



AIA Northern Indiana Section February 2016 Meeting

President Gary Hall opened the board meeting at approximately 8:05 am on February 9, 2016 at Creative Design Solutions, located downtown South Bend, IN.

Those present included: Gary Hal (AIA NIS President), Tyler Kelsey (AIA NIS Vice President), Josh Higginbotham (AIA NIS Secretary/Treasurer), Edward Kowalczyk (AIA NIS Past President), Jason Shelley (AIA Indiana Executive Director) & Chad Root (Spearhead & AIA NIS Past Treasurer).

The following Items were discussed:

Treasurer Report – Josh Higginbotham

- a. The checking account balance is \$6,832.26. It appears that all the checks have cleared from the AIA Christmas/Awards Gathering. We are only missing one entry fee. The savings account balance of \$500.25 has not had any activity. In addition, our CD hasn't had any activity.
- b. We will need to pay 2015 taxes. Future years will be done at by State.

AIA Indiana Reports – Jason Shelley

1. Merger Update

- a. The merger is now complete.
- b. AIA Indiana has set up accounts at Old National Bank; one is located in South Bend/Mishawaka for the AIA NIS use. Checks are not available yet but are forthcoming. We will not transfer the Sections money until such time.
- c. Our proposed budget was reviewed and approved with the note that we will have approximately \$191 more in due's revenue than projected.

2. Legislative Update

- a. We are at the halfway point of the Indiana General Assembly session. The following are bills that we are following:
 - i. SB324 – Construction Permits and Regulations. This bill includes four parts:
 1. Streamlining the State Submittal Process – As proposed, you would submit to the DHS and ISDH through one process.
 2. Allowing local plan review providing the local plan review is approved by the State Building Commission.
 3. Streamlining the process for converting historic downtown buildings to new uses.
 4. Contains language allowing the chair of the State Building Commission to issue a written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law on Class 2 Structures if the building commissioner is absent.
 - ii. HB 1215 – State and Local Matters – contains language that improves and



- clarifies the State's Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation Grant Program.
- iii. HB 1321 – Sales Tax on Professional Services, including Architectural Services. (Medical and Legal professional services are excluded. This bill was quickly withdrawn. AIA Indiana does not support this proposal. If it were to be proposed again, as it was last session, Hoosier architecture firms would be in an immediate disadvantage to out of state firms to do not carry this burden. Please contact your legislators and urge them to oppose any measure that would extend the sales tax to services.
 - iv. SB 147 – School Emergency Response Systems – The intent is to implement a system that uses technology and best practices to respond to an active shooter incident.

House of Representatives Phone - 800/382-9842

State Senate Phone - 800/382-9467

[Email/Find Your Legislators](#)

3. State Website:
 - a. National and the State of Indiana plans to start a pilot program where we have one unified site for all AIA Chapters/Sections. This will go nationwide following the pilot program. We will learn more as this develops but for now we should keep and maintain our local website.
4. AIA Indiana January Board Meeting Review
 - a. The meeting was reviewed. The big discussion item was AIA Indiana's Executive Board has requested a proposal from a construction law firm to write a white-paper on who can legally offer architectural services in the State of Indiana. It is our understanding that only organizations that have 50% ownership by an Indiana Licensed Architect can offer and advertise services for Architecture. If this is the case, than the next step after confirmation is seeking legislation for enforcement of this requirement. "We need some teeth" to pursue those that are offering services that are not in compliance with the law.

AIA Northern Section Business

Grassroots:

Josh Higginbotham was previously approved to attend Grassroots as the Northern Indiana Section Representation. AIA Indiana was able to procure free registration for the event for Josh. Northern will cover hotel, travel and food costs with a NTE amount of \$800.

Golf Outing:

Ed Kowalczyk is heading this committee. Costs were reviewed for venues as well as times. A motion by Ed was made to the venue, time and number of holes. It was seconded by Tyler Kelsey and unanimously voted for. This year's Golf Outing will be at Knollwood Country Club in Granger. The kick-off time will be at 1:00 PM and we are only playing nine holes in lieu of 18. Additional details will follow at the March meeting. A photographer is desired for the event. Gary Hall stated he had a professional photographer in mind that should be inexpensive.



AIA Northern Indiana

State Board Retreat:

The State Board Retreat will be on March 18, 2016 in Indianapolis. This year it is a one day event. Gary, Tyler and Josh will attend for NIS.

CEU Spring Session:

Gary Hall shared that he would like to coordinate this event with Notre Dame and take place on Notre Dame's Campus on the same day as one of their lecturer series events. He has contacted Jed Eide from Alliance Architects about this as he teaches the Professional Practice Class. Gary will continue to pursue this and will visit with the Notre Dame Architectural College Office. Our thought is this might turn into a fall event in lieu of a spring event.

Out Reach:

Josh Higginbotham will get a schedule for the monthly Regional Cities Initiative. The intent is to get in front of the leadership to encourage utilizing regional professional talent for these projects. We also want to reach out to our local legislators and invite them to meet with us; possibly attending our monthly meetings.

Spearhead Marketing:

The AIA NIS received a proposal from Spearhead Marketing for continuing to update our website (approximately 1 hour per month) and as needed for major events (3 hours estimated per event). They proposed a rate that was about a 25% savings from there norm and they have for many years been a big supporter of the NIS. A motion was made by Tyler Kelsey to approve a not-to-exceed maximum of \$1,440 and this would be allocated through our marketing budget. This was seconded by Ed Kowalczyk. It passed unanimously with the stipulation that monthly time logs shall be submitted.

New Business:

Next Board Meeting:

With the thought of having a central location for meeting with potential legislators, the board made a decision to meet at Creative Design Solutions due to the fact they are directly across the street from the St Joseph County – County/City Building. JPR will provide lunch. The meeting will be at noon. Future Board Meetings will occur on the second Tuesday of the Month at a place and time to be determined.

Griffith Masonry Day

Coming up on March 22, 2016. Ed Kowalczyk said he was attending and would car pool with anyone else considering attending.

Save the Date

May 12, 2016's State AIA Board Meeting will be at the Speedway. This is a practice day for the Gran Prix and they will run rain or shine.

The meeting concluded at 10:00 a.m. (EST).

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Hall, AIA
President, AIA NIS

Gary Hall AIA, President
Tyler Kelsey AIA, Vice President
Josh Higginbotham AIA, Secretary / Treasurer
Edward Kowalczyk, Past President