

**Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC) 8 April 2008**

Date: 11 April 2008

In attendance were: Edward Adelman, George Bachrach Esq., Andrew Baldwin, Michael Davis (Co-Chair), Russel Feldman, David Johnson, Mark Kalin, Stacy Lucas, John Nunnari (Co-Chair), Daniel Toberty, Eric White, Donald Wohn, Margaret Minor Wood, A. Vernon Woodworth.

1. Legislative Update: George Bachrach Esq.

- a. Reference is made to a 2-page handout listing 15 Bills somewhere in the Legislative process. This document is herewith included in this report by reference.
- b. Mr. Bachrach noted that the following bills (HB 341) (HB 3209) (HB 178) concerning registration of Interior Designers have been heard by both the Joint Committee on Professional Licensure (HB 341 & SB 178) and Joint Committee on State Administration (HB 3209). SB 178 is not likely to come to the floor for action this session. HB 3209, sponsor by Rep. Kafka which would allow ID'ers to bid on state contracts has been opposed by the BSA. JN asked if GB knew why extensions had been filed by the respective Committees for HB 341 and 3209. GB noted that he would speak with Paul Pezzella to see if he knew the reasoning.
- c. HB 4646, a bill to expand the jurisdiction of the Architectural Access Board has been reported out favorably by the Joint Committee on Public Safety. Questions were raised regarding what version of the language was passed. The BSA prefers the original language that allows it to provide a list of names, for appointment to the Board, directly to the Governors office.
- d. SB 1412 - Requiring the use of Intumescent Paint in certain institutional residential buildings, will be hard to influence, because its sponsor Sen. Panagiotakos is convinced of its merit. Also, politically, it will be hard oppose the Senate W/M's Chair.  

Mr. Adleman is hopeful that an amendment might be offered and accepted that allows buildings protected by sprinklers to be exempted from this legislation.
- e. The Green Communities Act, the so called the Energy Bill (S 2468 and HB 4373), is in Conference Committee. Sen. Panagiotakos and Rep. Dempsey are the Committee Chairs., The language differences between the House and Senate will be reconciled in the Conference Committee and then, upon successful conclusion of the Committee work, become law.
- f. SB 2540 - a bill to provide policy relative to Global Warming Control. This is a counter part to the Energy Bill and will become law in some form, sponsored by Pacheco. BSA is supportive.

g. HB 4541, The Rose Kennedy Greenway in Boston, by Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure; DiMasi. Current draft HB 4229. The BSA has submitted a letter in support.

h. HB 3214 - a bill intended to improve bid competition in the furnishing of materials in certain Public Building Construction projects. This bill was prepared by Monica Lawton at ASM, which makes proposed substitutions to specified products, more acceptable; Sponsor Kujawski.

The current bill avoids proprietary materials by establishing at least one manufacturer to establish quality, and then names at least two other manufactures who may bid as providers of equal quality products.

The bill therefore tends toward a performance specification, with materials qualifications statements provided with the bid.

This bill increases the responsibility of the designer, perhaps unduly. It was noted that the bolts that failed in the Artery Tunnel in Boston was a substitution for the specified fasteners.

The BSA is currently developing a position on this bill. Russ Feldman is taking the lead and will contact Monica regarding the BSA issues.

3. **Architect's Day on Beacon Hill** This event is scheduled for Tuesday, 29 April 2008, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at Aloft@NEFA Restaurant, 145 Tremont Street, Boston, MA., 7th Floor.

Ms. Wood reported.

The intent is to finalize a list of important legislative issues, prepare BSA positions, and make appointments for interviews with legislators.

a. Who should be included, in addition to Senators and Representatives by Constituents?

- President of Senate
- Speaker of House
- Both chairs of Ways and Means Committee
- Sponsors of bills to be addressed

b. Issues

- Green Design - continuing issues beyond the Energy Bill
- Bond Bills, which are supported by the BSA
  - Environment
  - Transportation
  - Education

- The next State Building Code: Vernon Woodworth: the Legislator need to understand the process for Building Code changes, and do not need a technical understanding to change. The BSA can assist in clarification of process for change.
- Creative Economy: HB 4227

A summary prepared by Beate Becker, Director of Designing an Industry/Designing the Future, to create the Massachusetts Creative Economy Council, was distributed to the attendees. This paper is included in the minutes of the Meeting by reference.

#### 4. Next Meeting

29 April 2008, beginning at 11:30, at 145 Tremont Street for lunch and final instruction - then proceed to the State House for meetings with Representatives and Senators.

End of Meeting Minutes