



AIA BRONX CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Published by

Bronx Chapter AIA Publications Committee Info@studio360's.com

Highlighting activities and information of interest to the Practicing Architect

Events and Education Opportunities

- **AIA Bronx 2025 Spring Tour - Norwood/Urban Planning (2 CEU)**

June 28, 2025, 10:00AM-12:00PM

Valentine-Varian House

3266 Bainbridge Avenue,

The Bronx, NY 1067

besnard@dzco.com

- **2025 AIA SUMMER SCHOOL**

Six In person Tuesday Evening Sessions

July 8,15,29 August 5,12 at 5:30pm -7:30 pm

Rochman Windows & Doors

Elmsford, NY 10523

[AIA CEU Summer Registration](#)

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I Current Activities



June 26, 2025

AIA BRONX CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

The virtual meeting started at 6:06PM.

Attendees:

Antonio Freda
Bryan Zelnik
Hirinha Pena
Julian Misiurski
Ken A. Koons, Jr.
Ken H. Koons, Sr.
Matthew Rezkallo
Nico Zapata
Robert Esnard
Sara Djazayeri

Guest:

Carlos Santos
Business Manager
EDCO Product Line
215-378-8728
csantos@edcoproducts.com

Agenda

1. Seminar Presentation

Carlos Santos Business Manager for EDCO Products presented utilizing slides and illustrations of how examples of pre-finished metal siding products could be used in construction safely and economically. Carlos introduced himself and the company he represents. In 1946, EDCO officially was incorporated by Arthur Edwards Sr. and his two sons, Arthur Edwards Jr. and John Edwards, in Hopkins, Minnesota. Today EDCO is one of the oldest and continuous running domestic metal fabricators, and is the largest manufacturer of pre-finished metal siding products in the United States. They are the only true full-line manufacturer of exterior building materials, offering a comprehensive line of siding, roofing, soffit, fascia, and gutter systems in the United States. Carlos outlined the four learning objectives of the course: the history of modern metal siding and roofing materials; comparing steel to other materials; demonstrating performance benefits; and describing installation considerations. The presentation was scheduled to cover product comparisons, case studies, and specification considerations for steel roofing and siding.

Evolution of Metal Roofing Materials developed from ancient times to modern applications. The evolution of iron into steel and its various forms were explained. Carlos outlined how wrought iron, cast iron, and steel, detailing their properties and manufacturing processes were developed. He

emphasized that while all roofing materials have their place, metal, particularly steel, generally outperforms other options in terms of longevity and maintenance requirements.

Steel Roofing: Performance and Benefits were reviewed ,comparing steel roofing versus other options like asphalt, wood shakes, slate, and concrete. He highlighted steel's durability, resistance to weather conditions, and long lifespan, noting its superior performance compared to other materials in terms of wind resistance, impact rating, and weight. Carlos concluded by emphasizing that while all roofing materials have their place, metal, particularly steel, generally outperforms other options in terms of longevity and maintenance requirements.

Steel Siding Advantages and Versatility was compared. Steel siding versus other popular materials like fiber cement, engineered wood, and vinyl. He highlighted steel's advantages, including durability, fire resistance, and resistance to moisture, while noting that it requires less maintenance and is lighter than fiber cement.

Metal Roofing and Siding Benefits were explained and the specifications of metal roofing and siding, while emphasizing the importance of pre- finishing for durability and fade resistance. He presented two case studies of metal shingle and steel siding projects in Minnesota, showcasing different design options and custom color possibilities. Finally, Carlos noted the fire safety benefits of steel roofing and siding, as they are non-combustible and fire-resistant when used with proper underlayment.

Summary

Carlos Santos concluded the presentation by reviewing the unique features and benefits of using **EDCO Products**. EDCO is a leading manufacturer of metal roofing and siding solutions, emphasizing their products' durability, low maintenance, and sustainability. He explained that the company's facilities in Hopkins, Minnesota, and New Carlisle, Indiana, where they produce and coat metal products, with a typical lead time of 2-3 weeks for prefinished products. Carlos will provide resources for architects and designers, including a website with a visualizer, professional tools, and CAD details, and offered himself as the main contact for assistance with projects in the New York region. His contact information is:

Carlos Santos

EDCO Products Inc. | Business Development Manager Mid-Atlantic Territory

Customer Service Team:952-945-2680

Mobile: 215-378-8728

EDCO Products, Inc.

8700 Excelsior Blvd.

Hopkins, MN 55343

csantos@edcoproducts.com

2. Adoption of Minutes

The meeting began with introducing this month's meeting June 2025 Agenda. Then the Secretary gave a brief overview of the April 2025 meeting minutes which were screen shared for review and discussion. As there were no comments on the minutes, a motion to adopt the April 2025 meeting minutes was made by Julian Misiurski, seconded by Nico Zapata and then unanimously approved.

