide information to the Board at the appropriate time for possible Rule revisions.

B. Complaint Review Committee/subcommittee

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Ms. Gillette-Murphy reported on the Sept 11, 2020 meeting. Sharing that 5 complaints were reviewed.

Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the September meetings for each profession:

Architect: Opened 5, Closed 0, Referred 3
PE: Opened 3 Closed 0, Referred 1
LS: Opened 2, Closed 2, Referred 0
SE: Opened 1, Closed 3, Referred 0
PDF: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred 0

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Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 20

PE – 24

LS – 7

SE - 11

PDF – 0

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect – 12

PE – 9

LS – 10

SE – 6

V. New Business

A. Election of Officers

Mr. Lazell shared the Statutory Board officer term and duty requirements.

Call for nominations for Board Chair.

Ms. Gillette-Murphy nominated Ms. Griffin to be re-appointed for Chair.

Ms. Griffin accepted the nomination. Motion was made, seconded (Pate/Lach) to close the nominations for Chair.

Ms. Griffin was re-elected as Board Chair for 2021.

Call for nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Mr. Pate nominated Mr. Reichert to be appointed for Vice-Chair.

Mr. Reichert accepted the nomination. Motion was made, seconded (Gillette-Murphy/Kurtenbach) to close the nominations for Vice-Chair.

Mr. Reichert was elected as Board Vice-Chair for 2021.

B. NCARB ARE Exam remote proctoring changes/updates

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Mr. Lazell shared that he received updated information regarding NCARBs upcoming remote proctoring change, stating that the launch date was pushed back to mid-December to allow additional time for candidates as well as NCARB staff to prepare for the change.

Ms. Kurtenbach shared that she would be concerned with remote proctoring exams, especially if there were internet interruptions or other issues.

Ms. Griffin stated that she felt that this method could invite an inequitable advantage for candidates with newer, more advanced computer systems.

C. Standards of Care & NCARB

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Ms. Gillette-Murphy asked that this be added to the agenda.

She stated that she attended a webinar where they discussed this topic and wondered if this would be relevant to include in the Administrative Rules.

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Mr. Lazell shared that this is currently listed in Section 14 of the Act but if the Board felt it necessary to clarify/define in the Rules, that would be an item for the Board to discuss and determine. Mr. Reichert recommended that Ms. Gillette-Murphy lead the charge on reviewing this to determine viability to include into the Rules. Ms. Gillette-Murphy thanked the Board and said she will do research on this topic.

Ms. Gillette-Murphy also shared that she received NCARB sent her a survey email inquiring about how she was appointed to the Board, qualifications, etc. and wondered if the other members received this as well. Mr. Lazell stated that NCARB will periodically send out generic emails such as this to all state board members regardless if the Board is regulatory or advisory – which he often must remind NCARB that the Illinois Board is advisory to the Department.

Motion to go into Closed Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Lach/Kurtenbach) and passed to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:19 am.

VI. Closed Session:

Roll Call:

The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the September 11, 2020 meeting.

B. Application Review

No applications were reviewed.

Motion to go into Open Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Reichert/Gillette-Murphy) and passed to go into Open Session at 11:32 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members via roll call.

Motion to accept recommendations:

Motion was made, seconded (Lawler/Reichert) and passed to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Motion passed with a quorum of members via roll call.

Motion to keep closed minutes closed:

Motion was made, seconded (Lawler/Reichert) and passed to keep the closed minutes closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members via roll call.

VII. Signatures

A. Action Sheets

The Board signed no Action Sheets.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made, seconded (Reichert/Lach) and passed to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a quorum of members via roll call. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.