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Publication Committee
Info@studio360's.com

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NEWSLETTER

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I Current Activities



November 17, 2022
AIA BRONX CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting began at 6:05pm.

Attendees:

Boris Baranovich
Ofe Clarke
William Davis
Sara Djazayeri
Robert Esnard
Antonio Freda
Michael Goldblum
Linda Infante
Ken H. Koons, Sr.
Ken A. Koons, Jr.
Jerin Lisha
Robert Markisz
Julian Misiurski
Bryan Zelnik

Guest

Bill Kressler, CLEP
Regional Sales Manager
Leviton Lighting Business Unit

Agenda / Discussion

1. Seminar:

Bill Kressler, the Leviton Lighting Company presented a seminar titled “Illuminate the Target.” The presentation outlined the methodology behind choosing the correct lighting fixtures and the appropriate photometrics for various architectural situations. He reviewed Interior/Exterior Lighting products to properly target architectural features.

The Lighting Design Process should be part of any architectural expression. Spaces can be enhanced by fixtures that produce light with various distribution characteristics such as wall washing, spots and indirect lighting. Lighting can change; make spaces and buildings unique, more productive, effective, and safe. The design starts by selecting the type of fixture and the “photometrics” of what is needed to light a space successfully. Bill illustrated various light treatments of different buildings, museums, schools, workspaces, and homes.

A museum needs to highlight art works on walls or sculptures at specific locations in the spaces. This can be achieved with correct point source lighting and combined with other indirect general space lighting techniques to allow people to safely circulate and focus on artwork. Office, hospital, schools, and workspaces all require different general and specific lighting treatments allowing for readability and for people to perform their appropriate tasks. The goal is always to provide uniform lighting and simultaneously, as much as possible, with efficient fixture costs.

Another, major lighting issue for designers are the new rules from International Dark Skies Association ("IDA"), related to exterior lighting. Lighting must be directed down and not to light the sky and waste energy to allow as much of the stars and sky to be visible, as natural, and as "dark" as possible. In addition, there is a night safety issue, which is characterized as disability glare. Driving or walking with glare blinding visibility can be dangerous. Exterior lights should be useful, have a purpose to light only, be targeted down where needed, not be brighter than necessary. It is also possible to control lighting with sensors and not waste it. Night lighting should be "warmer" in color with shorter wavelengths (blue violet) and use the least amount of light needed.

In conclusion, Bill Kressler after a question-and-answer period volunteered to assist members in reviewing specifications, designing lighting layouts, as well as developing the costs implications of various lighting products in members projects. Bill can be reached at:

Bill Kressler, CLEP
Regional Sales Manager
Intense & Birchwood
Leviton Lighting Business Unit
Tel: 973-255-9299
email: bill.kressler@Leviton.com

2. Adoption of the September Minutes:

The October 20, 2022, minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, with Bill Caplan making a motion and Ken Koons Sr. seconding it.

3. Next Meeting Dates:

At the October meeting, members approved the scheduled December meeting to be an in-person, Informal Holiday "Gathering," without a seminar or formal agenda. Sara Djazayeri proposed that we should keep the December 15th date and meet in the Bronx, either as a daytime luncheon at the New York Botanical Gardens "Hudson Garden Café", or as a dinner at an Arthur Avenue Italian Restaurant. After a discussion of the advantages of a luncheon versus a dinner, a vote was taken, with more members voting for a luncheon. Therefore, it was agreed that the Chapter would have the December in person "Gathering" as a luncheon, between 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the Botanical Gardens Restaurant. Sara will reserve one or two tables depending on the number of confirmed attendees and will send a specific email invitation to members. She also noted that parking is available and that reservations are important, as the Garden is busy at this time of year, because of the Annual Holiday Train Show. Therefore, members should directly contact Sara Djazayeri by email at info@studio360s.com to indicate attendance.