3. Schedule for Next Meetings

The schedule of the next meeting was reviewed, and it was pointed out that the next meeting is scheduled for September. The Chapter annually takes a two month summer break, unless there is some urgent need for a meeting. However, there may be chapter committee meetings when members will be informed by the Chapter Secretary to voluntarily participate as they desire. Therefore, the proposed next meeting dates are;

September 18, 2025,	6:00PM – (Virtual)
October 16, 2025,	6:00PM – (Virtual)
November 20, 2025	6:00PM – (Virtual)
December 18, 2025	Holiday Luncheon -TBD

4. AIA May 2025 Awards Event

The May Bronx Chapter annual Award Event, replaces the formal May monthly chapter meeting. This year the May Awards were over two days. Sara Djazayeri the Chapter President, described that this year unfortunately, the event venue only had availability on May 1st, which was earlier, compared to previous years. This created a conflict with the timeline of the CCNY Student Competition, since the judging could not be completed by May 1st. Therefore, the Chapter awards were held over two separate events; the Student Competition on May 1st, and the Empowerment Grant Event on May 13th.

Sara explained that the event venue and date had been confirmed and that she is expecting a good number of attendees.

- 1st -The Bronx Chapter Event on May 1st will include **Empowerments Grants** awards to six students and awarding **Certificates of Participation** for all 14 students, entered in the competition.
- 2nd - on May 14th at the Bronx Borough Hall Rotunda where four students who were the **Student Competition's** First and Second Place winners were announced.

Empowerment Grant

Sara Djazayeri indicated that empowerment grant awards were expanded from last year's two awardees from two New York City architectural schools. Three years ago, the chapter began the Empowerment Program with CCNY and in the second year expanded to include Pratt Institute. This year we reached out to the six Architectural schools in New York City. Five schools, Cooper Union, Columbia, Pratt and CCNY accepted and participated. 6 students were granted Empowerment Grants of \$1,000 each, as well as awarded certificates. This was possible as the chapter had a new sponsor as well as a chapter member, Bryan Zelnik's generous donation of \$1,500 towards the grants, in memory of his father Martin and Simon, his grandfather, both former members/officers of the chapter. Sara and the chapter thanked Bryan again for reaching out the schools, and his perseverance and financial assistance in support of Bronx Architectural students.

Student Competition

The Student Competition project was for the redevelopment of a vacant “Old” Bronx Borough Courthouse in the Melrose neighborhood. This Beaux-Arts style building was repurposed by the students for public use, to have this building become an asset for the neighborhood and the Bronx. The jury selection and public announcement of the competition winners was at a second event in the afternoon of Wednesday May 14th, at the Bronx Borough Hall, with the Bronx Borough President, Vanessa Gibson. The First and Second place designs and the award was presented by chapter member Michael Goldblum. Sara thanked Michael, who has been wonderful in coordinating this chapter effort. He attended the jury and selection as well as, graciously volunteering to get the names of the winners to the Chapter Treasurer Ken Koons Jr., t on the selection day. Then on the next day, pick them up and personally present the awards. Sara and the board again warmly thanked Michael for his commitment and leadership.

5. DOB – Update

Bob Esnard briefly outlined an ongoing effort of approximately 6 years by DOB to simplify the building code noting challenges and confusion due to current complex structure and understanding/dealing with the current and past codes. Joseph Ackroyd, PE Assistant Commissioner of Technical Affairs and Robert Holub, RA Executive Director of Code Development made a presentation to the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) of a first draft modifying the Existing New York City Building Code.

DOB started the internal review of the code, did original research, drafted a preliminary revision. Then had a series of meetings with other agencies and professional real estate/construction groups to develop an Existing Building Code (EBC) revision to discuss publicly. The meeting that Bob attended in late June, was the first public presentation of the EBC proposal. The approval process will be in the next few months. The DOB will host several sessions with industry groups and to begin the legislative process with the NYC Council. The goal is to finalize the legislation to have it adopted and allow the Mayor sign it into law before 2026.

The implementation, outreach and training of DOB staff and the construction industry will be the final step after approval, which is expected to take a year or so to fully activate the changes.

6. AIA Bronx 2025 Chapter Spring Tour - Norwood/Urban Planning

The Director of Education for The Bronx County Historical Society, and Julian Misiurski will lead the walking tour of Norwood, Bronx, NY on the Saturday the 28th of June, two days from today. The Tour will chronical Norwood’s place in the Bronx and governments actual and effective Urban Planning activities. Therefore, the public and private sector physical investments in the growth of Norwood will be reviewed as well. Also to be illustrated will be how historical, architectural and infrastructure construction impacted this Norwood neighborhood residential area. The tour will take place Saturday **June 28, 2025** at 10:00AM- 12:00PM and will be worth 2 CEU credits. The Tour will start and end at the Valentine-Varian House, 3266 Bainbridge Avenue, in the Bronx, NY 1067.

Appendix I - AIA Bronx 2025 Spring Tour - Norwood/Urban Planning

7. New Business

AIA 2025 National Chapter Accreditation

Our President received a letter from National AIA indicating that this year the Bronx Chapter with all component chapters must prove compliance in providing appropriate member services covering their required activities undertaken in 2025.. The letter indicated that the submission portal opened **early** this year. National AIA is hoping chapters will start adding to their applications to not have a crush of work at the years end. The portal will remain open until the deadline **January 15, 2026**. Although we have several months to put this submission together, Bronx chapter members were reminded that we are a "volunteer" Chapter that does not have "staff". Members will have to provide the time to develop the paper work for filing for this Accreditation review. Historically, the officers and a few member volunteers have traditionally, with some help from Valerie Brown of the AIA Westchester + Hudson Valley, have successfully worked together to produce the required documentation in the past.

