
Maryland Board of Architects **Business Meeting Minutes**

DATE: August 27, 2025

TIME: 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 100 S. Charles Street
3rd Floor Conference Room
Tower 1, Baltimore, MD 21201

Video Teleconferencing via: <https://meet.google.com/tbt-uxif-gth>
Phone Number: (US) +1 567-250-3071 PIN: 211 193 419#

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair, RA
Paul Edmeades, RA
Kuo Pao Lian, RA
Douglas Polt, RA
Kevin Sneed, RA
Casey Dawkins, PhD
Gretel Lott, CID

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, Executive Director
Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director
Matthew Venuti, Board Counsel
Noraida Lozano, Board Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: John Corkill

Call to Order

Ms. Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair, called the Business Meeting of the Maryland Board of Architects to order at 11:05 a.m., in a hybrid attendance of three (3) in-person attendees and four (4) virtual attendees via <https://meet.google.com/tbt-uxif-gth>, Phone Number: (US) +1 567-250-3071 PIN: 211 193 419#.

Approval of Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on June 25, 2025. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Ms. Lott, and unanimously carried by the Board to

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approve the minutes without corrections.

Ms. Shonaiya introduced the recently appointed member of the Board, Mr. Kuo Pao Lian. Ms. Shonaiya gave a brief overview of the Board proceedings for Mr. Lian's reference.

Complaint Committee Report

Mr. Dawkins presented the following report on behalf of the Complaint Committee:

03-AR-25 - Waiting for the OAH hearing result

05-AR-25 - Recommended closure

11-AR-25 – Pre-charge

12-AR-25 - Sent response to complainant

13-AR-25 - Under review

14-AR-25 - Recommended closure

01-AR-26 - Waiting for a response from the complainant

Conduct Question Review - the licensee was approved for renewal.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Sneed, seconded by Mr. Polt, and carried by the Board to accept the Complaint Committee Report.

Review of Applications

Applications for Architectural Registration Exam (A. R. E.)

Mr. Edmeades presented the report for the Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.) and reciprocity applications.

There were **sixteen (16)** A.R.E. applications administratively approved:

ALFORD, Adam

AYDENIZ, Muhy Muhittin

DINAN, Katelyn Marie

FANTASIA, Mia

OLUYEMI, Joseph

NGANGMENI, Theophile

PILLAI, Meenu

RAMIREZ-GRANADOS, Leticia

SCHOCH, Rylie

SHAH, Zain

SMITH, Andrea

STELLWAGAON, Faith

UMANZOR, Cindy

WEAVER, Erik Michael

WEBER, Anna

ZHAO, Ziyi

There were **seven (7)** ARE applications approved by the Board:

COLMENARES, Laura Ydrobo

FISHER, Dagmar

MONTERROSO, Priscilla

PHILLIPS, Christopher

JARAZI, Antea
KILGORE, Katherine

WHITING, Rachael

There was **one (1)** application approved for reciprocity.

RYAN, Mark

Ms. Shonaiya agreed with Mr. Edmeades' comments that the Board cannot consider more than 40 hours per week experience for the candidate (initial HB). Per Maryland regulations, only 40 hours of work weekly is acceptable. Ms. Shonaiya also noted that the ERC (Experience Record Certification) form submitted by candidate (initials **MN**) was incomplete. Mr. Thomas acknowledged and agreed to inform both applicants.

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Sneed, seconded by Mr. Edmeades, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve **twenty-three (23)** A.R.E. applications and **one (1)** reciprocity with **two (2)** pending A.R.E. applications, candidate (initials **HB**) due to insufficient work experience and candidate (initials **MN**) due to an incomplete ERC form.

Old Business

Committee Reports

Pathways to Licensure Forum

Mr. Dawkins reported that the committee met with the representatives of Montgomery College the week before the August 27th Board meeting. The Committee is planning to hold the next Licensure Forum on October 21, 2025, from 6 pm to 8 pm at Montgomery College, Rockville campus.

Outreach Opportunity

Ms. Shonaiya mentioned to Mr. Lian that the Board's committee for Outreach Opportunity collaborates with AIA Maryland in recognizing newly licensed architects in the state. The next event is planned for April of next year. The outreach committee will be in contact with AIA Maryland and keep the Board updated.

New Business

Ms. Shonaiya took the opportunity to welcome Mr. Kuo Pao Lian as the newly appointed member who completed the required 5 architect members for the Board.

Correspondence

Mr. Thomas presented correspondence from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). The email referenced the recent Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) passed by NCARB during the Annual Business Meeting held in June 2025. The Council request confirmation that Maryland would ratify this MRA. Motion IV was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Ms. Lott, and

unanimously carried by the Board to approve and accept the certificate holders through NCARB’s new Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with South Africa and the updated MRA with Canada.

Executive Director’s Report - (reported earlier in the meeting which involved the new board meeting procedure and the introduction of the new member)

Board Counsel’s Report

Mr. Venuti reported that the Legislative Task Force met on August 12, 2025, to continue reviewing the Board’s regulations. The committee’s next meeting will be held on September 15, to finalize the proposed amendments to the regulations. He looks forward to having it reviewed by the Board at the September meeting and voted upon in October this year.

He is placing the License Verification Task Force on hold, since it is a nationwide issue and is already handled by NCARB and other national design councils

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (V) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Sneed, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

The next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

_____ With Corrections X Without Corrections

 (Signature on File) 09/24/2025

Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair

Date