



Idaho-Montana Chapter
of
American Society of Landscape Architects

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2009 @ 1:00 MST, 12:00 PST
Please call into 1-800-591-2259, then enter the pass
code 668759

- 1) **Call to Order:**
 - A. **Present:** Jolene Rieck, Keith Dixon, Jim Mihan, Bill LaRue, Kent Watson
Absent: Olivia Spyra, Neil Kiner, Toby Norton, Eirik Heikes
 - B. **Approval Prior Meeting Minutes** – Motion made by Jim and second by Bill to approve the February meeting minutes.
- 2) **President's Report** – Jolene Rieck
 - A. **Chapter membership status:**
 1. Current chapter membership: 115
 2. New Members: 1, Richard Z. MacDonald, Site Specific Design in Dover, ID
 3. Lapsed Members: 2, Dale Bunderson & Carl R. Finley
 - B. **Council of Fellows**
 1. Nomination process – tabled until an eligible member is interested.
 - C. **Constant Contact**
 1. February email update obtained an opening rate of 47.6%.
 2. 17.4% of people clicked on a link for additional information. The most common click-through was the MT Governor's Survey and the New West Conference.
 - D. **Advocacy Day**
 1. In-District Advocacy Day: Reports from participants. Jolene, Neil & Anthony Pratt met with Congressman Rehberg's office. Jim & Toby met with Simpson's staff. There is a "White Clouds Wilderness Act" bill that his office has been fighting for seven years and will seek ASLA's assistance in pushing this information. Keith & Jon Mueller met with Senator Crapo's office aid.
 - E. **CPC Mid-year Meeting:** Washington, DC; April 29 – May 2.
 - F. **2009 Licensure Summit:** Alexandria, VA; August 7-9. One person from each Montana & Idaho can attend. Jim recommended Jon Breckon as a possible candidate for Idaho.
- 3) **Trustee Report** – Jim Mihan:
 - A. Trustees are working on a couple of reports and year-end performance reviews on executive staff.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Bill LaRue: Balances: \$17,155.85

- A. Investment Account: \$5106.00 – rolled over into a CD at 1.25 APR
 - B. Taxes: Tax deadline is in May.
 - C. Budget Report:
- 5) **Section Activity Reports**
- A. Northern Lights –Keith Dixon; No report.
 - B. Olmsted Group – Jim Mihan; Great attendance at February meeting, 22 people attended. They will start meeting monthly to deal with rendezvous. Licensure was discussed re: grading & drainage for Ada County. Elections were done with Jim Mihan as Chairman. Robin Demner was elected as secretary, Jon Roters as treasurer, Bill Dial as member at large & Jon Breckon for Government Affairs. They assigned people for committee work for rendezvous, i.e. vendor support.
 - C. Western Montana – Kent Watson; Several chapter members were involved in Children’s and Nature Summit. It had a nice turn-out overall with discussion about getting kids back outside. Kent & Luke Phinney have pledged their continuing involvement. Rick Potts, NPS director was a keynote speaker. James Pool, Luke & Kent manned a table for the career fair at a Missoula High School last week. Best approach was to take a laptop and tie into asla.org and go through the slides.
 - D. Eastern Montana – Neil Kiner; Jolene reported that the irrigation CE session was well attended. Bill mentioned at the Boy Scout office, there is a list of subjects they can earn their badges in and one is landscape architecture. Bill is going to volunteer to be a counselor for that.
- 6) **Liaison Officer’s Reports:**
- A. Idaho Board: Jim Thomas; No report.
 - B. Montana Board: Shelly Engler; Kent mentioned about the no experience or ed requirement for Montana licensure. The board is working on that rule change to set requirements. Kent is working on the wording with board staff and members.
 - C. QBS: Jim Mihan; An upcoming meeting will be held.
 - D. Idaho Forestry Council: Doug Russell; No report.
 - E. Idaho Smart Growth: Jon Breckon; No report.
 - F. Historic American Landscapes (HALS): Kent Watson – MT, Vacant – ID; Kent mentioned that the Going to Glacier Road will be celebrating an anniversary next year and he is working with National ASLA to get a plaque that recognizes the contributions of Landscape Architects to the project.
 - G. Surface Transportation Partnership Program: Eirik & Jim; No report.
 - H. Webmaster: Steve Davidson steve@thelandgroupinc.com; No report.
 - I. Idaho Board Liaison (Vacant): No report.
 - J. Student Chapter UILA – Keith Dixon; No report.

- K. Student Affiliate Chapter at MSU – Eirik Heikes; Kent reported that he submitted his accreditation report in December 2008. A meeting with the department heads occurred; some did not understand the scope of the LA profession. Kent is preparing a memo on the diversity of projects. His recommendation was a MLA degree. Keith thanked Kent for all of his efforts.
- 7) **Old Business:**
- A. Standing Committees:**
- a. Sponsorship (Eirik):
 - i. New West Conference in Montana – Motion for \$750 sponsorship passed via email, with Jim Mihan voting “nay” and Toby Norton abstaining.
 - ii. Zoo Montana Party for the Planet - \$150 sponsorship request (tabled from February meeting) – tabled indefinitely.
 - b. Communications (Toby Norton):
 - c. Membership (Olivia):
- B. National Landscape Architecture Month (April) – Eirik, Keith & Toby:** Keith and Jon Mueller discussed an activity, but perhaps our efforts should be to team with other organizations.
- 8) **New Business:**
- A. Rendezvous 2009 Update (Jim and Toby):** At the Olmsted Group meeting, people have signed up for about half committees. Jim has a program outline and a schedule as well as a list of committee positions. Toby has the budget, which includes some revenue sharing with sponsoring sections. They have discussed the option of office (or firm) sponsorship. A need for school liaison to work on Charette concepts and get it integrated into the program. A save the date card will be sent out mid-April. Liaisons for agencies and client groups have been established. Outreach to power companies and hospitals for sponsorships. A revised contract has been proposed from the hotel, but has not been signed. The theme is “sustainable design & healthy communities.” They will issue a call for speakers soon; Paul Morberg is heading that committee. Keith inquired into the opportunity of a climatologist to explain the big picture of climate change.
- B. Awards Committee (Jolene & Eirik):** No report.
- 9) **Adjournment:** 2:00 MST/ 1:00 PST
- 10) **Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 1:00 PM MDT/12:00 PM PDT**