

MINUTES
JOINT COMMITTEE OF ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS
March 6, 2007
Public Session

I CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Joint Committee of Architects & Engineers was called to order at 9:30 am in the Union Conference Room on the third (3rd) floor at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Roll Call	Present	Absent	Excused
Committee Chair Paul DeMassi, RA	(X)	()	()
Committee Vice Chair Mark Roche	(X)	()	()
Public Member			
Committee Member James Purcell, PE	()	()	(X)
Committee Member James Valenti, PE	(X)	()	()
Committee Member Albert Zaccone, RA	(X)	()	()
Alternate Member James Cleary, PE	(X)	()	()
Alternate Member Alex Garcia, RA	()	()	(X)

OTHERS PRESENT: James S. Hsu, Executive Director, NJ Board of Architects; Arthur Russo, Executive Director, Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors; B. Michelle Albertson, Deputy Attorney General, Division of Law; and Margaret Hinkley, Secretary to the Executive Director, NJ Board of Architects.

II OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT ANNOUNCEMENT

The statement required by Chapter 231, laws of 1975, the "Open Public Meetings Act," was read and it was announced that notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board of Architects and mailed to the Secretary of State, the Newark Star-Ledger , the Trenton Times , the Camden Courier-Post, the Record of Bergen County and the Atlantic City Press .

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 6, 2007

ACTION: Mr. Zaccone motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Valenti seconded the motion. Mr. Cleary abstained. Motion carried.

R IV OLD BUSINESS

1 Bayonne Housing Authority
Recused: P. DeMassi / J. Valenti / J. Purcell

On October 12, 2006, the Board (of Architects) reviewed a letter dated September 26, 2006 from Charles Collins regarding the Bayonne Housing Authority and compliance with N.J.S.A. 45:4b-7 the Building Design Services Act. Subsequent to reviewing Mr. Collins' letter, the Board (of Architects) determined to obtain a copy of the RFP for this project to determine if there is substance to Mr. Collins' claims. On November 9th, the Board (of Architects) reviewed a copy of the public notice as well as the request for proposals (RFP) information is attached for Board review and discussion. Mr. DeMassi recused himself in this matter due his firm currently having projects with the Bayonne Housing Authority. Subsequent to

review of the information and discussion, the Board (of Architects) determined to obtain additional information from the Bayonne Housing Authority, specifically based on the information in the public notice the Bayonne Housing Authority was seeking proposals for three high rise apartment buildings from architectural/engineering firms, did the firm who was awarded the project meet this qualification? What is the name of the firm? and who is the architect of record? Further advise that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:4B residential projects are to be designed by architects only. On January 11, 2007, the Board (of Architects) reviewed a response letter dated December 14, 2006 from John T. Mahon, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the City of Bayonne. After some discussion, the Board determined to request additional information including construction documents, which outlines what was required and what was provided on the project.

3/6/07 Copy of a January 24, 2007, letter from Paul Fader pertaining to the structural repair contract awarded by the City of Bayonne Housing Authority to Schoor DePalma Inc

Also attached is the response from John Mahon, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the City of Bayonne along with a copy of an agreement dated August 8, 2006 with Schoor DePalma.

DISCUSSION: Messrs. DeMassi and Valenti did not participate in discussion in this matter, but they were present for the Committee's discussion as representatives of the public. This project is a residential building type for which only architects can provide work. After reviewing the scope of work it appears that this project could be substantially structural repair and an engineering or architecture firm may provide the work. However, upon reviewing items 4 and 5 of scope of work, which pertains to the repairing, resetting or replacing balcony railings and the painting of the balcony railings, the Committee has concerns how the railings will be replaced and type of material; what type of paint would be used; would these changes impact the aesthetic principles of the building; and current building codes for balconies.

