



Idaho-Montana Chapter
of
American Society of Landscape Architects

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2006 @ 5:00 MST, 4:00 PST

Teleconference Attendees:

1) **Call to Order:**

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

Approval Prior Meeting Minutes – February 1, 2006 meeting minutes approved.

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

A) Green Roof Donation Status- 18 chapters have followed our lead and donated to the Green Roof. (Represents about 1/3 of all chapters).

B) Chapter membership status:

1. Current chapter membership: 95
2. New Members: 0
3. Expired Members: 0

3) **Trustee Report** - Jon Mueller: ASLA, as a national organization, is still pursuing policy and involvement in gulf reconstructions. (see web site for more details). Preparations are being made for Landscape Architecture month. Nationals are asking for a confirmation for who will attend the lobby day. (Keith, Jolene and Jon will be attending).

Question for all: Are you seeing funding for grade separated crossings for multi use trails/alt transportation corridors in all of your practice areas as a priority? It would be nice to lobby for more funds at a state and local level.

Both membership and finance committee has recommended a \$10 due increase. The finance group will also take up a discussion on whether we should move out of green industry investing due to insignificant returns. The Policy Committee is working on site planning for hazards and will be taking a look at policy relating to millennium ecosystem next month. Please see web site for more info (www.millenniumassessment.org)

To follow const. progress of green roof please see web site (<http://www.asla.org/land/050205/greenroofcentral.html>).

4) **Treasurer's Report** – Bill LaRue:

a. Chapter dues have been deposited. Jim stated the need to put in the bylaws, the authority of the treasurer to pay for expenses that are budgetary line items. This means that once we have an approved budget, treasurer has authority to pay for expenses approved in the budget.

b. Account Balance: \$15,000

4) Section Activity Reports

- a. Northern Lights – Fred Ogram; no report.
- b. Olmsted Group – Jim Mihan; no report.
- c. Western Montana – Kent Watson; no report. (He is new HALS representative.)
- d. Eastern Montana – Jolene; no report.

Liaison Officer's Reports:

- e. Idaho Board: Keith introduced Stan Griswold:
 - i. Stan discussed the activities of CLARB. He attended the spring meeting for CLARB held in St. Louis. CLARB recently completed the task analysis survey of employers. Purpose was to make sure exam is still hitting those areas important to practitioners. The survey results are available by contacting CLARB. However, they will not make available publicly, so you have to inquire if you're interested. CLARB has modified the LARE. Upcoming test will only have 4 vignettes verses the recent 5. Based on a past analysis, it was determined that some items being tested by vignettes might be better off tested in a multiple choice format as opposed to drawing the vignette. One example is the planting plan vignette being in the multiple-choice format. These changes will take affect with the next LARE test administered. There are lots of changes occurring within CLARB. One item is the constant turnover of the state boards that administer licensing in each state. They struggle with reinventing the wheel each time new people come in. CLARB is also trying to look at ways to increase their revenue and how to get more people in national meetings. Purpose of CLARB is to provide support to state boards on administering exam and regulation efforts in each state. They are brainstorming on ways to open up the membership. Continuing education is having discussions on opening that up for an additional benefit to CLARB certificate holders in helping them. CLARB is looking into finding some method of approving certain types of Continuing education courses. They would be certified by CLARB as being a certain level of quality. Stan indicated that he has concerns that CLARB has drifted from its mission and many other representatives expressed similar concerns to the administration. He also felt that CLARB is not efficient in delivery of continuing education programs and that ASLA might be a better avenue for these programs. Jon indicated he would discuss with National.
- f. Montana Board: Angie; no report.
- g. QBS: Jim Mihan; no report.
- h. Idaho Forestry Council: Doug Russell; no report.
- i. Idaho Smart Growth: open position; Jim sent out e-mail to see if interested and has not heard anything.

5) Old Business:

- a. Montana Licensure Board Status – Angie; no report. Last Keith heard the architecture board, on a 3-2 vote, approved merging with landscape architects if needed.
- b. Annual Report to National – Jim: has all information he needs and is working on it.
- 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. Keith's goal is to get everything done and down to Toby within day or two. Jim will do past memories send off from old president.
- d. Web site update – Keith/Steve will meet hopefully this month. No report. Jim and Keith discussed processes for posting job openings. Keith would like them to route them to him first, then he'll send on to Steve.
- e. Student Chapter coordination – Keith;
 - i. A commitment was made last year to fund a portion of a student's trip to the national meeting in Florida. Keith indicated that University of Idaho student, Lauren Svejcar, has requested reimbursement for her housing during her trip to National Meeting last year. The cost was \$284.12. A motion was made by Jon and seconded by Jim to reimburse Lauren this amount. Keith will direct Bill to write a check in this amount to Lauren.
 - ii. A wish list was sent around to Excom members for comments. Molly's comments and response will be sent out to everyone this week.
 - iii. Student Awards Jury has been assembled by Jim. This will occur either the weekend of April 22nd or 29th Jim to confirm final date.
- f. 2006 Budget and Funding priorities – The proposed budget was reviewed by ExCom. For the fiscal year 2006 we will be spending more than we take in as is the intent of ExCom to begin showing benefits to our members by tapping into our account. It is our hope to begin regular funding of activities at the U of I Student Chapter, legislative activities, and within each section to promote membership activities. Keith asked that ExCom think about an appropriate amount to be directed to the sections. This amount will be included within a revised budget next month. Keith indicated we will need to start getting some sponsors and raising money to pay for our operations from this year forward. Jim made motion to approve budget as amended in discussion by dropping expenses for an annual retreat. Jon seconded the motion. The final budget will be sent out for with these meeting minutes.
- g. Committees – Fund Raising, Communications, Membership, Awards – Keith; No discussion
- h. Olmsted Group funds joined with the chapter funds. – Jim/Keith/Bill; need to continue correspondence and roll the section into chapter accounts.
- i. LAM Planning - Keith encourages all sections to come up with own activities, even if minor to help promote the profession.

6) New Business:

- a. Rendezvous- Send out feelers on potential location for 2007 Rendezvous. Missoula, MT has been discussed as a potential location. Be thinking about location ideas, as well as time of the year to hold the event.
- b. Surface Transportation Policy Project in Denver – Cost reimbursement? No discussion.
 - i. Eirick Heikes – Montana
 - ii. Dan Baird - Idaho
- c. Keith requested we move our teleconference meetings to an 11 am or noon time meeting on the first Wed. of each month. After discussion it was decided to try 11:30 as a new start time. **Please note the time change for next month's meeting below.**
- d. Any opinions or comments, suggestions send to Keith

10. Adjournment: 6:45 MST, 5:45 PST!

11. Next Meeting: April 5, 2006 @ 12:30 MST and 11:30 PST