



Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

SUMMARY REPORT - FINAL

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
Landscape Architects Technical Committee

July 24, 2008
Santa Ana, CA

LATC Members Present

Steve Lang, Chair
Christine Anderson
Andy Bowden
Stephanie Landregan
David Allan Taylor, Jr.

Staff Present

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer, California Architects Board
Mary Ann Aguayo, Program Manager, LATC
Don Chang, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs
Angelica Franco, Licensing Coordinator
Emon Graves, Examination Coordinator
Ethan Mathes, Special Project Analyst
Terri Villareal, Enforcement Coordinator

Guests Present

Jerry Hastings, University of California Los Angeles
Anastasia Meadors, University of California Berkeley (UCB) Extension
Courtney Miller, Land Concern
JC Miller, UCB Extension

A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum
Chair's Remarks
Public Comment Session

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Chair Steve Lang called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. LATC Program Manager Mary Ann Aguayo called roll. All five members of the LATC were present and thus a quorum was established.

Audience members Jerry Hastings, JC Miller, and Anastasia Meadors introduced themselves to the LATC. The LATC welcomed new member David Taylor. Mr. Taylor introduced himself to the LATC and described his education and experience to the members.

B. Approve April 25, 2008 LATC Summary Report

Stephanie Landregan noted a correction on page four of the Summary Report to correctly state "...Region Five Alternate Director..."

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the April 25, 2008 LATC Meeting Summary Report with amendment.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0. Christine Anderson abstained.**

C. Presentation of the 2008 LATC Volunteer Recognition Award

Christine Anderson announced Cathy Blake as the 2008 LATC Volunteer Recognition Award recipient. Ms. Anderson spoke of Ms. Blake's commitment to the landscape architecture profession through her volunteer work with the extension certificate program reviews and the development of the new California Supplemental Examination (CSE). Ms. Blake was not able to attend the meeting but did convey her appreciation of the honor.

D. Program Manager's Report

Mary Ann Aguayo reported staff is closing out the present fiscal year. The State will not report to staff on its out-of-State travel requests until the new budget is passed. A budget change proposal has been submitted to increase the enforcement coordinator position to full time. The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) has published its 2008-2010 Strategic Plan. Ms. Aguayo also reported that she took part in the DCA's outreach planning efforts. The iLicensing project is ongoing and LATC staff will meet with DCA's staff next week to coordinate the LATC effort. Ethan Mathes updated on the status of current legislation. Emon Graves reported that the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board's (LAAB) first survey was returned and another survey was sent out requesting additional information concerning proposed changes to the accreditation standards for landscape architectural degree programs. The LAAB will report its findings, specifically regarding the accreditation of California landscape architecture extension certificate programs, to the LATC when they are available. Ms. Landregan emphasized accreditation of the California landscape architecture extension certificate programs is important to the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Ms. Aguayo reported that a new student assistant has been hired to help with the ongoing redevelopment of the consumer guide publications. Ethan Mathes updated on the progress of the LATC's California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2649 and regulatory cleanup packages. Mr. Graves reported that the Applicant Tracking System (ATS) has been working better and the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) will be working with staff to forward information on California Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) candidates and that eventually California candidates would not be able to register for the LARE online without prior LATC approval. Mr. Graves also presented the historical LARE pass rates. The LATC requested staff provide a breakout of LARE pass rate statistics comparing first-time

examination candidates to re-take candidates. Additionally, the LATC agreed to meet with CLARB at their annual meeting to discuss the California versus national LARE pass rates. Ms. Landregan emphasized on the importance of LARE pass rates for sunset review and requested staff to further research the reason for low pass rates and to also notate for the record on the provided chart the examination breach in the December 2007 administration of the LARE. Ms. Aguayo replied that tracking candidate success rates and other data is a component of ATS implementation and not yet operational. Terri Villareal updated recent enforcement activity; the most recent cases have reflected unlicensed activity violations. Mr. Lang asked whether the individuals cited continue to practice landscape architecture illegally. Ms. Villareal stated that staff could not confirm whether individuals cited still practice. Ms. Landregan underscored the importance of consumer guide and outreach for consumer awareness of the profession. The LATC agreed that finding a way to communicate to the public at large should be part of the consumer guide discussion on the agenda. Ms. Aguayo also reported the Certified Access Specialist Program regulations have been implemented.

E. Report on Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) and Ratify LATC Vote for CLARB Nominations Committee

Ms. Landregan shared that she felt communication between CLARB and the member boards has been effective. CLARB Region Five is scheduled to have a teleconference in early-September, approximately two weeks prior to the annual meeting. Ms. Landregan stated that while she does not personally know all the Nominations Committee nominees, she feels that they are all appropriate for nomination to the Committee.