It was agreed that the next scheduled meetings, except for December will be virtual and are scheduled on:

December 15, 2022	at 12:00 or 6:00pm	(In-person Holiday Gathering)
January 19, 2023	at 6:00pm	Virtual
February 16, 2023	at 6:00pm	Virtual

4. Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee report was presented by Ken Koons Sr. for the Chapter to choose next year's officers and directors. The slate was discussed at last month's meeting, and it was noted that with a few exceptions, the current officers and directors are returning. Bill Kaplan made a recommendation for adoption of the proposed slate, which was then unanimously accepted.

Therefore, the slate of officers and directors for 2023 will be:

Officers	Directors
Sara Djazayeri	President
Julian Misiurski	Vice President
Ken Koons Jr.	Treasurer
Robert Esnard	Secretary
	Ofe Clarke
	Ken Koons Sr.
	Julian Misiurski
	Josette Matthew
	Bryan Zelnik

5. Bronx Chapter Committees:

Bronx Public Project/CCNY Student Design Studio

Michael Goldblum reported on the progress of Chapter's Student Design Studio Award Initiative. He indicated that this initiative would have to wait for the fall 2023 term to coordinate a CCNY course with the selection of an actual NYC Construction Project with the Design Development Agency (DDC). Michael indicated that CCNY professor, Laura Weiner was receptive and will work with the Chapter. However, the schools' one-year advanced scheduling and the coordinating with DDC will require extra time and delay the program to fall of 2023. However, Sara Djazayeri who currently is a third year Design Studio Teacher at Pratt Institute, indicated that she and Michael had sent a similar request to see if Pratt would be interested in a Bronx Chapter studio award initiative as well.

Michael was hopeful that at least one of these programs could come to fruition. Finally, as he has done in the past, he again invited any members of the Chapter who would like to participate in this effort to contact him directly by email: mgoldblum@buildingstudio.com

Student Award

The status of the CCNY Architectural Second Bronx Chapter Student Award was reviewed by Sara Djazayeri. The Chapter's First Award Program last year was organized by our past Vice President, Marty Zelnik. Unfortunately, the former CCNY teacher liaison is not in the same position, and CCNY needs to designate a teacher to work with us in selecting new student awardees. As we discussed at October's meeting Bob Esnard spoke to Bryan Zelnik, and Bryan agreed to pick up where his father left off. It is hoped that the Chapter will be able to restart this effort, although the timing may not allow it to occur for this fall term because of the late start.

Sara suggested perhaps this time around we could substitute a Pratt Institute Bronx Architectural student resident instead and award a Pratt student either as an additional or a substitute student award in the spring of 2023 with Pratt Institute.

Associates/License Exams

Since the October meeting, a committee of the associates have been actively working on an Architectural Registered Exam (“ARE”) study effort to respond to an offer from the Queens Chapter assisting Members to pursue an architectural license. Linda P. Infante and Jerin Lisha have taken the lead, with Linda making a report concerning the committee’s organizing efforts. In addition, in the last few weeks the New York Chapter also offered to include Bronx Chapter associates as part of their “ARE” program. The difference between Queens and New York’s program is the Queens program involves the participation of both associates and licensed Bronx Chapter members. Several of the Bronx licensed members indicated that they would participate, if and when asked to do so. Linda also requested that other associates should/could participate, and she has a list of all the Chapter associates and will make a direct invitation for them to be part of this “ARE” effort.

Chapter Tour

Julien Misiurski, on behalf of the Bronx Chapter coordinated with the Bronx County Historical Society for a Fall Tour, the “Northwest Bronx” on Saturday, October 24, 2022. Julian Misiurski was joined by historian Roger McCormack of the Historical Society in presenting the two-hour Tour. It was a pleasant day and there were 9 participants, including members from the AIA Westchester + Hudson Valley Chapter. The only issue was that the Tour involved a lot of walking and some of the participants had to take a break to rest. Otherwise, it was a great success and something the Chapter hopes to continue in 2023.

