The Professional Landscape Architectural Division of the Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Landscape Architects was called to order by Chairman Bob Shotts at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25, 2016. A quorum being present, Chairman Shotts declared the meeting open for business.

Members Present

Robert Shotts, Chair of the Division
Noel Fehr, Member of the Division

Others Present

Judy Kempker, Executive Director
Rusty Saunders, PLA and member of MALA/ASLA

To better track the order in which items were taken up on the agenda, each item in the minutes will be listed in the order it was discussed in the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fehr made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016 Professional Landscape Architectural Division Open Meeting and the February 29, 2016 Professional Landscape Architectural Division Open Conference Call. The motion was seconded by Chairman Shotts and was unanimously carried.

Discuss status of, or potential changes to, the Board Rules and/or Chapter 327 RSMo, regarding the Professional Landscape Architectural profession

No suggested changes were made to Chapter 327, RSMo, or the Board Rules at this time.
Review and discussion of Open items on the full Board’s April 25 and 26, 2016

Open Agenda

The Division Members reviewed the Board’s open agenda and lent discussion to the importance of consistency. It was pointed out by Ms. Kempker that the Architectural section of the law requires a NAAB accredited degree and the Landscape Architectural section of the law requires a LAAB accredited degree. However, pursuant to Board Rule 20 CSR 2030—4.060 (Evaluation – Comity Applications – Architects) the Architectural Division can license individuals who do not have a NAAB accredited degree as long as they are licensed in another state and have an NCARB certificate and file. Ms. Kempker then explained that NCARB verifies all documentation to make sure the individual applying for a certified council record (a.k.a Blue Cover) has an education deemed equivalent to a NAAB accredited degree. She then asked if CLARB verifies this information for its Council Record Holders and Chairman Shotts stated he wasn’t sure but it is something he will check into.

Discussion was then held regarding Open Houses that the Board plans to host in the future. It was unanimous among the Division Members that if a topic of mutual interest, such as electronic seals and signatures or code of professional conduct/ethics, is discussed the Open House should then be one joint Open House of the entire Board instead of four individual Open Houses of each Division. They felt by having one joint Open House on mutual topics of interest the Board can then be assured that the information being given is consistent. Another option discussed was to join together for a full Board Open House for the first 30 minutes to discuss general topics and then divide into the four Divisions for the last 30 minutes to allow profession specific discussion.

Updates from Missouri Association of Landscape Architects (MALA) and/or American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Rusty Saunders was present and gave an update on the activities of MALA and ASLA. Mr. Saunders reported that they had an effective Legislative Day; even though there was a low attendance compared to past years. He stated that there is currently no legislation being considered that affects the landscape architectural profession; however, he did warn the Division Members to be on the watch for deregulation in the future. He also discussed the possibility of getting landscape architects added to Section 327.421, RSMo, (Political subdivisions not to use unlicensed architects, professional engineers or professional land surveyors). Ms. Kempker then pointed out that the Board had proposed back in 2014 to add landscape architects to this section of the law via SB 809; however, the Office of Administration, Division of Design & Construction, had major heartburn with it and was successful in getting the landscape architects removed from the proposed legislation.
The recent appointment of Eric Davis was briefly discussed. Mr. Davis had initially been slated for his Senate confirmation hearing to be held on April 24th; however, it got cancelled. It is now important for him to get confirmed prior to the Legislature going out of session. If he does not get confirmed this session, his appointment will need to be withdrawn. If withdrawn and reappointed again this year after this Legislative Session adjourns, he will then be considered a “lame duck” appointment and thus stands the risk of permanent withdrawal by the new Governor. Due to the urgency of this matter, Rusty indicated he will make contacts to try to secure Mr. Davis’ confirmation at the hearing scheduled for May 4th.

Additional items to agenda, if any:

There were no additional items to address. At this time, Mr. Saunders departed the meeting.

Motion to Close

At 2:10 p.m., Chairman Bob Shotts called for a motion to close the meeting to the general public for the purpose of discussing confidential or privileged communications between this agency and its attorney as well as to discuss pending litigation and complaint matters. Mr. Fehr made a motion that the meeting be closed to the general public pursuant to Chapter 610.021 subsection (14) and 324.001.8, RSMo, for the purpose of discussing investigative reports, complaints, audits and/or other information pertaining to licensees or applicants; Chapter 610.021 subsection (1) RSMo, for the purpose of discussing general legal action, causes of action or litigation and any confidential or privileged communication between this agency and its attorney, and for the purpose of reviewing and approving closed meeting minutes of one or more previous meetings under Chapter 610.021, RSMo, which authorizes this agency to go into closed session during those meetings. The motion was seconded by Chairman Shotts. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried.

Return to Open Session

At 3:35 p.m. the members of the Division reconvened in open session for the purpose of adjournment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Fehr, seconded by Chairman Shotts and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.