- **Christine Anderson moved to ratify the approval of Shelly Engler, Phil Meyer and Scott Sonnenberg to the Nominations Committee slate.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

Ms. Aguayo reported her discussion with Richard Zweifel regarding CLARB's LARE scoring workshop. He had stated that the workshop process was extensive and very thorough. Ms. Landregan recommended all LATC members volunteer to be on the Grading Committee in order to get a better idea of CLARB's functions.

F. Review and Approve the University of California Berkeley Landscape Architecture Extension Certificate Program

JC Miller reported on University of California Berkeley's (UCB) Extension Certificate program progress. The UCB Extension Certificate program has a new director, has implemented an action plan as outlined in its June 30, 2008 letter to the LATC, staffing issues are being addressed, several certificate programs were eliminated or moved in order to focus the program on landscape architecture, and classes are being brought back that were previously not available. Additionally, the UCB Extension Certificate program is developing strategic partnerships to benefit the student body and enable internship programs that are flexible to students, relationships are also being developed within the professional community and alumni, their

participation with the student chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, staff variety is being broadened, focus groups have been created to discuss educational issues, and the website, publications and online course descriptions have been updated. Ms. Anderson invited Mr. Miller to attend future LATC meetings. She noted that the UCB Extension Certificate program has made many positive strides and encouraged them to share resources with the UCB Master of Landscape Architecture program. Ms. Anderson also suggested the program make the Director a full-time position for the next accreditation review.

Andy Bowden asked about the “Not Met” standard regarding the availability of staff in the program and what UCB has done to meet the standard. Mr. Miller explained that by broadening and deepening the experience levels of staff it would make staffing more consistently available. He added that positive value has been added to the program by his serving as director and as a practicing licensed landscape architect.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the University of California Berkeley Landscape Architecture Extension Certificate Program and recommend it add a full-time Director or justify the part-time role by the next accreditation review.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

G. Review and Ratify Approval of California Supplemental Examination Passing Score

Mr. Mathes reported the CSE Passing Score workshop was held in April 2008 and that the Office of Examination Resources (OER) presented its recommendation for the passing score. The LATC discussed the methodology for setting the CSE passing score and agreed to adopt OER’s recommendation.

- **Andy Bowden moved to ratify approval of California Supplemental Examination passing score.**
- **Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

H. Review and Approve Web page Template, Site Plan and New Logo

Mary Ann provided an overview of the new Web site design, layout requirements and site plan. The LATC discussed and suggested changes to the site plan, selected the new LATC logo, and also recommended that landscape architecture candidates review the new Web site for functionality.

- **Christine Anderson moved to approve the Web page template, site plan and new logo with recommended revisions.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

I. Review and Approve Consumer Guides

The LATC reviewed, discussed and suggested changes to the Overview Publication Covering the Practice of Landscape Architecture and the Role of the LATC, Contracting for Design Services and Resolving Problems and Concerns. They also reviewed, discussed and suggested changes to the guides for Residential, Private Development and Public Sector Projects. Mr. Lang volunteered to obtain pictures for the varied publications from the American Society of Landscape Architects. Additionally, Mr. Bowden offered to draft information addressing the differences between a landscape contractor, landscape designer and landscape architect.

- **Andy Bowden moved to approve the consumer guides with recommended revisions.**
- **Christine Anderson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

J. Update on July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 Strategic Plan – Action Plan

Ms. Aguayo presented the July 2008 Action Plan updates; the updates were a final report of accomplishments from the July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 Strategic Plan. Ms. Anderson recommended finishing the work of the Education Subcommittee. The LATC agreed that the Education Subcommittee would have to meet again to conclude its charge. Mr. Bowden inquired about working with the California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) on the landscape architect stamping issue (Organizational Relationships – LATC and Staff Assignments #1). Mr. Taylor stated that the issue could potentially be accomplished within six months with support of the LATC.

K. Establish a Task Force and Discuss Charge to Review Business and Professions Code section 5615 "Landscape Architect"--Practice of Landscape Architecture, as it Relates to Consumer Protection Issues Arising From New and Emergent Landscape Architecture Laws and Practice Areas

Ms. Landregan emphasized the importance of monitoring new and emergent landscape architecture laws and practice areas as they relate to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The LATC agreed and suggested making this issue a part of strategic planning while also involving related organizations such as the CCASLA and the Extension Certificate Programs.

L. Discuss the Feasibility of Establishing an Inactive License Status

Don Chang clarified the LATC would need to amend the law if they chose to establish an inactive license status. The LATC discussed the efficacy of establishing an inactive license status given the law changes required and whether there is a defined need for a new law of this nature. The LATC also discussed the possibility of a retired license status. Mr. Chang opined that this license type would be feasible. Mr. Lang pointed out that there is really no burgeoning public outcry for this type of license. The LATC agreed and requested staff bring the issue back for discussion as part of strategic planning.

M. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future Meetings Dates

Future LATC meetings tentatively scheduled:

October 24, 2008, location to be determined

Adjournment

- **Andy Bowden moved to adjourn.**
- **Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.