

**Boston Chapter of CSI**  
Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

Location:  
University of Massachusetts Club, 1 Beacon Street, 32nd floor. Boston, MA 02108

*Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 (12:00 – 5:00 pm)*

*Present:*

1. Cynie Linton, President
2. Bob McEachern, Pres. Elect
3. Michelle Roberts, Immediate Past President
4. Howard Levine, Vice President
5. Herb Ule, Treasurer
6. Susan Raneri, Secretary
7. Len Anastasi, Director
8. Ralph Enos, Director
9. Heidi Jandris, Director
10. Kelsey McMenemy, Director
11. Matthew Zyrkowski, Director
12. Tom Scarlata, Certification Chair
13. Jessica Holloway, Communications Chair
14. Jay Ford, Newsletter Editor
15. Susan Borne
16. Gary Brock
17. Greg Kohn
18. Tony DeVito, Chapter Meeting Table Tops

*Next meeting:*

September 14, 2016, 4:15 PM, University of Massachusetts Club, 1 Beacon Street, 32<sup>nd</sup> floor, Boston, MA 02108

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**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP** 154

**Meeting Agenda –**

Prepared by Cynie Linton. Meeting called to order: 12:00 PM.

- o Change is happening quickly and influencing everything we do. Chapter founded in 1956. World is different now, and we need to catch up, keep up and stay ahead. We will speak about what the chapter will be.
- o Congratulations to Kelsey McMenemy on her PE accomplishment!
- o Greg Kohn is a visitor from Virtual. Introductions....

**FY15-16 Summary**

- Michelle Roberts:
  - o History on chapter - 9<sup>th</sup> chapter created February 18, 1956
    - First CSI president was Lawrence Anderson, Dean at MIT School of Architecture.
    - Technical research committee with 23 committees.
    - 50 charter members that went up to 100 members.
    - Develop technical research to improve specifications. Provide liaison with professional societies and provide new techniques with methods and standards.
    - Collect information on bidding and jurisdiction matters.
  - o **Thank you for allowing me to lead this chapter!**

## **Region Report**

- Bob McEachern:
  - National Board: Referendum passed.
  - NE Region Board: Bill DuBois stepped down and replaced by Tom Lanzelotti. Marty was receiver of distinguish service award.
  - Financial: The board discussed and continued with same assessment. Refunded half of assessment. Take assessment money to allocate it to help chapters. One year expenditures in checkbook. No region conference in 2017. Our chapter is 4 or 5 years out for a region conference. NJ is potentially a host for region meeting in 2017, possibly VT for 2018 and Housatonic for 2019.
  - Key focus items: Membership, certification and education are the key topics for the region.

## **Visioning as it stands:**

- We consolidated committees into the following list of committees:
  - Program
  - Membership
  - Communications
  - Operations
- Topics for Discussion:
  - Monthly Programming
  - Special Events
  - Outside Administrative Assistance?
  - Technical Papers
  - Certification
  - Region + National Presence
  - Conferences
  - Sponsors
  - Target Member Database (AEC Community)

## **Visioning Ideas from the meeting:**

- Increase membership (Len)
- For design professionals what do you expect to get out of CSI?
  - Tom - Learning units
  - Gary - If you provide something different from BSA to get them to come out of that environment into CSI What about AGC? AGC doesn't respond to emails (Michelle).
  - Cynie - I always attended CSI meetings because I like technical subject matter and become friends with people who like the same. More importantly these friends may know a particular subject matter more than you do which involves sharing of great information. The internet creates a lot of barriers to meeting people.
  - Howard- Programs will drive the membership. We need to be aligned with other organizations that could do joint programs with our chapter. We can't have 8 programs a year on dry subject matter but rather the general public would be interested in more relevant and current subject matter, i.e. Genzyme, or building of Fleet Center.
  - Tom – how did our membership change? CSI was the go to for technical programs now there are affiliate memberships. For an example provide programs how a contractor prepares a bid. BSA subcommittees could be

- approached to get some traction on this. This type of program could examine how details are built and the process of pulling together a building.
- Michelle - LA chapter is strong because of owner membership. The idea behind having our meetings at UMASS was to engage owners/facility manager.
  - Cynie - Facility managers may be a great group to target for membership. If LA is attracting owners we should visit this chapter.
  - Jay – we need to be relevant in an industry where they are turning to the internet. Maybe we sell 5 learning units. Set goal of membership is it getting together. Hook this to a site visit through CSI to get the engagement and membership up.
  - Susan R. - Engagement found in an interactive forum or architect's round table. MIT innovation lab, or a manufacturer's product development roundtable where architects participate in discussion on product innovation and manufacturer's share what is going on in the manufacturing world and sharing of ideas.
  - Matthew – everyone is interested in a job site visit. Get more of a construction learning event on estimating, bidding, codes, specs, construction tour.
  - Len – what about this focus: shared knowledge, relationship and fun, offer different programs and all to grow membership.
  - Increase academic liaisons:
    - Cynie: students may not be ready for this

### **Oversight Committee Groups (discuss and report back to group)**

#### **Group 1:**

- Learning units are important – let's make them get learning units from us and keep separate from BSA. Go beyond writing specifications.
- No online CEUs because anyone can do this
- Site visit at least one a year- keeping in mind timing in the year and get a partner. Send a survey out to design professional to see what they want to see.
- Come up with a theme or series of 4 or 5 programs, i.e. Skyscraper series – this will bring in general contractors, developers and architects into this program.
- 3D printing program
- MA has not adopted 2015 IBC yet – have a code consultant speak on this. The public hearing will be in September and October and with a roll-out January 1, 2017. This program should be slated after January. Tom Hopkins, Executive Director of MA Access Board (main accessibility code) is a potential speaker.
- Future City Massachusetts – Mark Davy as a presenter for a program
- Landscape architecture program
- Construction Law - Sandy Feed as a program
- Re-location and moving of buildings as a program, i.e. Lighthouses, houses on Martha's Vineyard due to erosion
- Fun – gambling at Plain Ridge, Salem Cruise, Tree top Adventures – zip line event, architectural scavenger hunt.

**Group 2:**

- Serve members better
- Work on a survey to get some ideas on programs
- Quality programs:
  - Designers interested in what other designers do, i.e. case studies
  - Programs on actual construction process
  - Case study with a contractor and project
  - CSI academy's mock bidding as a program. Give you documents and you are in teams and must end up with a number under a deadline.
- Revive a practice for when a new member joins they are matched with an ambassador.
- New member breakfast
- Rep list with hyperlinks as a good service to people.
- Improve publicity for programs we have

**Publicity/Communications**

- Establish a Twitter feed for CONSTRUCT with photos. Kelsey McMenemy will set up the CSI Boston Twitter site

**Budget Report + Proposed Budget**

- The budgets for 2016 were reviewed and edited for 2017.

**Summary and Record of FY16-17 Chapter Goals**

- Joint CSI and AIA meeting on codes for January meeting
- Howard - Propose 5,000 from Fidelity fund for scholarship in five different categories to be determined in the September meeting.
- We may want to encourage manufacturer rep members to attend CONSTRUCT if their company could pay them to attend. This may get more of our chapter members to attend CONSTRUCT
- CSI scholarship for students with active participation in CSI. Use scholarship as a way to increase membership by offering it to sons or daughters of a CSI member (Len). Open the scholarship to students in the construction industry.
- 3 top adventurers for zip line

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Susan Raneri, CSI