

**BOARD REPORT**  
**Northeast Region Board Meeting**  
**June 17, 2021**



**DATE:** June 14, 2021  
**TO:** Northeast Region Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Bob McEachern, Director, Boston Chapter

**SUBJECT:** Report of Boston Chapter

**A. Report Summary**

1. The Boston chapter is an active chapter with regular monthly meetings and strong meeting attendance. Boston also has regular committee meetings and an active membership.

**B. The Report**

1. Summary of activities since last report: The Boston Chapter has continued with the monthly technical meetings on a virtual platform. We have also continued with other chapter norms such as committee meetings, virtual tabletops and awards banquets. All have been virtual and most were less effective than in-person meetings.
  - a. Our recent virtual programs include:
    - 1.) March Glass Guardrail Failures -David Schnerch and Emma Cardini
    - 2.) April Speedcore game changer – high rise construction Ron Klemencic
    - 3.) May- Energy Upgrades for historical buildings by Susan Knack Brown
  - b. All of our meetings have between 50-90 sign ups and about 30-50+ attendees. All of our presentations seem to be well received. Many presentations have attendees from out of our chapter area including several from overseas.
2. Status of current programs:
  - a. Our calendar for 2021-2022 is full and will be published shortly.
3. Problem areas: The largest problems are not exclusive to Boston, I am sure. We face eroding membership and a difficulty connecting with members during the pandemic.
4. Success stories: We are headed back to in person meetings in September! Our membership voted for this but may need to require vaccinations of all attendees with masking optional, OR require masking and distancing. This has yet to be finalized but it looks to be headed this way. Boston made a donation to the local food banks for the second year in a row. This was in part with our excess dues that was not spent on monthly meetings. We were able to offer vendors virtual tabletops, virtual happy hours and a virtual Holiday party. Not the same but all were well received knowing it was all we had to work with. We continue to have active volunteers but can always use more. Our board meetings are always well attended and we have had a quorum at every meeting.
5. Schedule of activities prior to next Board Meeting: Our schedule of meetings is not published yet. We will have two planning meetings over the summer, one hybrid and one virtual. We have an awards banquet scheduled for this September – outside. We hope to have hybrid meetings next year. We learned the virtual platforms have allowed many members to attend that otherwise were not able to.

6. Changes in Chapter Membership since last report: June 14, 2021 110 members || March 14, 2021 we had 115 members we lost 5 members total in this time period

**C. Director's Liaison Activities**

1. I am on the outreach committee, however, I do not have any major accomplishments for the year

**D. Best Practices to share with the Region**

1. The Boston chapter is trying to focus on member retention as well as member recruitment. Viewing historicals, we have many members that only stay with us for 1 or 2 year's. We are putting together a plan to assign new member responsibility to existing longer term members as well as an "orientation program." This never got off the ground with the pandemic but we think a formal program can prevent some of the member turnover.

**Respectfully submitted;**

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**END OF REPORT**

Cc: Region Secretary