

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **AIA Virginia | Meeting of the Membership June 15, 2018 (Virtual Meeting Held via Webinar)**

#### **Officers and Directors attending:**

Eric Keplinger, AIA, President  
Phoebe A. Crisman, AIA, Director ex-officio  
William T. Brown, AIA, Immediate Past President  
Elizabeth A. Reader, FAIA, Vice President  
Randall A. Mars, AIA, Director  
Liz Sloan, AIA, Director  
Thomas "Tee" Ellis, AIA, Director  
Husain Alam, AIA, Director  
Gina A. Robinson, Assoc. AIA, Assoc. Director  
Eliza Beth Engle, AIA, Director  
Robert J. Dunay, FAIA, Director ex-officio  
Robert Easter, AIA, Director ex-officio (late)

Robert V. Reis, AIA, President-Elect  
Scott Boyce, AIA, Director  
Sean Reilly, AIA, Vice President  
Lynden Garland, AIA, Vice President  
Spencer E. Lepler, AIA, Director  
John A. Burns, FAIA, Director  
Lou Wolf, AIA, Director  
Rachel Shelton, AIA, Director  
Karen M. Conkey, AIA, Director  
S. Jeanne LeFever, AIA, Secretary  
Anca Lipan, AIA, Director  
R. Corey Clayborne, AIA EVP

#### **Officers and Directors not attending:**

Kevin Sneed, FAIA, Director  
Daniel Zimmerman, AIA, Vice President  
J. Mitchell Rowland, III, AIA, Treasurer

#### **Staff attending:**

Rhea George, Hon. AIAVA, Managing Director  
Cathy Guske, Hon. AIAVA, Member Svcs Director  
Keesha Tappin-Ezell, Director of Finance  
Olivia Jennings, Communications Coordinator

#### **Motions Made and Approved:**

The Membership voted as follows:

- No motions were presented.

#### **Call to Order:**

At 12:00 p.m., President Keplinger called to order a meeting of the Membership. He introduced those on the webinar the Board members present. Mr. Keplinger spoke of the work the Board has done on the Strategic Plan and he reminded everyone of the purpose of the meeting.

#### **President's Report:**

Mr. Keplinger reflected on the first six months of this year's activity for AIA Virginia. He highlighted that the phase out of supplemental dues is ongoing which is a major goal of the Strategic Plan. In addition, the Board has expanded its visibility and outreach efforts by taking two board meetings per year to the state's schools of architecture. Mr. Keplinger also reported that the Bylaws Task Force reconvened to revise the Rules of the Organization.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. Rowland reviewed the Treasurer's Report. He noted that the balance sheet reflects revenue growth due to Architecture Exchange East booth sales and sponsorships. The financial position of the organization is stronger than that of the previous year. It was announced that the organization has paid off its line of credit and is in a position to make a contribution to the Financial Contingency Fund at the end of the fiscal year.

#### **Government Advocacy:**

Mr. Reilly reported on the 2017 Virginia General Assembly. A major victory in the legislature was the removal of architects from a procurement bill that will allow price to be a deciding factor between the top two ranked offerors.

There is a loop-hole that has been identified in the Virginia Public Procurement Act that allows local governments to adopt their own procurement policies. As such, price may be introduced as part of the selection criteria. As an additional service, extensive efforts by Williams-Mullen will be on-going during the

summer of 2018 in educating legislators on Qualifications Based Selection. AIA members will be approached about attending these meetings. The goal is to introduce and pass a bill in the 2019 session that closes the loophole.

PAC contributions are increasingly important. To date, a little over 60 investors have contributed.

**Professional Excellence:**

Mr. Garland reported that the 13<sup>th</sup> biennial Design Forum was held in Roanoke on April 6 and 7 at the Taubman Museum. The program focused on the shifting boundaries between art, technology, and architecture and featured an impressive lineup of speakers.

The Fellows Fete was held on April 28 which celebrated five newly elevated Fellows at the Westwood Club in Richmond. The new Fellows were Donna Phaneuf, Edwin Schmidt, Nick Serfass, Robert Steele, and Edward Tucker.

Architecture Exchange East 2018 will be held November 7-9 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. The theme is entitled, "Tension". More than 110 sessions were proposed for approximately 70 available positions. The conference keynote speaker will be Francis Kere, Hon. FAIA. Kere is an award-winning architect based in Berlin who was the 2017 Conference on Architecture keynote speaker.

**Communications and Outreach:**

Ms. Reader stated that a priority for 2018 has been to work on improving the digital experience for the members. The Council worked with the staff team to shepherd a refresh of the organization's website. The site includes the capability to host a searchable firm directory for the public. The website refresh is anticipated to be launched in the coming weeks.

The Council conducted a survey to determine the value members place on having a publication and preferences regarding distribution. The survey results revealed there is a clear desire among members for AIA Virginia to produce a publication and that there is a strong preference for digital distribution. The Council anticipates proceeding with the development of a curated, member-focused, digital publication featuring key takeaways from signature events, award-winning designs, news from academia, industry best practices, designer profiles, and member-generated content.

**Member Services:**

Mr. Zimmerman shared that as of May 31, there were 2,307 AIA Virginia members. As of April 2018, the organization has experienced a 1% increase in membership over April 2017.

Phased elimination of AIA Virginia supplemental firm dues continues. Only one category remains for payment in 2019.

The newly formed Member Services Advisory Council is working on Strategic Plan items that include how to effectively engage university faculty, a survey to licensed non-AIA members in Virginia, membership value based on career stages, and ways to engage our members in discussions around equity, diversity, and inclusion within firms and the profession.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Membership, Mr. Keplinger adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m. The next meeting of the Membership will be held on November 8, 2018 at Architecture Exchange East.

Minutes prepared by: R. Corey Clayborne, AIA, Executive Vice President  
Minutes Reviewed by: S. Jeanne LeFever, AIA, Secretary