ACTION: Mr. Zaccone motioned to send a letter to the Bayonne Housing Authority with a copy to Paul Fader advising that this project appears to be an engineering system which both architects and engineers may perform. However, an architect will need to be involved in areas noted in 4 and 5 if the scope of work pertaining to balcony railings impacts the aesthetic principles of the building or a review of the current building codes is necessary. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

2 Notice regarding Site Plan Rule

The Committee discussed options for notifying all municipalities in New Jersey of the Committee's concerns with Township Engineers / Code Officials interpreting the Site Plan Rule. Some committee members suggested listing specific sections of the Site plan rule, other committee members thought the Committee should just suggest reviewing their town ordinances for compliance with the site plan rule. DAG suggested to draft a notice addressing the Committee's concerns with the site plan rule for publication in the New Jersey Register with the distribution of the notice to sent to all municipalities. On July 11th, Mr. Zaccone motioned to send a letter to municipalities and Department of Community Affairs addressing the Committee's concerns with the Site Plan Rule. Mr. Roche seconded the motion. Mr. Valenti voted nay adding that the two letters to townships involved is sufficient. Motion carried. After some further discussion, DAG will draft language for the Notice for the Committee's review at the next meeting. On November 14th, Larry DeMarzo, Acting Deputy Director, Burt Liebman, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs and Patricia Schiripo, Regulatory Analyst from the Division of Consumer Affairs were present for the recap of the issues which lead to the Committee to draft this notice. It was suggested that the Committee meet with a representative from the Division of Community Affairs which oversees municipal and/or township officials, to discuss the survey issue as well as the site plan requirements and how information can be distributed to all municipalities. It was also suggested that this statement of the joint boards be placed on the website and sent it to the Engineers' and Architects' Societies. The Committee was asked to review the statement and forward any comments to either Jim Hsu or Peggy Hinkley, which will be forwarded to DAG Albertson who will encompass any comments received and provide a new draft for review at the next meeting. On December 5th, comments received from committee

members Valenti and Purcell were distributed for information and possible discussion. DAG Albertson updated the committee advising that the meeting with a representative from Department of Community Affairs has not been set up as of yet. After some discussion, it was suggested that the final Notice / Advisory letter be sent to all societies for both Professional Engineers and Architects. Also a copy will be sent to the Board of Professional Planners and the Landscape Architect Examination and Evaluation Committee for their information. Committee members determined to wait until all committee members are present at the next meeting to discuss the comments submitted by Messrs. Purcell and Valenti. On February 6th, the Committee reviewed comments received from Messrs. Purcell and Valenti are attached along with DAG Albertson's original draft. Also reviewed was a copy of an e-mail from Burt Liebman, Legislative Affairs in the Director's Office, is attached for Committee review. Committee determined that any discussion with outside parties would be after the Committee has finalized the Notice. The Committee reviewed Mr. Purcell's comments as well as Mr. Valenti's comments. DAG Albertson will incorporate suggested language and provide a revised Notice for further discussion at the next meeting.

3/6/07 Revised draft of notice with suggested language incorporated into the Notice.

ACTION: DAG Albertson advised that the Notice is being reviewed by her office. She advised that the notice should be sent to both the Board of Architects and the Board of Professional Engineers for review at their respective meetings. Mr. DeMassi made a suggestion to add language to paragraph 3 which further clarifies that both architects and engineers can prepare site plans. Invite Burt Liebman, Legislative Liaison, to the next Joint Committee meeting to discuss his communications with Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

V NEW BUSINESS

No business was discussed

VI PUBLIC COMMENTS

Seeing no one from the public present, Mr. DeMassi proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

VII EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:50am Mr. Zaccone motioned to go into executive session for the purposes of approving the minutes. Mr. Valenti seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

VIII NEXT MEETINGS

April 3, 2007 Regular Meeting
Union Room - 3rd Floor

May 1, 2007 Regular Meeting
Union Room - 3rd Floor

IX ADJOURNMENT

At 10:30am Mr. Zaccone motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Roche seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.