

CELA Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes

Thursday February 16, 2012

10:30a CST; 11:30a EST; 8:30a PST

In attendance: Blake Belanger, Terry Clements, Chris Ellis, Will Green, , Ken McCown, Sean Michael, Patrick Mooney, Lori Orta (CPA,) Dave Pitt, Dee Solco, Lee Streitz, Pat Taylor, Rob Corry, Hala Nassar, Lee-Anne Milburn

Regrets: Mary Myers, Nancy Volkman, Elen Deming, Ming-Han Li

Agenda: (Suggestion for future roll calls: If no report, please so indicate at the appropriate time during the roll call. Please stay within allotted times).

1. Welcome

2. Discussion/review of past minutes:

January 2012 minutes were approved for posting on the CELA website.

3. Past President's report: Pat standing for Elen

CELA conference is six weeks away. The session schedule and final abstract are expected soon. There are 260 + regular registrants including 8 exhibitors. There are 94 student registrants and 16 one day registrations. Sponsorships are one-third of those received last year, but careful review of the budget today shows we should still break even, or maybe even a bit better overall.

CELA Officer Nominations: Votes are in and Elen will be in contact with all of the candidates in the coming days. Once all are notified, an announcement will be made. Terry suggested that all new officers be in on the March conference call as well as attend the annual conference.

Action Item: Invite newly elected officers to participate in March conference call.

Terry asked board members to canvas their faculty for possible reviewers of full papers. Previous response was spotty. Many full papers from the 2011 annual conference have not been reviewed. Per Chris, there are about 45 (versus 70 from 2010 conference) papers to be reviewed and the vast majority are not student papers.

Fellows Report:

There is currently a three way tie for the 5th position. The candidates were selected by their Fellow peers for their contributions to landscape architecture education in addition to their service to CELA. The e-list was then compiled by Art Rice as the slate of 2012 nominees, and the list of nominees was then sent by email to all Fellows for vote. (In keeping with policy of the Fellows, all names not selected as nominees are maintained on the list of possible candidates for next year's list.) CELA Fellows elected four candidates for Board approval. The fifth place was submitted to the Board for resolution because there was a 3-way tie for this position. The CELA Board decided on this year's fifth Fellow inductee.

Names of all inductees are being withheld from the minutes until all inductees have been notified. All inductees will be strongly encouraged to attend the 2012 Annual CELA Conference in order to be inducted formally. Early-Bird conference registration rates also will be extended to new inductees.

Action Item: Elen will extend the invitation to Fellows to be present at this year's CELA conference.

4. Treasurer's report:

Lori reported that Ken trained on the QuickBooks accounting software with Judy Evans in Memphis this week. Dee is in the process on inputting all transactions from the first quarter. We should have financial statements soon.

5. LJ Report:

There are two options for hosting the Till blog, which is currently being finalized:

The standalone domain name of till.lj.org which was mentioned in last month's report and one that piggybacks on CELA's current domain name (thecela.org) till.thecela.org. This alternative links the blog directly to CELA. This option requires no additional domain name registration and it would be less expensive.

Till will be a moderated blog. Comments to be posted will be carefully screened by the blog moderators (staff of *Landscape Journal* editorial team) for content and appropriateness. While there will not be a double blind peer review process for posting, material will be filtered by the moderator. We will also require all bloggers to provide a name and e-mail address for tracking submitted postings. In essence, the moderator will serve the same function in preventing the posting of libelous material on *Till* as the editor(s) serve for preventing the publication of such material in *LJ*. Our initial release of the blog will be a closed beta version for commentary by the CELA Executive Board.

Board vote carried to use the name www.til.thecela.org. No fiscal note is attached to this action. Dave will keep us apprised of future actions and steps with the blog.

6. Interim Executive Director's report:

A draft of the strategic plan has been received. Pat is working on edits with Sheila. The edited version will go out in the next ten days or so. Three committees make up LA CES. Terry will serve on one committee. We expect that CELA will be audited. Pat asked board members to include their complete contact information in the signature portion of their emails. Included should be all phone numbers and email addresses needed for efficient responses to emails. This will help staff to follow-up with requests and other needs related to emails among the Board, staff and relevant 'others.'

7. VP for Research Report:

Track chairs are putting sessions together. We should know more in a week. Three hundred and five abstracts will be published of which forty-four are interactive. The Abstract book should be done by the end of the week. Still in the process of recruiting reviewers, if you know of any interested parties,

please contact Chris. Will asked that Chris initiate a short email inviting faculty to review full papers that board members could forward to the staff at their university.

8. 2nd Vice President's report: Pat standing in for Ming-Han Li

Seventeen nomination packages are under review. Ming-Han is asking department heads to complete a regional summary for the next issue of the CELA Forum.

9. President's report:

Terry is putting together the draft agenda for the Annual Conference Board meeting. If there are any Board members with items they want listed for discussion, please send these to Terry and Pat. The Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 26th and Tuesday, March 27th. Board members should expect the Monday meeting to begin around 9:30 a.m.

The conference hotel is full, so the board is urged to complete their travel arrangements for the conference as soon as possible, and to search the Champaign/Urbana area for available hotel rooms. At this point the main points of discussion for Board meeting will be the strategic plan and the beginning of a draft for a CELA Operations Manual. All Board members will be asked to bring an annual summary of their CELA activities to be used as a guide for various sections of an Operations Manual.

Terry sent out a draft position and recommendation statement on CELA's position on the ASLA proposal to change LAAB's Bylaws regarding the accrediting of certification programs. The draft contains input from CELA members including the CELA Board. Needed now are additional comments that cite actual impacts of the proposed change.

Terry asked for volunteers to work with her on finalizing the statement. Talking points are needed. We need to decide as a board what our position is and let the general membership of CELA know the leadership's position. Terry noted that the ALSA leadership reports do not mention the issue.

CELA's Board should now charge departments heads with contacting their local trustees because at this stage the only recourse is to influence the ASLA trustees. Terry received direct comments from fifteen individuals. The Board voted to accept the intent of the position statement as framed in Terry's draft. Will Green and Patrick Mooney will work with Terry to finalize the statement.

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 central time.