AIA New Orleans Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 02 March 2017
AIA Center for Design
1000 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA

Board Members  Attendance  Initials
Jason Richards, President  Present  JR
Nicholas Marshall, Past President  Present  NM
Angela Morton, President-Elect  Absent  AM
Amanda Rivera, Vice President  Present  AR
Thom Smith, Secretary  Present  TS
Shannon French, Treasurer  Present  SF
Jason Levy, Associates Director  Absent  JL
Ashley Banks, YAF Representative  Present  AB
Brent Baumbach, La. Delegate  Present  BB
Janina Scalfano, La. Delegate  Present  JS
Megan Weyland, Tulane Univ. Rep.  Absent  MW
Braham Berg, Tulane AIAI Rep.  Absent  BB
Joel Pominville, Executive Director  Present  JP

Guests
Michael Vega, AIA  Present  MV

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – Jason Richards
   a. The meeting was called to order by JR at 4:33 pm

2. Consent Agenda
   a. ACTION: Upon a duly made (NM) and seconded motion (BB), it was RESOLVED to approve the February 2017 board meeting minutes.

3. Special Report – AIA Affinity Groups – Ashley Banks
   a. Collaboration Strategies. AB stated that the goal is for improved collaboration among affinity groups as well as with AIANO and NOAF, and the intent is to begin communicating more by updating the board. JR suggested that group representatives meet quarterly.
   b. Communication Strategies. JR stated the importance of coordinating new events with AIANO staff to put on the calendar. JP noted that AIANO hopes to proceed with website improvements soon. JP agreed that affinity groups should have channels on Slack, and he will set up. JP added that he plans to have pages for each group on AIANO's website. JP requested assistance with improving AIANO's website, specifically of those with knowledge of WordPress.
   c. Coordination of 2017 Events. AB listed primary events that YAF/Associates (Emerging Professionals) would create for the year, including a mini golf tournament, tours of the Six Flags site and the new MSY airport terminal, and a mentor happy hour during Architecture Week. The intent of Architecture Week, to be from April 10-13, is to concentrate programming from a range of partners, including Tulane, NOMA, and USBGC. The Architecture Week committee will continue to lead this effort, instead of AIANO staff or the board due to the workload for coordinating the Design Awards. JS stated that the Women in Architecture Beaux Arts Ball would be held in late 2017 or early 2018. JP confirmed that the Public Interest Design Institute will come to AIANO in late September, and the NOAF Home Tour would be on 21 October, in conjunction with AIA's scheduled Architectural Adventures trip to New Orleans. Michael Vega, representing the Open Architecture Network, would like to be a partner and will update the board on future programming.
4. Executive Director Report – Joel Pominville
   a. JP stated that sponsorships for the Design Awards are still needed, and he reviewed changes to this year’s event, including more signage and graphics on site and a program booklet. He added that staff are dedicated to coordinating this event almost full time and are very busy.
   b. JP asked the board for help to fully book the Center for Design in advance of Mardi Gras in 2018 for greater success.

5. Finance Committee Report – Shannon French
   a. SF reviewed his goal of alignment between AIA, NOAF, and their staff, specifically to clarify how NOAF is structured. He proposed creating a task force to coordinate NOAF and AIA’s financial organization.

6. Development Committee – Angela Morton
   a. JS will lead planning Constarction in 2017.

7. Membership Committee – Thom Smith
   a. TS will work with AB to coordinate graphics and marketing of Architecture Week with AIANO.

8. Emerging Professionals (EP) – Ashley Banks

9. Events Committee – Joel Pominville
   a. JP reviewed events update in agenda item 3 – Special Report.

10. Advocacy – Nick Marshall
    a. It was agreed that AIANO will not write a letter regarding AIA National’s lack of convention speaker diversity, previously suggested by member and WIA chair Amy Garrett, as AIA National responded by changing their scheduled speakers to address the issue.
    b. It was agreed that the board would consider writing a letter regarding the federal government’s potential repeal of HUD’s Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing program.

11. NOAF – Nick Marshall
    a. NM stated that NOAF plans a series of events to engage neighborhood groups to better inform them of the process for design and construction of new buildings or major renovations in the city.

12. Old Business
    a. It was agreed to skip this item in order to save time.

13. New Business
    a. CFD Design Task Force Update. SF will invite the board to a charrette next week.
    b. BB mentioned that a bug affected his computer after he made a purchase from AIANO’s website. JP is aware of the issue and will work with AIANO’s IT consultant to resolve.

Adjournment
ACTION: Upon a duly made (JR) a seconded motion (BB) it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Next Board Meeting
Thursday, 06 April 2017, 4:30 pm

Submitted by
Thom Smith, AIA, Secretary