

THE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITY PLANNERS INTERNATIONAL

CEFPI NE Region Board Meeting Teleconference 02-15-2013

Convened at 3:02 PM

Present: Dick Moretti, Jim Hutchison, Rob Pillar, Phil Poinelli, Janell Weihs, Dave Schrader, Jay Perantoni, Jeanne Perantoni

Absent: Rob Hendricks

- 1. Approval of minutes of January 8, 2013 Board Teleconference. Minutes approved (moved by Rob Pillar, seconded by Dave Schrader).
- 2. Treasurer's Report Dick Moretti indicated that no transactions have taken place since his last report.

3. Old Business:

- a. Membership Welcome to Robert Hendricks as Membership Chair and member of the NE Region Board. There has been no significant change in membership of the Region since our last meeting.
- b. International Board Report Dave Schrader reported that the Board met on February 12th. By Laws for Chapters are still coming in. International financial report was good. 20% surcharge was discussed. PNW Region is contesting 20% surcharge. They will be looking at an amendment to phase in surcharge for some Regions and Chapters. Finalists for the SOTF have been reduced to 3 for the finals, starting with the Pittsburgh Conference finals. There was general discussion regarding juries for the Region. CEFPI and several national organizations sponsored a School Security Conference in Washington, DC last week. Goal was to generaate a series of recommendations for school security. CEFPI is hoping to be "front and center" of the school security movement. Board is discussing membership. Big growth goal is from the Chapters up. International Membership Committee has broken down by teams, each to tackle one of Rebranding, Recruiting, Incentives, and Retention.

School of the Future Additional Conversation: Jay is going to be working on a schedule of dates for the states in the Region. Jay is reaching out to individuals. Should have everything

completed by the end of February. NJ has 4 schools, CT has 4, PA is 2, and MA has 2 (tentative) that are interested.

- c. Conference Plannning Rob reported that all speakers have been selected and all have been confirmed. Sponsorships and vendors are starting to come in. Keynotes have been confirmed. There is a conflict with the Pittsburgh AIA having a conference at the same time. School tours are still being finalized, with the last school still not committed. Next Conference Committee will be on February 26th at 4:00 pm.
- d. Conference Budget Janell has made the deposit on the Bow Tie reception at the ballpark. Busses are secured for Friday and Saturday. Fallingwater deposit has been made. Dick reported that we have \$6,250 in sponsorships, \$750 in vendors, \$500 on design awards, 10 Fallingwater reservations along with about 22 conference reservations. Janell indicated that it appears that several of the International Board representatives will be staying for the conference. We will be trying to get a handle on the number so we can determine cost of food and whether they are going to Fallingwater.
- e. Nominating/Awards Committee Jeanne recently sent out emails to solicit a second candidate for International Board Representative. Several folks have responded and declined. Because of the stringent requirements, the pool is very small. Email records will be forwarded to Janell as back-up to her attempts to solicit a second candidate. Dave Schrader will be put on the ballot with the second candidate as a write-in. We will also have two nominees for Vice President on the ballot as well. Phil requested Janell to send out the names of our International Committee representatives and our Nominating/Awards Committee chair (Jeanne Perantoni) to the Region. Jeanne asked if there has been any discussion of the Vice President candidates. Phil asked Jim to think about a name for the Vice President since he/she will be his "right hand." Phil discussed a goal of having an election by the end of the school year. Lifetime Achievement Award, Planner of the Year in the NE Region and Service Citations at Conference were briefly discussed. Discussion of Phil being the key for Service Citations since he is the President.
- f. Future of State Governors in the Region With the emphasis on Chapters, the need for State Governors may be going away.
- g. Next Newsletter The next Newsletter will be sent out following our Regional conference.

4. New Business:

- a. School of the Future Schedule Discussed previously.
- b. NE Conference 2014 in Baltimore Jim reported to the Board about the process he has used to choose Baltimore for the site of the conference. Annapolis was a site in 2003. We settled on Baltimore since the cost is less than Washington, DC which was our other top choice. Annapolis was considered but not as good a site as Baltimore or Washington, DC. We're looking at April 10-12, 2014 as the dates for the conference. We would be able to consider a baseball

game if Baltimore is home. We're looking at hotels in the Inner Harbor area. If we push into May, we would be bumping in MD ASBO conference which is very popular. The conference theme was discussed and the team is looking at a very practical planning oriented theme. Jim has sent files about the conference concept (attached to these minutes). Phil Conte and Jim discussed the theme of "Crossroads & Grassroots: The Intersection of Architecture & Engineering in Planning and Design." Jim explained that he has been in contact with several individuals in the area and there is interest in being part of the Conference Planning Team. Phil Poinelli pointed out that we should have theme and dates ready for the Pittsburgh conference. Phil asked the Board to vote for Baltimore for the conference. Moved by Rob, second by Jeanne and passed. He further asked the Board to consider the dates and the theme and get back to Jim and be ready for the next Board conference call to discuss and approve dates and theme. Janell asked to be kept in the loop since she will be sending out the RFP for the hotels.

Next conference call schedule for March 8th at noon.

Adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

CEFPI 2014 NE Regional Conference Baltimore Inner Harbor

Theme: Crossroads & Grassroots: The Intersection of Architecture and Engineering in Planning and Design

Crossroads: A point at which a vital decision must be made. A main center of activity.

Educational facility planning and design has always stood at the *Crossroads* of responding to challenges that include demands for higher standards with greater accountability while at the same time confronting the need to build new schools and renovate aging facilities within a practical boundary of affordability.

Too often, the participants in the educational facility planning process miss each other at this Crossroads:

- Educators do not participate or are not invited to define needs and goals for new facilities
- Planners are not involved early enough in the process to assist in guiding the facility along a fruitful path
- Architects begin designs that have no basis in the educational foundation of the building
- Engineers are not involved in the process until late in the design process and do not meaningfully participate in planning

Grassroots: The origin or basis of something; the basic or primary concept, rule, part, or the like.

From the educational mission of the school and the condition and size of learning spaces to how they are used and organized, the built environment and physical dimensions of learning environments are critical and worthy of discussion. A *Grassroots* planning movement including educators, facility planners, architects and engineers can lead to a better understanding of why they matter and how the design of learning spaces can be improved to accommodate students with different learning needs.

Schools are more effective and caring places when they provide an inviting, comfortable, technology rich, and safe environment to the learner; recognizing that the learning environment has no boundaries. This *collaborative educational planning approach at the intersection of architecture and engineering* with learners, educators, and planners contributes to enhanced academic performance, fewer discipline problems, higher staff morale, and improved use of resources. "Our school facilities are a tangible symbol of our commitment to education, and the message is not lost on students." Moore, G. T. (1995). Learning and school environments. Edutopia, 4-5

