



Mission: AIA Connecticut is the voice of the architectural profession, empowering its members to lead in service to society.

Vision: The built environment will be more humane, beautiful, and resilient.

COTE Meeting Notes

May 5, 2020

4:00pm

COTE Committee Members:

Co-Chair: Randy Anway, AIA
Co-Chair: Paul Reslink, AIA

Sheri Dieso, AIA
David Dickson, Assoc. AIA
George Fellner, AIA
John Asa Rountree IV, AIA
Karl Hennig, Assoc. AIA
Kathy Dorgan, FAIA
Laura Boyer, AIA
Linda Reeder, FAIA
Melissa Kops, AIA
Paolo Campos, AIA
Philippe Campus, AIA
Ross Spiegel, FAIA
Tanya Cutolo, AIA
Timothy Applebee, AIA
Tracey Arne Brown, AIA
Wayne Cobleigh

George McGoldrick, AIA CT President
Gina Calabro, Executive Director
Holly Leonard, Deputy Director
Ashley Ellman-Brown, Program Manager
Carolyn Petrowski, Program Coordinator

Attendees: Paul Reslink, Randy Anway, Philippe Campus, Ross Spiegel, Tanya Cutolo, Melissa Kops, Ashley Ellman-Brown, Holly Leonard, Gina Calabro

Materials Matter Review (April 8th)

- Materials Matter attracted over 55 attendees on April 8th, 2020; very successful event overall. Lots of questions and interaction with the attendees.
- It was a refreshing perspective that went beyond the unconventional perspectives and looking into materials because they are all very important issues and usually swept under the rug.

Passive House Series (May 14th, June 3rd, June 18th)

- Philippe Campus. AIA of Connecticut Passive House is introducing how to create an efficient building envelope via a three-part series in May and June. This presentation covers Walls, Floors, Windows, Doors, Insulation and Sealing of high-performance buildings.
- All presentations are free to AIA Members, 1 HSW, and begin at 10:00am on the respective dates.
- Eversource Energy will be sharing insight into how their programs can benefit Passivehouses. They are sponsoring this series.
- This was intended to be a hands-on approach, not dwelling on theory (Originally program was postponed due to COVID). There will be a little bit of building science to make phenomena like vapor migration understandable, but overall the presentation will extend beyond that. The idea is to look at implementing design approaches in the field, like taking a page out of the Passivehouse book, and learning how different construction methods optimize performance level.

Multi-Family Housing in New Haven Program (TBD)

- David Dickson, AIA originally brought up Multifamily Housing in East Rock, New Haven that are essentially "energy hogs" and the owners don't have the funds to retrofit them or upkeep them; this was back at our meeting in February. The homes are 100 or so years old, good condition, but just left to rot. They need insulation, proper windows, etc. Originally, we were going to do a full-day program on this topic, but with the situation at hand we are going to do a webinar. We need a program description, speaker and sponsor to put this program together.
- CT Green Bank is interested in being a part of this program to talk about their multi-family housing dilutions with energy and solar.
- Paul will reach out to David Dickson to get more information. He would also like to consider having Habitat for Humanity to play a role in this, whether it's the Hartford or Fairfield location. Hartford tends to be more active.
- Melissa suggested that CTGBC and AIA Connecticut could combine forces and do a revenue share on this program. They currently don't have a platform to do their virtual webinars, so if there is some synergy between the two organizations then we could mutually benefit.
- Paul suggested getting the town involved, if they have the time for it.

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- These houses are used as apartments for multiple families, and are treated as commercial properties in code.
- How can we retrofit these buildings to be more energy efficient? Arcadia did a whole study, not for profit, on retrofitting in Weatherizing, existing buildings. That could be an interesting program. Its specifically geared towards a specific three family house and towards existing building stock in Connecticut. Melissa will send Ashley a contact at Arcadia.
- We might be able to consider other towns, like Bridgeport, not just those houses in New Haven.
- There are programs out there that fund retrofitting existing residences to become energy-efficient, so the program could tailor around that. Eversource might be a possible sponsor due to their relevant programs. This program could specific all the different energize programs in Connecticut, as well as utility programs that are already in place to help people do this particular work.

Possible Webinars/Programs by COTE

- Ashley will be speaking with Jacob and Ace from New Frameworks in Vermont, who presenting Carbon Drawdown at CACX 2019. Hopefully they will be interested in putting together another presentation.
- Retrofitting Multifamily housing in New haven (East Rock). See notes above. Paul will contact David Dickson about this program.
- There is a movement to have accessory dwelling units in people's backyards, and so there is some sort of tiny living amendment to New Haven Zoning Ordinance. There was a survey done several months ago to see what people thought about a tiny living arrangement, whether it would be useful or acceptable in New Haven. Melissa has a contact she can talk to you about a possible program if it is of any interest to COTE.

Basecamp Introduction

- By the end of this week all COTE committee members will be sent an invitation to join Basecamp. This is a private project management tool that we invite our committee members to use. For each committee they will have a "basecamp" where they manage tasks, review documents (such as agendas and notes), start discussions and more.
- ALL communication for COTE will be done through Basecamp. No more filling up your inbox with emails and reminders. Meetings and all relative information, documents, communication will be solely through this platform.
- Ashley will be sending out an invitation email to join Basecamp, create a username and password, and include some tips and tricks on how to navigate and successfully use this program.

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 4:00pm.

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