

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

FEBRUARY 18, 2020

The Board of Landscape Architects held a regular meeting on February 18, 2020 which was called to order by Chairman Mark Arigoni at 9:30 AM in the North Building, Hearing Room J, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.

### Board Members Present:

Mark R. Arigoni	Chair, Landscape Architect
W. Phillips Barlow	Landscape Architect
Dominick Celtruda	Landscape Architect

### Board Members Not Present:

Anne L. Penniman	Landscape Architect
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<u>Vacancy:</u>	Three (Public Members)
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<u>DCP Staff Present:</u>	Robert M. Kuzmich, License & Applications Specialist
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<u>Others Present:</u>	Anwar Chikhi
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Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, Richard M. Hurlburt, Director. For more information, refer to DCP Agency Website at: [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp).  
Division E-Mail: [dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov](mailto:dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov)

### 1. Review of minutes of the December 3, 2019 Board of Landscape Architects Meeting

It was noted that the minutes shall be changed to reflect that Mr. Dominick Celtruda was not present at the December 3, 2019 Board Meeting. In addition, Mr. Arigoni noted that on page three, Item 4D. the minutes state that Mr. Arigoni will draft correspondence to the Department regarding the approval of reinstatement candidate James R. Swift. He

has not submitted any correspondence to the Department but asked that they check that this application has, in fact, been approved. Mr. Kuzmich will confirm this request.

## **2. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today**

There were no comments or concerns from anyone present at the meeting.

## **3. DCP Investigation Division Complaint Status Report**

3A. Board to review complaint status report when provided.

Ms. Janita Hamel, Supervising Special Investigator with the Department, e-mailed Mr. Kuzmich prior to today's meeting. She noted that the Investigations Division has not received any Landscape Architect complaints for the Report cycle 11.01.19 to 12.31.19. Further, they have not closed any complaints since the last Board Meeting. Ms. Hamel noted that Investigations Division Director Ms. Pamela Brown is out of the office and therefore, not able to attend today's meeting. Ms. Hamel also noted that she will not be in attendance today because she has nothing further to report.

## **4. Old Business**

4A. Continued discussion concerning the involvement of State Board's with their accredited university (UCONN) regarding outreach and understanding of the licensure process.

Mr. Arigoni noted that Mr. Celtruda has taken the role over for doing out reach on behalf of the Board with the University of Connecticut. The Board is trying to do a presentation about CLARB and the State Board with the University of Connecticut. CLARB has a revamped "canned" presentation which Mr. Arigoni will get and send to Mr. Celtruda and to Mr. Barlow (per his request) for use with a professional practice course he teaches.

## **4B. CT DOT – District Three – Acceptance of Landscape Architect Stamp - Update**

At the June 11, 2019 Board of Landscape Architect meeting, Mark Arigoni reported a concern on behalf of Phil Barlow regarding CT DOT District Three and the lack of acceptance of a landscape architect stamp.

At the Board's September 10, 2019 meeting, the Board requested that Mr. Barlow put together a complete package with additional information and forward it to Mr. Raul Rodriguez, Assistant Rodriguez, so he can follow up on this matter.

At the Board's December 3, 2019 meeting, Mr. Phil Barlow stated that he has submitted information to Mr. Rodriguez on this matter.

Mr. Arigoni noted that Mr. Barlow has abstained from this matter initially because it was his company that filed the complaint. The Board asked the Department for their assistance which led to the involvement of Assistant Attorney General Raul Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez has received all up-to-date information on this complaint from Mr. Barlow and the Board is now waiting to hear back from him. The Board asked Mr. Kuzmich to follow up with Mr. Rodriguez on the status of his review.

**4C. Anwar Chikhi** requesting the Board's guidance on his qualifications to sit for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination. Mr. Arigoni reviewed the Board's history with this candidate including getting approval to sit for the examination and demonstration of his work experience. Mr. Chiki gave the Board certified copies of his work experience with two companies. It was noted that Mr. Chikhi has not yet established a Council Record with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB). The Board asked Mr. Chikhi what is the designation or the professional certification at the places where he was employed for an engineer or a landscape architect. It was noted that Mr. Chikhi is being considered for admission to the examination by way of the following criteria as noted in the Statute Section 20-370:

1. Having graduated with at least a bachelor's degree in a discipline related to landscape architecture or in landscape architecture from a college that has not been accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board, provided the Curriculum is consistent with that of an accredited landscape architecture program as determined by the board, with the consent of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.
2. A minimum of four years of practical experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

After more discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Chikhi to sit for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination by virtue of his work experience and education. (Barlow/Celtruda) Mr. Kuzmich will notify CLARB of the Board's decision. In addition, he advised the candidate to send an application in to the Department in order to establish a credential in their database.

