



YOUNG ARCHITECTS FORUM | AIA PITTSBURGH | Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting

This report confirms and records the interpretation of discussions which occurred and the understanding reached during this meeting. Unless notified in writing within seven (7) days of the date below, it will be assumed that the following interpretation or description is complete and accurate without exception.

MEETING NO.:	MEETING DATE:	TIME:	MEETING LOCATION:
2018-02	Wednesday, February 21st, 2018	5:30 – 6:40PM [1 HR – 15 MINS]	AIA Pittsburgh Offices 925 Liberty Avenue, Suite 700

PARTICIPANTS:

1	BS	Bea Spolidoro, Assoc. AIA	Chair	beaspoli@gmail.com
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24	MS	Michael Sweterlitsch		msweterl@kent.edu

Agenda

1. Welcome!

Coming Event updates

1. Carpenters Training Classes March 6 (Metal Stud) and March 20 (Drywall Hanging)
2. Pecha Kucha on [March 8](#) - Call for volunteers (details below)
3. ARE Reviews start on March 15 and 16 w/Michael Riscica

Task force

1. ARE reviews progress (Danielle and Sam)
2. Building Tours: Barbour Library + one in April with Evolve and Marc Mondor (Bea)
3. Next Happy Hour: qKArchitecture in April (Monica)
4. Professional Events coming up? (Jiayu, Bea)
5. Build Pittsburgh: EP exhibition (Bea and...)
6. Storeytelling? (Ray)

Topic

What's up PGH? Architecture Happening in town

- Construction
- Workforce availability
- Testing/Certification
- New cool spots?
- Social Issues
- Concerns and hope
- Architecture contests (State and National)

Conclusion

1. Next Meeting: March 27. ACE meets on 14 and 28
2. March Topic: Advocacy and YAF Role
3. Newsletter: other suggestions for events to promote?

Mark Your Calendar

1. April 12 Build PGH

2. PechaKucha Night Pgh Vol. 29: Thursday, March 8, 5:45-9:00 p.m.
CDCP Gallery: 937 Liberty Avenue, 2nd floor gallery
Duties: Bartenders, registration table support, and clean-up
4-6 Volunteers Needed

NOTES:

1. Went around table and introduced self to everyone
 - a. New 2018 officers: BS Chair, EP Vice Chair, CB Secretary, TO PR chair, RB past chair present
JQ Treasurer not present
2. PechaKucha Night - NG
 - a. Asked for volunteers – Welcome Table, Bartending
3. Michael Riscia nights - BS
 - a. March 15 & 16 – How to Approach Studying (Strategies) and How to Tackle Testing
 - b. \$15 per night
 - c. Pitt in the morning one day?
4. ARE Review Sessions
 - a. RB – Black Spectacle video
 - b. EP – Called Black Spectacle rep; ARE 5.0; (3) services: Video tutorials-\$65/m, Online practice exams-\$85/m, Digital Flashcards-\$99/m (each adds onto previous); need at least (10) people for those prices, pay (3) months up front at any level
 - c. JA – Brightwood; test prep questions portal at state level, not set up yet
 - d. BS – to send out survey
 - e. Group – what want from YAF ARE sessions? Format to chat about review materials; tips & tricks for website (Black Spectacle); Intro videos for units (Black Spectacle); Professional comes in to talk & drinks
 - f. BS – Maybe revamp existing slides from previous year(s), AIA has 5.0 practice book
 - g. NG – Date/time to start YAF ARE sessions? Most start fall/winter for studying over winter season
5. Building Tours
 - a. Barbour Library – March 7
 - b. Marc Mondor & Evolve – April? JA to talk to MM
6. AIAS Pitt – Fundraiser for Print Lab
 - a. Panera in Oakland - 4-8 Feb 21
 - b. Chipotle on Forbes – 4-8 Sun March 11
7. Happy Hours
 - a. MB – qK Architecture will host Thurs April 15 5:30 pm – max 15 people
8. Professional Events
 - a. JQ (not present) – working on talk and firm visit with Landscape Architect
 - b. BS – finding person/panel for how to present self – portfolio, resume, business cards, interview help
 - c. Carpenter Training Center classes – March 6 – Metal Studs
 - d. MBA – March 14 – Happy Hour at Olive & Twist
 - e. Build Pittsburgh – Thurs April 12 – all day – CEUs; NG asked for volunteers; BS, TO, WH to work on YAF & Emerging Professionals Table – submit something for display

- f. Storytelling – April 4, Lora Nettleton from Thoughtful Balance is guest, theme: April Fools, IKM & John to host?
- g. JW - Studio class critiques for CMU/Pitt? After Spring Break, for Final Presentations, need dates from colleges
- h. JW – Casey Droege photo fair, April 28, Ace Hotel, different speakers
9. Topic Discussion: What's Up PGH? Architectural and other happenings in Town
 - a. PGH developing like crazy; Amazon bid-hope and anxiety; livability & equitability
 - b. Retreat for directors; promote change but not let change get out of control
 - c. YASK competition – gentrification?
 - d. BIG Master Plan? Not really going forward; Penguins own land-renewed with city for 10 yrs(?)
 - e. Big developers and owners together, then architects come in at the end of production yet are the first to meet and explain to community; big developments based on money and architects make the best out of the already decided on ideas/designs; developers and owners need to have more open minds
 - f. Can the city force developers to make big developments nicer for community/nicer architecture? Somewhat already happening – trail systems at rivers
 - g. Property values from big development goes up and trickles out to surrounding area
 - h. New developments come in and displace existing community; could they infill instead? Braddock area
 - i. What strategies to push to front at city level? Architects can be removed from talks with investors and developers
 - j. East Liberty changes happening; walkability; change but keep the history (historical renovations, keep historical façade while change interior)
 - k. Anxiety – rent going up, potholes (freeze/thaw cycle); finding job outside PGH to avoid construction and road work
 - l. Where could Amazon come in? Amano-Hazelwood Green, by airport, ?
 - m. 'Empire' – new apartment housing at Center and Craig; out of zoning and scale; offering hard hat tours and pizza
 - n. Need more affordable housing in Oakland
 - o. 'Baum HAUS' – Apartment sharing idea – network of buildings across states, month to month rent, rent room in apt bldg then use amenities at other facilities
10. Topic Discussion for next month: Advocacy
 - a. JA – to talk to Marc Mondor
11. Date for next meeting: March 27
12. Final Thoughts
 - a. EP – Share meeting notes, upcoming events, review of meeting ins own words, etc. with firms and bring friends to meetings
13. Take photo of group
14. Meeting adjourned; people mingled

LINKS:

Columns Home Page:

<http://aiapgh.org/columns-home/>

AIA Events Calendar:

<http://aiapgh.org/events/>

Green Building Alliance

<https://www.go-gba.org/>

Master Building Association

<http://www.mbawpa.org/>

" We tend to forget there's more to design than designing.."

JUSTIN AHRENS

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