



Idaho-Montana Chapter
of
American Society of Landscape Architects

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2006 @ 5:00 MST, 4:00 PST

Teleconference Attendees:

1) **Call to Order:**

Present: Keith Dixon, Jon Mueller, Fred Ogram, Jolene Reick,
Molly Shanahan, Bill Larue, Angie Feser
Absent: Jim Mihan

2) **Approval Prior Meeting Minutes** – Approved Dec 7, 2005 Meeting Minutes with one comment to correct the spelling of some names.

3) **President's Report** – Keith Dixon

A) Green Roof donation from ID/MT Chapter has been well and made a “big splash” with national and many chapters supporting. The project is to be completed on Earth Day (April 22). However, Keith indicated he had heard from one chapter member who was upset with the donation. Keith will write more on our donation and the reasons why the chapter contributed to the Green Roof in the presidential report of the next newsletter.

B) Chapter membership status:

1. Current chapter membership: 92
2. New Members: 0
3. Expired Members: 6

4) **Trustee Report** - Jon Mueller;

ASLA Director of Governmental Affairs is interested in collecting the best and worst examples of security design.

Nancy Somerville, FEMA, and the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) have asked ASLA and other professional organizations to reach out to their members to identify individuals who could help to staff simultaneous open house sessions on January 21, 2006 throughout southern Louisiana and in 11 cities in Louisiana and other states with significant numbers of evacuees. The day is being described as Louisiana Recovery Planning Day and is designed to provide displaced residents with an opportunity to begin to articulate the goals, vision and strategies that should guide recovery and rebuilding in their communities. Angie indicated she may attend.

5) **Treasurer's Report** – Bill LaRue;

A) Reimbursement for travel to Retreat? Angie Feser has received reimbursement.

- B) Tax Status: Keith to pursue and work with Bill to resolve.
- C) The chapter should develop some basic financial guidelines for reporting and tracking income/expenditures. Also, need to develop protocols for approving payments.
- D) Account Balance: \$14,524.83.

Currently we are being charged the \$2 per month for check. Bill has access to the account online now, so Keith will coordinate with him and monitor.

6) **Section Activity Reports**

- A) Northern Lights – Fred Ogram; no report.
- B) Olmsted Group – Jim Mihan; no report.
- C) Western Montana – Kent Watson; no report.
- D) Eastern Montana – Jolene; for Landscape Architecture Month (April), Angie is going to put the display boards in the state capitol and county library

7) **Liaison Officer's Reports**

- A) Idaho Board: Keith; no report but noted that new law requiring contractors to be licensed which will have an impact on the labor industries.
- B) Montana Board: Jolene met with good friend, Senator Kim Gillan, who is writing a letter to the commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry to request the year to date budgets of the board of Landscape Architects and will request the actual report that outlines the time sheets. The state architectural licensing board is still suspended.
- C) QBS: Jim Mihan; no report.
- D) Idaho Forestry Council: Doug Russell; Doug is also in an advisory group to the community forestry for the state of Idaho and one item that's astir within their council is that bare root planting in the state is in the opinion that it is the best method. They are wondering whether we support that as LA's and are looking for some standard planting methods for trees. All Doug needs is some direction or comments from us to reinforce his argument.
- E) Idaho Smart Growth: open position, Keith will pursue a liaison.

8) **Old Business:**

- A) Montana Licensure Board Status – Angie: they have been speaking with the Architectural Licensing board a couple of months ago and met with them several times as well as the Montana AIA chapter. The local chapter's recommendation was not to merge, however the State Architectural Licensing Board did approve the merger between the Architect and Landscape Architecture licensing boards. And they also were given the option that they wanted which were 3 architects, 2 landscape architects and 1 member at large on the board which takes the fee to around \$250 as opposed to the \$500+ that's on the board right now. They recently surveyed Montana landscape architect's and upon the last count 80%

supported the merge and 20% were undecided. The board was clear about keeping the landscape architecture and architect fees separate. Jolene noted that a lobbyist will need to be hired this fall to begin work with the legislature. Jon noted that ID/MT may have to set up a PAC for funding this position.

- B) Annual Report to National – Jim is working on this report.
- C) News Letter –If anyone has any appropriate photos or comments please contact Keith or Toby and they will add it to the upcoming newsletter. They need word documents or PDF files. If you or anyone you know would like to advertise please have them contact Keith or Toby.
- D) Web site update – Keith/Steve will meet hopefully this month.
- E) Student Chapter coordination – Keith; no report. Jim suggested Keith talk to Don Brigham concerning ideas.
- F) Budget and Funding priorities – Keith to distribute proposed budget this week to finalize the first week in February.
- G) Committees – Fund Raising, Communications, Awards – Keith; no report.
- H) Olmsted Group funds joined with the chapter funds. – Jim/Keith; no report.

9) New Business:

- A) LAM Planning and coordination for sections – Keith would like to see all the sections pursue activities for LAM. The following link has lots of ideas on ways to coordinate with press, community, students, etc. Try to do what you can to pass the word around about LAM to the public. Jon proposed the idea of working with the local school districts to design new elementary schools or redo existing ones. Also, working with students on developing carbon budgets or discussing greenhouse gases. Be thinking about if this is something you feel we as a chapter section should pursue.
<http://www.asla.org/lamonth/page02.html>
- B) Discussion of the use of Chapter mailing list. Keith is open to discussion on how to appropriately distribute mailing list. He suggested we appoint a person to be the primary contact for distribution of information and devise some protocols for this as well.
- C) Rendezvous Discussion; no discussion
- D) Other
- E) Any opinions or comments, suggestions send to Keith

10. Adjournment: 6:00 MST, 5:00 PST!

11. Next Meeting: February 1, 2006 @ 5:00 MST and 4:00 PST