If any members would like assist in this process they should contact Chapter Secretary Bob Esnard at;
besnard@dzco.com

Emerging Professionals (EP) Committee

Sara Djazayeri discussed the reformatting of a Chapter EP Committee for emerging architect and co-chairing it with Associate member Leila Pena. Sara suggested that the basis of the committee would be to focus on mentorship and licensing support for the chapters younger architects. She hoped that over the summer months that an informal gathering could be organized, perhaps as a picnic in Van Courtland Park or a luncheon were a strategy could developed to assist them professionally. Sara requested that any chapter member who is interested to please contact her at; info@studio360s.com

2025 AIA SUMMER SCHOOL

As has been arranged in prior years, the **AIA Bronx Chapter**, with the **AIA Westchester+Hudson Valley Chapter**, signed an Memorandum Of Understanding(MOU) for 2025. It continues a **Joint AIA Continuing Education Component Partnership**, providing opportunities to secure CEU credits over the summer months. Members are invited to participate in these interesting in person events, which includes dinner and an opportunity to network with other professionals informally in the Rockman Windows & Doors show room.

Appendix II - 2025 AIA SUMMER SCHOOL

8. Adjournment

As no additional new business was presented or issues raised, Julian Misiurski made a motion to adjourn which was unanimously agreed to and the meeting concluded with a reminder that the next meeting will be virtual on September 18, 2025.

Therefore, the **June 2025** meeting ended at **7:38PM**.

II **Next meeting:**

Thursday, September 18, 2025 @ 6:00PM

Virtual - ZOOM meeting link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9948476766>

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Appendix I

AIA Bronx 2025 Spring Tour - Norwood/Urban Planning



Norwood/Urban Planning

Course Number: AIA Bx19

This course is **2 LU|HSWs**.

About this Course

The Director of Education for The Bronx County Historical Society, and a Bronx AIA Architect will lead a walking tour of Norwood, Bronx, NY, illustrating its' place in the Bronx, New York City, and Urban Planning. Included are how historical, architectural and infrastructure construction impacted residential areas, the public transportation, roads, and reservoirs within the Norwood neighborhood of urban America. Urban planning, public and private investment within the context of the growth of Norwood will be reviewed. The area grew from the bridges connecting Manhattan in the 18th century, as well as the construction of the railroad, Albany Post Road and Boston Post Road connecting New York City to Albany and Boston. The major roads and Parkways through the neighborhood such as; Gun Rill Road and the Mosholu Parkway, give easy access to the Bronx's regional parks; Pelham Bay Parkway, Mosholu Parkway, Crotona Parkway and Bronx River Parkway in or adjacent to Norwood.

Tour Specifics

Date	Saturday - June 28, 2025
Time	10:00AM – 12:00PM
Start and End	Valentine-Varian House 3266 Bainbridge Avenue, The Bronx, NY 1067
Price	Architect Member \$20 Associate Member \$20 Non-Member \$30
Register	Bob Esnard besnard@dzco.com

Appendix II

2025 AIA SUMMER SCHOOL



SUMMER SCHOOL 2025 EARN AIA CREDITS ALL SUMMER LONG

Date: Tuesday nights through July and August

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, includes dinner

Price: AIA \$25 / Assoc. AIA \$15 / Non Member \$35 - **At checkout you can purchase multiple tickets/nights, include dates of sessions attending**

Discount if purchase all 6 Sessions - AIA \$125 / Assoc. AIA \$75 / Non Member \$175

Credits: 2 AIA HSW PDH

Venue: Rockman Windows & Doors, 444 Saw Mill River Rd, Elmsford, NY 10523

Join us for our Summer School Sessions! Each evening features an independent seminar, and you can enjoy a discount if you sign up for all sessions. Network with peers, gain new insights, and enjoy provided refreshments. **ALL CLASSES SAME TIME SAME LOCATION**

July 8

Course: Roof Preservation: A Sustainable Option and Traffic Coatings: PMMA/PUMA Technology

Speakers: Tremco

July 15

Course: Deflection and Performance Considerations In Residential Wood- Framed Floor Design

Speakers: Weyenhauser

July 22

Course:

Speakers: OLA Consulting Engineers

July 29

Course: Natural Stone and Green Design and Why Chose Natural Stone

Speakers: UNI Stone

August 5

Course: How to Intelligently Visualize the Build World® with Above | Below-Ground Data | Your Secret Weapon: Digital Twins for Small Firms

Speakers: Existing Conditions

August 12

Course: Durable & Resilient Retrofits – Solving with stone wool insulation | Understanding Advancing Wall System Design Around Continuous Insulation

Speakers: Rockwool

[AIA CEU Summer Registration](#)

The End