

## **MINUTES – Meeting of the Membership AIA Virginia**

Thursday, November 5, 2015 | 12:45 p.m. EST  
Space E11b | Greater Richmond Convention Center | Richmond, Virginia

### **ACTIONS TAKEN:**

- 1) Approval of the Minutes from the June 19, 2016 virtual meeting of the membership.
- 2) Passage, by acclamation, of a Resolution recognizing exhibitors, vendors, and sponsors of Architecture Exchange East.
- 3) Election, by acclamation, of officers for 2016.

### **Call to Order:**

At 12:46 p.m., President Valerie D. Hassett, FAIA welcomed the assembled membership to the Annual Meeting for AIA Virginia. She provided introductory remarks, noting that this was the first in-person meeting of the organization's membership in the new century and with the new name.

President-elect Nicholas E. Vlattas, AIA, read the organizational mission and vision, by way of reminder and inspiration.

Minutes of the June 19, 2016 virtual Meeting of the Membership were approved as presented.

### **President's Remarks (Hassett):**

President offered the following remarks and recognition:

- Recognition of the 2015 Board of Directors, who were invited to stand and be acknowledged. (See list provided at the end of these Minutes.)
- Celebration of honorees present who are AIA Virginia members, including Sanford Bond, FAIA, the William C. Noland Medalist and Edward Gillikin, recipient of a Distinguished Achievement Award.
- Recognition of Exhibitors at Architecture Exchange East, through a Resolution, which passed by acclamation.
- Overview of her emphasis on engagement, which included the Board of Directors, the five local components through the Membership Alignment discussions, and member outreach efforts.
- Acknowledgement of the naming refresh as voted upon by the membership in June, to align with National branding strategies and to signal our new century – with a heightened level of service and support.
- Review of key initiatives for 2015, including the creation of the John W. Braymer Leadership Circle, which includes all past presidents of the organization, who will gather twice yearly to strategize and offer advice on critical issues and items of benefit to the members.

- Credit to the new Executive Vice President, Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, who has brought her knowledge of the AIA to bear for the benefit of the members in Virginia.

#### **President-elect's Report (Vlattas):**

President-elect Vlattas provided an update on several key programs that have been initiated:

- Establishment of the Large Firm Roundtable for AIA Virginia, which is comprised of the 29 largest firms in the state. The group meets twice annually to share issues of mutual interest and concern, and brings together this group of leaders as peers and colleagues, not competitors.
- Additional topics, as will be shared later in the meeting.

#### **Financial Updates (LeFever):**

- Treasurer Jeanne LeFever, AIA offered a financial review of the past as well as an outlook to the future:
- Fiscal year 2014, which aligned with calendar year 2014, ended with a deficit.
- The fiscal year for AIA Virginia will be shifted to start July 1 and end June 30. This will allow the primary revenue event, Architecture Exchange East, to occur in the first half of the fiscal year. Also, it will provide for membership dues to be collected within one fiscal year, rather than being spread over two different years. Both of these offer a more solid ability to track assets and adjust efforts accordingly.
- Fiscal year 2015 was a half-year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2015. It ended with a positive balance. This financial reporting for this year will be a review.
- The budget for fiscal year 2016, which runs from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, shows a significant positive balance and includes a \$100,000 contribution to Net Assets (reserves).
- The financial reporting for 2016 and all future years will be through a full audit.

#### **Secretary's Report (Keplinger):**

Secretary Eric Keplinger, AIA noted now much had already been mentioned about membership, and emphasized that this will be a focus moving forward. One aspect of work for the Secretary includes the comprehensive review and revision of the Bylaws. This process will incorporate: (a) minor refinements to language that are not substantive, including the name change; (b) adjustments and alignments of items that may be moved to the Rules of the Board; and (c) potential substantive items and issues. This will likely be voted upon in the virtual meeting of the membership in second quarter 2016.

#### **"Inspiration | Aspiration | Innovation" – Quick Discussion**

EVP/CEO Dreiling facilitated a brief conversation on a query that will be posed to all attendees at Architecture Exchange East: "From your perspective as a "design thinker," how could AIA Virginia elevate your member experience?" A lively discussion ensued, and separate notes were kept. The overall responses to this question will be collected and shared more broadly.

#### **Advisory Council Reports (Brown, Clayborne, and Reis):**

##### **Government Advocacy (Brown):**

Vice President for Government Advocacy, William T. Brown, AIA, reported:

- The 2015 Legislative session was reported on in the June meeting. Preparations for the 2016 General Assembly session are already underway, with support from our lobbyists; topics of interest to architects include procurement and small business matters.

- The relationship with the APELSCIDLA Board of Directors has been enriched, and an open dialogue exists with the Chair (architect Robert A. Boynton, FAIA) and the Executive Director (Kate Nosbisch).
- The AIA Virginia PAC (Political Action Committee) provides an opportunity for members to have more of a voice in the legislative arena; he encouraged members to donate.

#### **Professional Excellence (Clayborne):**

Vice President for Professional Excellence, R. Corey Clayborne, AIA, reported:

- Architecture Exchange East has been refreshed in many ways and on multiple levels; he hopes all attendees will notice these refinements and will depart from the convention inspired by what they have heard and seen.
- The Design Forum is slated for April 1-2, 2016 in Norfolk. Beginning in 2017, AIA Virginia will hold a Practice Conference in alternating years with the Design Forum.
- The Emerging Leaders in Architecture program, the Prize for Design Research, the AIA Virginia Prize (student competition), and Awards for Design Excellence have all been successful in 2015.

