



Northeast Region Construction Specifications Institute BOARD REPORT

DATE: May 29, 2019
TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors
FROM: Heath Waldorf, Region Director

SUBJECT: Report of New Jersey Chapter

A. Report Summary

1. The New Jersey Chapter continues to march forward with an incremental increase in membership, continued improvement in our financial health, and a high-spirited and enthusiastic Board. For the coming year, Joe Lobdell takes over as President from Mike Wolz who served for two 2 year terms. Our redesigned and independently managed website has been a welcome update for our membership because it is updated regularly with chapter activity.

B. The Report

1. Summary of Chapter Activities for FY19:
 - a. July 2018 – Summer Hiatus
 - b. August 2018 – Summer Hiatus
 - c. September 2018
 - 1.) Board Meeting
 - 2.) Chapter Event: 9/22/18 – Private Guided Hardhat Tour of Ellis Island
“Enjoy the weather, learn about the restoration of the Ellis Island Hospital Building and then enjoy some social time as a chapter back on shore nearby in Jersey City.”
Total attendees: 10
 - d. October 2018
 - 1.) Board Meeting
 - 2.) Chapter Event: 10/18/18 – Ralston Cider Mill Tour
“It's deep into fall. Leaves are turning. Apples are picked. And it's time to see what we can do with them all. The Ralston Cider Mill is the last vestige of the once thriving apple cider / distillery industry in New Jersey. The mill and internal equipment are original and have been restored to demonstrate pressing apples and making cider.”
Total attendees: 18
 - e. November 2018
 - 1.) Board meeting only.
 - f. December 2018
 - 1.) Board Holiday Dinner
 - g. January 2019

1.) Board meeting only.

h. February 2019

1.) Board Meeting

2.) Chapter Event: 2/21/19 – A Networking & Beer Tasting Event
Roofing & Waterproofing Issues – Sponsored by Tremco Roofing, Held at the
Traprock Brewery & Restaurant.
Total attendees: 22

i. March 2019

1.) Board Meeting

2.) Chapter Event: 3/20/19 – Audio Video Systems Education at Gensler's Morristown
NJ Office, Sponsored by IMS Technology Services
Total attendees: 19

j. April 2019

1.) Board Meeting Only.

k. May 2019

1.) Board Meeting

2.) CSI at AIA – The Chapter exhibited at the Architects League trade show to rustle up
new members and spread the word about CSI on a local level.

3.) Chapter Event in concert with AIA Central NJ: "Let us show you how far wood and
lighting have come."

Sponsored by Rulon, Hosted by Brazill Brothers, this event. **This event was
cancelled last minute due to poor registration. Sponsor elected to postpone.**

2. Planned Programs for Summer:

a. June 2019 – Jackals Minor League Baseball Game
Co-run with a local AIA Chapter. 3 Sponsors. 50-60 attendees.

b. July 2019 – BOARD PLANNING MEETINGS

c. August 2019

3. Planned Programs for FY20:

a. Our general plan for FY20 is to have between 6-10 events total, with a mix again of
tours, pure social events, and learning experiences. Strategically, we are looking to
make things more "standard" and recurring (but not repetitive), in the hope that
consistency will bring out membership. Hosting events annually at a particular venue,
making our June Baseball event (a real winner) as an annual event rather than just
every few years.

Programs in the mix for consideration include:

Something based on the new Newark Airport Terminal One

Something 3D printing related

Panel discussion on valued job skills (for emerging professionals)

Centria - High Performance wall Systems

Smart Vents – Foundation Flood Vents

Architectural Photography Event

Steelcase - Furniture show room tour

Bowling or Axe Throwing Social Event

4. Problem areas:

Attendance & participation still wanes from general membership. We cannot seem to get people to turn out, participate, and respond in real numbers to our communications and overtures. We also have issues turning ideas into realities, with seemingly no interest in membership to participate in planning and implementing anything. As a Board, it is frustrating to put in the work time and time again without seeing engagement pick up.

5. Success stories:

Membership (which fluctuates a bit month to month) has seen an incremental overall increase on the chapter level despite the overall declines shown nationally. A relative positive.

Board meetings are generally well attended with typically a minimum of 5 or 6 board members present such that decisions can be made and chapter business / planning can be done without delays.

Our best event was our February event. Based on the Dynamic Chapter Program, we applied more creative marketing and actually raised our normal pricing to attend. The event was 3 spots shy of selling out, even with the new pricing.

Our new website has been gaining traction based on engagement numbers. Instead of putting all of our event info into e-mail blasts, we send the blast with a link back to the appropriate info on our website to drive traffic. Our linkedin group has increased from 7 to 17 members... just another place to put announcements out where membership goes to read/research.

C. Chapter Leadership Roster

1. Chapter Officers for FY20

- a. President: Joe Lobdell, NK Architects,
- b. Vice President: Peter Cantwell, CTS Architects
- c. Secretary: John DiGirolomo, Mott MacDonald
- d. Treasurer: Diana Rattazzi, Benjamin Moore
- e. Directors: James Greener, CTS Architects

2. Chapter Committee Chairs for FY20 – **To Be Resolved This Summer**

Respectfully submitted;

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END OF REPORT

CC: Region Secretary