

FOR YEAR OF _____

HELD AT Columbus ON September 30, 2016

SPECIAL MEETING
Of the
Ohio Architects Board
September 30, 2016
Riffe Center, Columbus, Ohio

Present:

Ohio Architects Board

John Rademacher, AIA
Monica Green, FAIA
Douglas Steidl, FAIA
Christopher Meyers, AIA
Amy Kobe, Hon AIA

Board of Building Standards:

Gerald Holland, AIA
David Collins, AIA
Jeff Samuelson, AIA
Regina Hanshaw
Stephen Regoli

Ohio Department of Commerce:

Michael Guastella

NCARB:

Harry Falconer, AIA
Kathy Hillegas, CAE
Stephen Sharp, AIA

AIA Ohio:

James Sarks, AIA

The Ohio Architects Board met with representatives of the Ohio Board of Building Standards to discuss the experience requirements for licensure as an Architect and the anticipated shortage of plans examiners who are licensed Architects.

The Board of Building Standards, in a letter dated June 6, 2016 asked the Ohio Architects Board to amend its rules to recognize experience as a plans examiner in a certified building department as qualifying experience for Architect registration in the state of Ohio. The Architects Board responded, in a letter dated June 22, that it supports the NCARB standards

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for experience under the Architectural Experience Program and that *some* experience can potentially be earned in a building department.

David Collins outlined some of the background. The issue was raised by the Ohio Building Officials Association. Mr. Samuelson and Mr. Collins both serve on the Certification/Education Committee of

that organization. OBOA has requested that the Board of Building Standards create a rule to allow further fractionation of plan review based on scope.

Recruitment of qualified personnel is an issue for building officials. Mandatory training is now required and is funded through a 3% fee surcharge.

OBOA wants more options in hiring plans examiners. Some 2,000 individuals now holder 4,000 certifications. They can't find qualified plans examiners, especially electrical.

Building officials seek relief via a lessening of the qualifications. The only relief could be via segmented plans reviews: separate reviews for electric, plumbing, etc.

The Board of Building Standards only recently began to accept AIA HSW credits towards fulfillment of their requirements.

A petition was received from OBOA which requested fractionalized certification. Three of the five scopes of project review (plumbing, electrical and mechanical) are currently fractionalized. Some people have trouble passing their exams, especially electric.

With the changes that are proposed, a graduate architect could be a Master Plans Examiner. This would allow unregistered persons to be Master Plans Examiners. The City of Columbus would like to be able to use trainees as plans examiners.

The Engineers Board currently allows experience credit for trainees.

The training program requires a minimum of two year's licensure. A trainee is allowed to be in that status for a maximum of four years.

The supervisors of trainees must be licensed.

Mr. Falconer explained that the Architectural Experience Program requires that a minimum of 1,860 hours take place in Setting A (an architecture firm).

Mr. Samuelson stated the current requirements are similar to a conquering a gauntlet and that plans examiners do obtain full experience.

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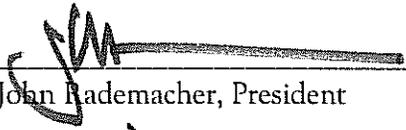
Mr. Falconer asked what assurances are in place to insure that a plans examiner trainee who is hired by a building department receives the full experience?

A document could be developed to communicate to building officials how they can hire an architect trainee.

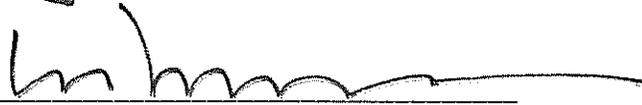
Plans examiners can train in the following areas: construction, code analysis, product materials, finishes and systems, review of shop drawings and systems, field requirements, third party inspections, test results, etc.

The NCARB standards can be used to help building departments solve their recruitment problems.

Upon licensure, the individual must be ready and qualified to practice architecture independently.



John Rademacher, President



Christopher Meyers, Secretary