#### **Communications and Outreach (Reis):**

Vice President for Communications and Outreach, Robert V. Reis, AIA, reported:

- The Virginia Center for Architecture became The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design, or "The Branch," with an enhanced mission to include other design disciplines beyond architecture. This entity is an expression of our public outreach ideals.
- Both AIA Virginia and "The Branch" garnered much media attention in 2015 with coverage in a number of outlets in Richmond and other localities across the state.
- *Inform* Magazine is being completely reconsidered in order to achieve a business model that is more sustainable as well as returning to the original publishing ideal of being a public outreach vehicle.

#### **Regional Representative's Report on AIA (Loomis):**

Regional Representative, Paula J. Loomis, FAIA serves on the AIA's Strategic Council representing The Virginias Region. She offered an overview of initiatives, programs, and projects underway at the national level, and noted that there is discussion within the region about reestablishing The Virginias Regional Leadership Conference. Also, she is in the second year of her three-year term, and noted that the Region will be electing a new representative in 2106 for service in 2017-2019. Interested parties should contact her.

#### **Executive Vice President's Update (Dreiling):**

EVP/CEO Dreiling offered an outlook of the first several months of her tenure in the position:

- The former EVP, John W. Braymer, Ph.D., Hon. AIA, had accomplished much to advance the profession in Virginia, and now she is pleased to shepherd the organization as it enters its second century.
- Her emphasis will be member-focused, based largely on the tenets of the AIA's Repositioning Initiative and with an emphasis on what she sees as a needed cultural transformation in the organization and profession at the state level (in addition to the national).
- The staff team of AIA Virginia works diligently to further the mission and vision of the organization, and are extremely dedicated to the members; all were recognized, and the membership offered a standing ovation in support and appreciation. (Staff team listing is included at the end of these Minutes.)

### **Election of Officers (Vlattas):**

President-elect Vlattas, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, called attention to the flyer highlighting the biographies and candidate statements from those running for office in AIA Virginia for 2016. With no nominations from the floor and at the will of the voting members, the slate of candidates was elected by acclamation. (The list of elected officers is included at the end of these Minutes.)

### **Words of Inspiration for 2016 (Vlattas):**

As Mr. Vlattas moves into his role as President for 2106, he offered his vision for the year ahead. He emphasized that he:

- Wants the organization to operate in a financially responsible manner, and believes we are well-directed based on refinements and adjustments that have been made to the fiscal approach.
- Hopes that we are able to deliver enhanced value to our members through our programs and projects.
- Wishes for us to become even more relevant to our members, and that, in turn, architects will be increasingly relevant to society.
- Looks forward to celebrating the prosperity of our members as they move further away from the recent recession.
- Would like to focus a great deal of attention on The Virginia Accord, a program of the Centennial (led by 2014 President Jack Davis, FAIA), which includes crucial principles: the economy, environmental concerns, public health, mass transit, and urban infill/development.

Mr. Vlattas closed by saying that he is honored to serve, and he looks forward to partnering with the Board of Directors and staff team to further these goals on behalf of AIA Virginia's members.

### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the membership, President Hassett adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m. She invited everyone to enjoy Architecture Exchange East.

Minutes prepared by:

Eric Keplinger, AIA, Secretary

#### AIAVA 2015 Board of Directors:

Valerie Hassett, FAIA, President  
William T. Brown, AIA, Vice President  
Robert V. Reis, AIA, Vice President  
S. Jeanne LeFever, AIA, Treasurer  
John A. Burns, FAIA, Director  
Phoebe A. Crisman, AIA, Director  
Robert Easter, AIA, Director  
David M. Oakland, AIA, Director  
Elizabeth A. Reader, FAIA, Director  
John "Mitch" Rowland, AIA, Director  
Damian L. Seitz, AIA, Director  
Reginald R. Tabor, Assoc. AIA, Director

Nicholas E. Vlattas, AIA, President-elect  
R. Corey Clayborne, AIA, Vice President  
Eric Keplinger, AIA, Secretary  
Albert "Jack" Davis, AIA, Immediate Past President  
Al Cox, FAIA, Director  
Brian J. Donnelly, AIA, Director  
Larry W. Hasson, AIA, Director  
Kelly Olt, AIA, Director  
Carolyn Rickard-Brideau, AIA, Director  
S. Maggie Schubert, AIA, Director  
Robert A. Steele, AIA, Director  
Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, EVP

AIA Virginia Staff Team:

Shanelle Calvin, Membership Manager  
Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, Executive Vice President  
Marshall Dreiling, Education Manager  
Rhea George, Deputy Director  
Cathy Guske, Hon. AIAVA, Communications Manager  
Angela Ojeda Guzy, Assoc. AIA, Director of Cooperative Partnerships  
Rebecca Lonadier, Manager of Special Projects  
Edward Nace, Accounting Assistant  
Keesha Tappin-Ezell, Director of Finance

2016 Officers Standing for Election:

- Nicholas E. Vlattas, AIA, President (elected 2014)
- William T. Brown, AIA, President-elect
- Robert V. Reis, AIA, Vice President, Communications and Outreach
- Tim A. Colley, AIA, Vice President, Government Advocacy
- Elizabeth A. Reader, FAIA, Vice President, Professional Excellence
- Eric Keplinger, AIA, Secretary (elected for a two-year term in 2014)
- S. Jeanne LeFever, AIA, Treasurer (elected for a full term, having served the remainder of Mr. Vlattas's term following his election as 2016 President)
- Valerie Hassett, FAIA, Immediate Past President