6. DOB – Update

It is with regret, that DOB Commissioner Eric Ulrich suddenly resigned due to a reported “conflict-of-interest” issue. Many members of the construction community were disappointed. They hope that some of the initiated changes and statements the former Commissioner made while introducing himself to the NYC architectural community, would continue and improve DOB operations. The acting Commissioner Kazimir Vilenchik, P.E. who was a former Brooklyn DOB Office Commissioner, has not indicated if he will continue this outreach effort or not. It is unfortunate that some of the negative publicity of Commissioner Ulrich’s resignation was characterized in the “press,” as a recurring agency problem, and in their words, because DOB is a “troubled agency.” This Commissioner’s problem was not an agency issue, but due to the former Commissioner’s personal activities prior to being involved with DOB.

Chapter membership believes that the Mayor, most likely will seek a new “Public Official,” not a construction professional to be a permanent Commissioner. No one is sure what will happen, and the construction industry will have to wait and see what the Mayor actually does and if any improvement will ultimately be made.

7. New Business

Budget

The Chapter officers and Ken Koons Jr., our Treasurer realized due to members changing the scheduled December meeting, to an “Informal Holiday Gathering,” there will be not a “formal” meeting before the end of the year. Therefore, the Chapter needs to approve next year’s 2023 Budget, at this November meeting, as it will be the last formal meeting for 2022. Ken prepared for this November meeting, by reviewing the Chapter’s 2022 Budget and prepared a Proposed 2023 Budget for members to; discuss, review, and hopefully approve. Since Ken Koons Jr. could not

attend this portion of the meeting, Bob Esnard reviewed the existing 2022 and proposed 2023 Budget.

The discussion in summary was:

- The 2022 Budget had an expense projection of \$15,450 with a projected income based on the prior year's income of \$16,500.
- The proposed Budget projects expenses slightly higher at \$16,500 and a projected income is based on the 2022 income at \$17,000. The members discussed the proposed budget which included the following highlights:
 - Some estimated costs were increased due to inflation.
 - Although Sponsorship revenue may be cutting back, sponsors are not as willing to pay for virtual presentations, due to the construction industry becoming more in-person, the sponsors are less reliant on virtual presentations and prefer in-person meetings.
 - However, virtual meetings significantly save money and combined, with dues income, the sale of AIA contracts/documents, the projected income is conservative.
- A question was raised as to whether increasing the awards program or if an unanticipated cost occurred, will there be enough reserves to allow for the proposed Budget to be supported. It was pointed out that since the Chapter's beginnings in 1945, the Chapter has not performed with a deficit. Chapter spending is/has always been very frugal. Specifically, the Chapter currently has an adequate reserve of \$20,000+, to accommodate unexpected/immediate needs as well as, the proposed Budget.

With that all said, the 2023 Budget was unanimously approved as presented and is copied in the Appendix - AIA Bronx Chapter 2023 Budget.

The meeting ended at 8:54pm.

IV. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be an in-person gathering/luncheon on:

Thursday December 15, 2022, at 12:00pm

APPENDIX

AIA BRONX CHAPTER 2023 BUDGET

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

PROJECTED
AIA BRONX CHAPTER 2023 BUDGET
ADOPTED NOVEMBER 17, 2022

EXPENSES

1	MEETING VENUE	\$ 2,500
2	INSURANCE	\$ 2,100
3	WEB SITE	\$ 500
4	EXPENSES FOR OFFICER/DIRECTORS TO ATTEND MEETINGS	\$ 600
5	AIA COMPLIANCE CONSULTANT	\$ 3,000
6	ARCHITECTS COUNCIL	\$ 550
7	MEMBERSHIP/ASSOCIATES SUPPORT	\$ 300
8	ZOOM/FACEBOOK	\$ 700
9	AWARDS PROGRAM	\$ 3,500
10	LEGAL	\$ 2,350
11	ACCOUNTING	\$ <u>400</u>
	TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	\$ 16,500
	PROJECTED INCOME BASED ON YEAR 2022	\$ 17,000

The End