

**BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD**

**DATE: 11 October 2006**

**PLACE: 1 Capitol Hill, 2nd Floor, Providence, RI 02908**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Pilz**

**Ms. Bradford, Ms. Sparks and Ms. Votta**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: Messrs.: Carter and Pagliarini and  
Attorney Thomas Palombo**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Irene Mowry, Administrative Assistant**

**Peter Dennehy, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel**

**Caitlin Chaffee, URI Cooperative Extension Education Center**

**Richard Sheridan, Associate Professor, URI**

**CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.**

**PREPARED BY: Irene Mowry**

**The Board did not follow the order of the posted agenda items but continued in open session to allow Ms. Chaffee of the URI Cooperative Extension Education Center (CEEC) to address the Board's questions regarding the training and certification program**

being developed for Green Industry professionals and other individuals involved in coastal landscape design and land care, and to explain the difference between this program and the LID workshops offered through CRMC.

Ms. Bradford asked Ms. Chaffee to introduce the program to Board members and explain what she was hoping to accomplish. Ms. Chaffee began by informing board members that she works for the URI Cooperative Extension Education Center (CEEC). They house a series of environmental outreach programs which include the Master Gardeners Program. The CEEC is working in conjunction with CRMC to develop a coastal landscapes program that will provide professional training for landscape professionals. Basically it will be a sister program to what is going on in the Metro Bay area in relation to the new Metro Bay SAMP.

Because CRMC has a tremendous back-up of plans that are pending, they recently held a series of LID workshops which were geared mostly to the engineers in charge of these plans. The workshops were put together rather quickly to make sure that some training was available and to give people the opportunity to talk to CRMC about the new Metro Bay SAMP and the Urban Coastal Greenways Program. The impetus behind the Urban Coastal Greenways Program is that the traditional buffer zone regulations have not been effective in urban areas and CRMC is finding it hard to enforce. The idea is to give developers more flexibility while still preserving some buffer zone

**functions, mainly, storm water treatment and public access.**

**One of the focuses of the workshops was to introduce Low Impact Development concepts; distribute storm water management practices, many of which can be landscape amenities, and small scale rather than large scale storm water management practices. The training was conceptual more than hands-on and more of an introduction to make people aware that these things will be within the regulations and will need to be used as part of site planning.**

**The URI CEEC is not rewriting a SAMP but eventually plans on revising the Buffer Zone Regulations for the Greenwich Bay Special Area Management Plan. It will be similar to what happened in the Metro Bay Area but with different requirements because of the differences between heavily developed suburban areas vs. urban. They will be dealing with a lot of retro fit situations where they are hoping to get a lot of buffer zone restoration and still use the small scale storm water management practices.**

**Although this revision process is a long one and the regulations will not be changed for quite some time, they thought it would be a good idea to start holding workshops to raise awareness of these concepts and give the landscape community a chance to get ahead of the curve and to have a dialogue with CRMC to iron out some issues before they become part of the actual regulations.**

**The CEEC is working on a design manual or guidance manual that focuses on LID and storm water management practices, stresses site analyses and gives guidance for preserving site hydrology. It will be geared towards landscape architects and people doing site planning and submitting permits to CRMC.**

**Along with this, they will be holding the first Coastal Landscapes Certification Workshop in February, 2007. They hope to make it more detail oriented and more hands-on than the workshops offered at CRMC. They are also working on a coastal plant list for CRMC. CRMC would like CEEC to develop a list of plants that are considered sustainable or at least a list that includes non-native plants that are not invasive to widen the palette for people working in coastal areas. Ms. Sparks asked if Board members could receive a list of sustainable, non-native, non-invasive plants. Ms. Chaffee said she would be happy to email the list to all board members.**

**The intent of the Certificate Program is not to override a landscape architect license but to raise awareness that planting plans submitted to CRMC must bear the stamp of a Rhode Island licensed landscape architect. Ms. Chaffee stated that the licensing laws are still going to apply and this course is not meant to supersede the laws. Their first priority is to get the training program in place and their grant is until December 2007 so they will need to have at least a working draft of the proposed changes to be able to put out for public comment by that time.**

**Ms. Sparks suggested that if they want to get another grant, they could use this as a platform and then come up with some sort of an assessment as to how all of this information could be utilized in the aftermath of a major storm event where there is significant damage and remediation needs to take place quickly and in a timely fashion. This might be a good guidance document to work with other state agencies and would fit right in with a lot of the work that a lot of state agencies use in case of emergency aftermath.**

**Ms. Chaffee thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to describe the certification program being developed and stated that she would keep board members informed and asked for email addresses.**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board**

**Board members reviewed the regular and executive minutes of the 20 September 2006 meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Pilz and seconded by Ms. Votta. All members present approved motion.**

### **Executive Session**

**Mr. Pilz moved to convene into executive session at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to RI General Laws, § 42-46-5(a)(2) for sessions or work**

**sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation and § 42-46-5(a)(4) for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. Motion was seconded by Ms. Votta and approved.**

**Mr. Pilz moved to adjourn from executive session and to reconvene to an open meeting at 6:55 p.m. pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-4. Ms. Votta seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Mr. Pilz moved to seal the executive session and record the votes taken in executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5. Motion was seconded by Ms. Votta and approved.**

**Mr. Pilz moved pursuant to RI General Laws § 42-46-4 that the Board defer disclosure of all votes in executive session until such time as such disclosure would not jeopardize any strategy, negotiation, or investigation undertaken pursuant to RI General Laws § 42-46-5(a). Ms. Votta seconded and motion was approved unanimously.**

**Mr. Pilz moved to record the votes taken in executive session in accordance with RI General Laws, §42-46-4. Motion was seconded by Ms. Votta and approved to close the matter of Save the Bay Project with a closure letter to Mr. Daniel O'Connell.**

**Applications**

**Board members reviewed the application package for reciprocity candidate Kris Mitchell Bradner. Motion was made by Ms. Bradford seconded by Mr. Pilz and moved by all members present to approve this individual for Rhode Island licensure.**

**Ms. Alison Peters, an examination candidate, has passed all sections of the L.A.R.E. Board members reviewed her application and scores and motion was made by Mr. Pilz and seconded by Ms. Votta to approve this individual for Rhode Island licensure.**

### **COA's**

**Motion was made by Ms. Bradford and seconded by Ms. Votta to approve the corporate COA applications for CPH Engineers, Inc. and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. Motion was approved by all members present.**

**Motion was made by Ms. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Pilz and moved by all members present to defer action on the limited liability certificate of authorization application for Hali Beckman-LA, LLC, pending review by legal counsel.**

### **Old Business**

**Ms. Mowry stated that to date she has not received any word regarding the availability of an electronic copy of DEM's Freshwater Wetlands Draft Rules and Regulations but will continue to check.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion made by Ms. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Pilz and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled Wednesday, November 15, 2006.**