#### **4D. Application of Grace Pelletier**

The Board reviewed Ms. Pelletier's application at their December 3, 2019 meeting and determined that proof of the required four years of work experience as a landscape architect, architect, or civil engineer is required. Ms. Pelletier may proceed by either contacting CLARB to establish a record, which would include providing proof of four years of experience, OR by submitting such proof to the Board for review at their next meeting.

Mr. Kuzmich noted that the Department has now received a CLARB Record for Ms. Pelletier which the Board reviewed in detail. After more discussion, the Board voted,

unanimously, to allow Grace Pelletier to sit for the exam based on her education and work experience. (Barlow/Celtruda)

## **5. New Business**

### **5A. Applications for licensing by written examination:**

1. Application of Andrea C. Fossa for licensing by written examination; Ms. Fossa is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 50180) and has passed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.

2. Application of Kathleen L. Haas for licensing by written examination; Ms. Haas is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 47383) and has passed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards. The Board cited that this applicant indicated “not applicable” in her on-line application relative to “*CLARB Number*”. It was determined this was an error/misunderstanding on behalf of Ms. Haas and Mr. Kuzmich will confirm this with the applicant.

3. Application of Brendan P. Ledley for licensing by written examination; Mr. Ledley is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 47840) and has passed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.

4. Application of Suzanne R. Schore for licensing by written examination; Ms. Schore is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 38286) and has passed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.

5. Application of Hyosun Yoon for licensing by written examination; Ms. Yoon is applying with a CLARB Council Record (No. 48117) and has passed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.

Upon a thorough review of all of the above applications, the Board voted unanimously to approve all applications for licensing in Connecticut as a Landscape Architect. (Celtruda/Barlow)

### **5B. Updated list of applications processed for licenses subsequent to the December 3, 2019 meeting of the Board.**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Method of Licensure</b>	<b>Approved Date</b>
1547	Lovato, Miranda D	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 31541; IL	December 16, 2019
1546	Sproles, Stephen B	Waiver of Exam; CLARB Council Record No. 7520; PA	December 10, 2019

The Board acknowledged the Department’s action on the above applications.

### **5C. Applications for Corporate Practice of Landscape Architecture**

1. Dresdner Robin Environmental Management Inc.  
1 Evertrust Plaza Suite 901  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302

Personnel in responsible charge; Mark Vizzini,  
Connecticut License No. LAR.1501

The Board reviewed their application presented to them today for their information by the Department. They further acknowledged the Department's action approving the above application.

### **5D. Applications for the Joint Practice of Landscape Architecture and**

Architecture/  
Landscape Architecture/  
Professional Engineering/  
Land Surveying/

There are no new applications for review at this time.

**5E.** The Board discussed applicants applying for initial license by written examination in Connecticut, who reside in Massachusetts, and who did not go to school nor work in Connecticut, and questioned why they are not applying for initial license in Massachusetts. Mr. Barlow noted that the Landscape Architect Registration examination is the same in both States and that Connecticut has continuing education requirements and Massachusetts does not. Mr. Arigoni noted that the Massachusetts Board does not meet frequently due to lack of legislative support/response. Legislation has not been changed for some time. This could be the reason for Massachusetts residents applying for their initial license in Connecticut.

Mr. Celtruda stated he would like to see all non-accredited education in the CLARB Record. The alternate path to licensure was also discussed as an area of concern to the Board relative to candidates applying to Connecticut first for their license. The more strict requirements of New York State were briefly discussed. The Board is also concerned about CLARB's education evaluation process and cited various examples of applications that have come before them in the past for initial licensure. Mr. Arigoni brought this concern to CLARB's attention to which they responded that they do not look at every State's individual requirements. Mr. Arigoni noted that the Board questioning the education credentials of applicants approved by CLARB and having passed the examination puts them in precarious position. It was noted that the Board can deny such candidates under the Commissioner's authority and support. In general the Board is asking that CLARB pay more attention to the alternate education programs in landscape architecture. Mr. Arigoni will provide the Department a letter to send to

CLARB on behalf of the Board addressing this matter as well as their inclusion of non-verified employment in an applicant's Council Record.

## **6. Correspondence**

No new correspondence was discussed.

## **7. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today**

1. Mr. Barlow advised the Board that the Architects Board has legislation pending which includes continuing education and emeritus status for retired architects.

2. Mr. Barlow asked if there is anything more that can be done to fill the Board's vacancies. Mr. Arigoni asked if the Department can provide the Board a list of the pending letters from candidates applying to fill the current Board vacancies. Mr. Kuzmich will inquire on behalf of the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32 AM. (Barlow/Celtruda) The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 9:30 AM, North Building, Hearing Room J, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.  
Board Administrator

## **Upcoming Board of Landscape Architects Meeting Dates:**

1. May 19, 2020
2. August 18, 2020
3. November 17, 2020

All meetings will take place at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT at 9:30 AM.