



**MINUTES:**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**November 3, 2014**

4:07 – 6:05 pm

**Location**

United Illuminating  
180 Marsh Hill Road  
Orange, CT

**Board Attendees:**

**Officers**

Lynne Panagotopoulos, Chair  
Pat McDonnell, Vice-Chair  
Aris, Stalis, Treasurer

**Board Members, Board Advisors, Committee Chairs**

Marta Bouchard (MB), Brian Dwyer (BD), Tom Nichols (TN), Lindsay Suter (LS), Rob O'Meara (RO), Judy Swann (JS).  
By teleconference: Wayne Cobleigh (WC), Adam Ney (AN), Ross Spiegel (RS), Jeanell Oriabor (JO)

**Call to Order:** Lynne Panagotopoulos - Thanked Pat McDonnell for hosting the November Board meeting.

**Opening Round**

**Minutes:** Judy Swann - Motion to approve October minutes, RS. AS seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.  
TN, MB abstained.

Chapter Election Reminder – voting closes 11/10 at 6:00 pm.

**LEEDv4:** Lynne Panagotopoulos – Larry Jones and Grey Lee, collaborating on LEEDv4 comparison presentations in MA.

- Content is high level comparison to LEEDv3.
- CT Chapter want to support that effort?
- JS suggested a sponsor such as Vidaris was in early 2014.
- PM offered that Energize CT would sponsor the LEEDv4 vs LEEDv3 presentations.
- PM asked if format a firm to firm or chapter-wide event? Firm to firm.
- LP: Initially a chapter event with a 50 minute presentation
- Initial presentation to be scheduled for November or early December
- LS suggested utilizing the AIA venue
- The LEED version comparison program is approved for GBCI credits
- LP will lead the way for this initiative to happen working with Larry Jones

**Holiday Gathering: Aris Stalis –**

- Cost approximately 3,500.00 in 2013
- Suggested a small fee be charged this year to all attendees (20.00),
- TN - non-members should be charged more, fold membership into non-member fee (45.00)
- JS asked if in deference to Platinum Sponsors, we invite them as guests. BD suggested not to add this benefit at this time
- Charitable donation recipient discussion, Organic foods, Save the Sound, CFE, land trusts, Habitat for Humanity (RE-Store). No decision.

**Jackson Lab Tour:** Judy Swann/Rob O'Meara

- Jackson Labs looking forward to hosting a CTGBC program, as part of their LEED requirement.
- Whiting-Turner can arrange for the facility availability.
- Mark Loeffler, Atelier Ten, could be available for presentation on lighting.
- Suggestion to plan tour for late November or December.
- RO, Steve Gurtel and JS to agree on schedule for best date. Discussion of tough traffic to Farmington after hours
- RO offered to work out date with Steve Gurtel.

**Planetree Healthcare Event:** Judy Swann-

- Invitation for CTGBC members interested in healthcare was offered by Todd Renz for Planetree event
- Planetree is a long term care health protocol system.
- TR is the day-chair. JS to establish a connection with CTGBC members. Attendance by invitation is limited.
- LP questioned program appropriateness relative to green building. Discussion
- Planetree facility in S. Windsor was entered in the commercial category of our green building awards competition.

**Living Building Challenge:** Jeanell Oriabor-

- Melissa Kops, AIA will be presenting on LBC with continuing education credits available.
- Registration will be handled by AIACT.
- AIACT is hosting the event at 370 James Street New Haven from 4:30pm – 6:00 on November 18<sup>th</sup>. CTGBC members will be given member pricing option when registering.

**Operations – Aris Stalis:** Suggested to Joanna Grab that the Homes Committee organize an education outreach program to be held at Stepping Stones.

- Recognizes a dilution in the green building marketplace
- LS feels that green building is stronger than ever and LEED is the standard
- BD mentioned it is a time for evaluation of the green building programs out there – example: GSA no longer using the LEED standard exclusively
- Confusion has been created in the marketplace. As building codes get written, LEED becomes less important
- BD re membership – we need to create more programs that clarify and become an important resource in the green building community
- LS: Recognizes lots of interest in green – skeptical of CTGBC spreading itself too thin
- AS: Private companies are doing monthly events offering education to people about green building as a marketing tool.
- LP struggling with how we get more people to help is a bigger challenge at this point than hosting more programs.
- AS: CTGBC should consider hosting a large annual symposium that draws new speakers and new audience at some point in time
- PM: Large number of regulations limiting CO2 emissions coming from EPA. Question being asked such as is there business opportunity for local companies
- TN: Need to get past last year's financial dilemma and start providing programs to educate
- LP: event topics need to be identified and membership educated
- Board needs to provide direction to Outreach and Engagement

**Resignation letter:** Elizabeth DiSalvo – Provided four primary reasons for stepping down as follows:

- Difficulty achieving the attendance criteria.
- Difficulty fitting in, lack of experience working with the board and familiarity with Strategic Planning and the big picture focus/direction the board was striving for.
- Considers a Board Director more of an advisory position not a working position.
- Found board/steering committee directives unclear in terms of the Strategic Plan.

**Board perspective**

- LP: CTGBC is currently a working board, not a strategic board, cannot just delegate until a large enough cadre of volunteers can be developed
- LP: Big picture ideas are examined and set forth at Strategic Planning session; time at board meetings provide for handling critical issues
- RS reminded board of mentoring program that had been proposed for new board members' should be implemented to avoid new board member loss

- TN the position of Board Advisor provides board experience without direct accountability, easier to adjust as a Board Member
- LP hopes lesson learned; future board resignation doesn't become commonplace

**Committee Engagement** in board discussions, encourage collaborations between committees, enhance communications.

- Committees create a calendar of potential events and provide to the board. Board would appreciate more connectivity with committees. Change of some committee leadership could be beneficial.
- PM: Suggestion Board create an annual calendar of events, assign a topics to committees.
- Personal invite to committee chairs to the December board meeting. Agenda item: Streamline 2015 Communication Plan.
- Distribute SP with the December Board Meeting invite.
- Currently 13 CTGBC Committees. MB and BD to continue work on their proposal

**Kishmish** management of CTGBC website. Are we getting the best result from them?

- KM service is mediocre, timely response but not thorough. KM should provide an Account Manager and IT Specialist. Awards submissions a huge problem.
- New board should be aware of website/software problem.
- Stop-gap - test out the submission process, KM fee contingent upon a successful Awards.
- AN: Look at a local provider. 12-month contract? Re-evaluate with a shorter term of service (Dec agenda item) Sub-group to review full website issue.

**Programs/events.** TN: For January, each board member bring a day-chair outline for an event each board member would be responsible for.

- AS: No sense in laboring over a budget since committees are not earning income or spending resources.
- December agenda item: Hot Green Topics. Looking forward to 2015. Board Orientation early 2015. Officer election January board meeting.

**UNRC Face to Face:** Pat McDonnell - Reported on Portland, ME meeting.

- Consensus: USGBC making policy as they go along. Emphasis on preserving the UNRC as a unique organizational entity.
- TN: CTGBC needs a UNRC Representative. PM volunteered as CT representative. TN will be back-up for PM.
- Preference for Aligned Chapter option with structure around UNRC, or Independent status.
- A Single solution is not appropriate for all USGBC chapters.
- Becoming an Integrated Chapter was not an option for any UNRC chapter.
- Developing CEAC (Chapter Evolution Advisory Committee) should contain past and current chapter leadership.