

MINUTES  
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL

June 6, 2017

3:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Toll Free (888) 670-3525 - conference pass code 6715298664 then #

**Call to Order**

Mr. Toppe, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. and a quorum was established.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present:

Jonathan Toppe, Chair  
Aida Bao-Garciga, Vice-Chair  
John Ehrig  
Miguel Rodriguez  
Francisco Costoya  
Hector Fernandez  
Holly Dennis  
Dylan Rivers  
Ivette O'Doski

Others Present:

Mary Ellen Clark, Board Counsel  
David Minacci, Prosecuting Attorney  
Krista B. Woodard, Executive Director  
Terri McEwen, Government Analyst  
Debbie Chitwood  
Thomas Smith  
Marcus Bryant  
Peter Stacy  
Leonard Bergman  
Martin Serena  
Jacqueline Drake

Court Reporter: Jessica, For the Record Reporting, Inc., 1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 140,  
Tallahassee, Florida 32317. Telephone (850) 222-5491

**Application Review**

Bergman, Walls & Associates, Ltd – Architects Inc. – Certificate of Authorization  
Peter Stacy and Leonard Bergman were present to answer questions regarding their ongoing litigation. Mr. Ehrig requested to be recused from the review of the application because he could not be unbiased. The application was before the board based on an affirmative answer to background question one. After review and discussion the following motion was made.

Motion: Mr. Rodriguez moved that the board approve the application for licensure.  
Second: Mr. Costoya seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Novus Architects, Inc. – Certificate of Authorization

Debbie Chitwood and Thomas Smith were present to answer questions regarding prior disciplinary action and ongoing litigation. The application was before the board based on an affirmative answer to the background question one. After review and discussion the following motion was made.

Motion: Mr. Costoya moved that the board approve the application for licensure.  
Second: Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

I Group Architects LLC – Certificate of Authorization

The applicant was not present or represented by counsel. The application was before the board on an affirmative answer to background question three for prior discipline. The applicant has a pending disciplinary case and the firm name contains the word “Architects” with only one license architect identified in the application. After review and discussion the following motion was made.

Motion: Mr. Costoya moved that the board deny the application per Section 455.213(3), Florida Statutes for prior and pending disciplinary actions.  
Second: Ms. Bao-Garciga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Martin J. Serena II – Architecture NCARB Endorsement

Mr. Serena was present to answer questions regarding his application. Mr. Serena had prior disciplinary action for failing to complete the Florida Building Code Core Course. A citation was issued May 12, 2005 and became a final order August 30, 2005. The citation imposed a \$500.00 fine, proof of completing the FBC Core Course, and suspension until compliance.

Mr. Serena waived his application processing rights and advised that he would take the required course and pay the fine. The application was tabled to a future meeting.

Angel Vega – Interior Design Examination

Mr. Vega was not present or represented by counsel. Mr. Vega applied for licensure by examination per Section 481.209, Florida Statutes. He does not meet the education or experience requirements. David Butler, Board Consultant, reviewed the application and recommended denial. After review and discussion the following motion was made.

Motion: Mr. Toppe moved that the application be denied per Section 481.209, Florida Statutes.  
Second: Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Rules**

Rule 61G1-17.001(11), Professional Fees for Architects, F.A.C.

Rule 61G1-17.002(13), Professional Fees for Interior Designers, F.A.C.

House Bill 741

Ms. Clark presented the legislative language and advised that the delinquent fees will be reduced to \$25.00, upon the Governor's approval and signature.

Motion: Mr. Ehrig moved to notice Rules 61G1-17.001(11) and 17.002(13), Florida Administrative Code for rule development and that the board approve the draft language as presented.

Second: Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ehrig moved that the proposed rule language would not have an adverse impact on small business or be likely to directly or indirectly increase regulatory costs to an entity, including government, in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate in Florida within one year after the implementation of the rules.

Second: Ms. Bao-Garciga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

Mr. Toppe advised that he would attend the upcoming 2017 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Annual Conference.

Motion: Mr. Costoya moved that the board grant Mr. Toppe the authority to vote on resolutions or pending items on behalf of the board at the NCARB Conference.

Second: Ms. Bao-Garciga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Old Business**

No old business.

## **Adjourn**

Motion: Mr. Fernandez moved that the meeting adjourn.

Second: Mr. Rivers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.