

AIA MIDDLE PA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Message from the President

January 13, 2016

Member Service Plan

As part of the AIA's Repositioning efforts begun in 2013, the national Member Service Task Force identified basic services for each component to deliver. This was an attempt to address a membership survey that revealed confusion about how members could access the things they need from the AIA.

Ultimately, the Task Force and AIA determined it was at the component level that members were being un- or under-served. And as a result AIA National is requiring that each component (chapter) submit an affidavit that they will meet the minimum level of Core Member Services.

The Core Member Services fall into the following categories:

- Member Communications
- Education
- Advocacy
- Elevate Public Awareness
- Governance
- Finances & General Operations

I won't bore you with all the activities and services that fall under these categories but would be happy to share all the information I have with anyone that would like to review it in detail.

The reason I'm telling you all this is because there is a potential impact on the chapter. Brian Endler and I attended a 2-day work session in October with representatives from all PA Chapters including AIA PA. We were tasked in developing a plan to determine how each chapter will meet its obligations, and how the new revenue stream from AIA National will be distributed. The good news is we'll probably see more revenue than from the old AIA Document sale by zip-code method. The bad news is it's blatantly obvious that AIA Middle PA, or any other unstaffed chapter can possibly meet the minimum level of services to which we are now obligated.

For those few of us that are actively involved with the chapter governance, we know well how difficult it is to plan and execute all the aspects of chapter activity that we understood to be important to our membership and satisfied our charter, no matter what AIA National was doing. Brian and I were actually glad to know from the work session that even the staffed chapters and larger unstaffed chapters aren't perfect either and have to step up their game to meet this onus.

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AIA MIDDLE CHAPTER ADDRESS

If you are using the U. S. Postal Service to Contact the AIA Middle PA Chapter, please use the following:

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NEXT MID POINTS

Deadline for articles and information for the next newsletter is:

March 11, 2016

Please contact Dee Columbus,
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STAY CONNECTED

Please send new member information and any changes and/or additions in your contact information including email addresses to:

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Please be sure to visit the AIA Middle PA Chapter website to view the following:

- Chapter Officers
- Calendars
- Newsletter Archive
- Executive Committee Minutes
- Membership Information
- AIA Links
- Sponsorship & Advertising
- Mission Statement
- Project Photos

President's Message *(Continued from Page 1)*

The choices for the unstaffed chapters seem to come down to packing it in and folding into a staffed chapter, or finding a means to buy some of the services we can't provide. The former is not an option for me, or for those who worked so hard to establish our autonomy. And it would come at a high cost in dues and zero representation in identity or business of that chapter. The latter can come in the form of paying AIA PA to provide some of the basic General Operations activities that we just can't. And that is currently our focus.

So that's where we are in a nutshell. Let me leave you with one request. **DON'T PANIC!** And please don't let your anger with this underfunded mandate shake your relationship with our noble professional organization. I admit it's been difficult writing this column without expressing my anger with or damning the bureaucracy that got us here. 2016 will be a year to figure it out, understand the potential cost implications, and evaluate how well we can deal with this. And that will be true for many, many chapters and components in PA and throughout the country. For my part I will act in the most responsible way to maintain our due's structure and autonomy, and hopefully position the chapter to be an example of excellence in service to the membership. At the same time I will actively lobby AIA National to convey any negative impact this could have on our chapter and membership. Who knows, this grand experiment could fizzle out in a year's time.

In the meantime let's try to maintain and build a strong chapter for ourselves, and enjoy a prosperous 2016 for our members and profession.

david b. albright, aia, architect

AIA Associates Corner — 2016 Links

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GOOD OF THE ORDER

Best of the New Year to all as we head in to 2016! As the beginning of this year opens up, an opportunity for architects to become involved is presented by AIA PA's coordinated "Architects Action Day" in Harrisburg. This is your opportunity to advocate for our Profession to our elected officials and become a louder voice in the construction industry. The date of this event is March 23, 2016. The AIA PA website has registration information regarding this. In the past, I have attended this type of event on behalf of the Middle Chapter members and have found it to be well-organized, educational and a worthwhile endeavor for our profession. Colleagues, if you do not become involved for your Profession, trust me, nobody else will stand up for you.

Until next time,

Tom



AIA Pennsylvania

AIA Pennsylvania Announces 2016 Board Leadership

AIA Pennsylvania is proud to announce its 2016 Leadership for the Board of Directors, who represent the Executive Committee. We are looking forward to another creative and productive year ahead! AIA Pennsylvania will announce the full board roster in the near future.



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PSU AIAS 2016 News Update

The Pennsylvania State University AIAS Chapter is keeping very busy this semester and is being lead in the endeavors by the following officers:



David Ackerman
President



Mark McWilliams
Vide President




Stephanie Rakiec
Secretary



Haley DeNardo
Treasurer

During the Spring semester out chapter will be doing several activities including a snow sculpture charette and hosting past AIAS National Vice President Obi Okolo for his talk on people and architecture. We will also be attending the AIAS Quad conference hosted by Carnegie Mellon University later in March. And we will wrap up the semester by holding our chapter elections to decide on next years leadership.

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