

# MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 25, 2021 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS MEETING

**Date:** January 25, 2021

**Location:** 500 N. Calvert Street  
Room 302  
Baltimore, MD 21202

**Joining In:** Virtual [meet.google.com/owx-raxn-mgi](https://meet.google.com/owx-raxn-mgi)  
Phone: 1-732-630-0966  
Pin: 841 807 262

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Present:** Christopher Schein, Landscape Architect, Chair  
Grace Fielder, Landscape Architect  
David O'Dell, Landscape Architect  
Gareth Diedrick, Consumer Member  
Cameron Duncan, Consumer Member

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Joseph Cullingford, Executive Director, Design Boards  
Carla M. Zamon, Acting Assistant Executive Director, Design Board  
Makayla Nelson, Acting Board Administrator  
Frazier West, Investigator, Design Boards

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, Christopher Schein, called the Business meeting of the Board of Examiners for Landscape Architects to order, virtually, at 1:34 p.m.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business meeting held on October 19, 2020. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Diedrick, seconded by Mr. O'Dell, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes without amendment or corrections.

## **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

None offered.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **New Board Member**

Mr. Cullingford introduced and welcomed a new Board Member, Mr. Cameron Duncan, to the Maryland Board of Examiners for Landscape Architects. Mr. Duncan briefly introduced himself to the members of the Board.

### **Exam Decoupling**

The Board discussed the possibility of changing the statute to allow applicants who possess an accredited degree to qualify for the examination prior to completing their required experience, commonly referred to as “decoupling.” The Board noted that this would allow for more flexibility and remove potential barriers for the applicant, without impacting public health, safety, and welfare. The Board’s Advice Counsel, confirmed that this would require a statute change. Mr. Cullingford requested that the board vote on this proposal before we begin further research.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Diedrick, seconded by Ms. Fielder, unanimously carried by the Board to support efforts aimed at changing the statute to allow for the decoupling of the examination and experience.

### **Reciprocity with West Virginia**

The Board’s Counsel notified the Board that she had reviewed and compared the regulations for West Virginia and Maryland, in order to assess the feasibility of a direct reciprocal agreement. Counsel had informed the Board there were no major conflicts that would prevent reciprocity between the two states. This agreement has been discussed by the two Boards over the past year. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to move forward with the reciprocal agreement.

Motion (III) was made by Ms. Fielder, seconded by Mr. O’Dell, unanimously carried by the Board to approve the reciprocity agreement between West Virginia and Maryland.

## **CPC COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Board discussed the current levels of CEUs. Ms. Fielder mentioned that the Board currently requires more than some surrounding states. Ms. Fielder recommended that the Board begin to research possibilities to refine the CPC requirements and ensure that it is fair and reasonable. Mr. Cullingford mentioned that this would require a statute change. He further added that there are some methods that the Board can increase what they accept for credit. One possibility was to institute a law and ethics course that is provided by the Board.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Cullingford discussed the annual licensing trends with the Board. He presented data that showed an increase in licensure by 35 licenses from 2019-2020. This increase was significant in that it followed a

couple of years that showed negative growth. He stated that this was a positive trend, but cautioned that the data could have been impacted by policy changes that were enacted during COVID.

Mr. Cullingford introduced Ms. Nelson as the temporary Board Administrator of the Maryland Board Examiners for Landscape Architects.

**BOARD COUNSEL’S REPORT**

There was no Board Counsel’s Report

**REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Schein reported that he reviewed and approved five (5) total application(s). One (1) application(s) was approved for an examination and four (4) were approved for reciprocity:

**Application by Examination**

Chunling Wu

**Application for Reciprocal License**

Jill Keller  
Andrew Knight  
Mark Mahaney  
Stephanie White

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Diedrick, seconded by Ms. Fielder, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve one (1) examination and four (4) reciprocal applications.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners for Landscape Architects has been scheduled for Monday, April 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion (V) was made by Mr. Diedrick, seconded by Ms. Fielder, unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_x\_\_\_ without corrections                      \_\_\_\_\_ with corrections

Signature on File  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Schein, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_