



Northeast Region Construction Specifications Institute BOARD REPORT

DATE: April 29, 2022
TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors
FROM: Steve VanDyke

SUBJECT: Report of Worcester County Chapter

A. Report Summary

1. Our Board of Directors remains at 8 members, with recent members agreeing to run for another term in this year's election. Additionally, new members have reluctantly stepped up into leadership roles (VP) with the encouragement and support of the Board. We're excited to increase the exposure of Board experiences to new folks, hopefully reducing the recycling of leaders.
2. Membership at the time of writing is 34, down two members from October, but very consistent with where Worcester has been for the last few years. We've picked up 1 new member in 2022 so far.
3. Worcester feels that the border between the Worcester and Boston Chapter was amicably negotiated with Boston's leadership and appreciates that. When the realignment assigns chapters to unaffiliated members, Worcester will gain 6 members, 1 from Central Mass and 5 from Western Mass. The Chapter will need to do a proactive job engaging these members if we are to retain them.

B. The Report

1. Summary of activities since last report:
 - In January, our program was cancelled at the last minute because the presenter's company mandated a travel ban due to Covid. We were unable to coordinate a replacement program on such short notice.
 - The February program was the rescheduled January program, on door hardware hosted by Allegion. The program was a presentation, followed by a team-based interactive game where attendees were given a packet of cut sheets and a floor plan, and asked to develop the hardware schedule for certain doors. The presenter then reviewed the teams' selections, offering insight into what the proper choices should be and why.
 - March was a roundtable discussion about the current supply chain disruption, hosted by a panel of architects, contractors, product reps and construction economists. It shined a light on the trend we are all experiencing and what the projected duration for the situation will be. The event was primarily in-person with some presenters attending remotely.
 - In April, we hosted a live-demo program on thin brick at Camosse Masonry, presented by Ken Lambert of IMI. The program outlined 3 different thin brick systems and their

pros/cons. Mock-up walls had been constructed prior to the event, and a union mason was on site to demonstrate the install. The program included pizza and beers and attendees got to try their hand at installing the different systems.

2. Status of current programs:

- The May meeting will be a building tour of the new Polar Park baseball stadium in Worcester. Home of the Woo Sox, Boston's minor league affiliate, the tour will cover design and construction challenges experienced from the Owner's point of view. Building tours are typically a good draw for our Chapter.
- June is our annual Summer Social, which will be a baseball game at Holy Cross College where the Worcester Bravehearts, a College Future's League team plays. This event typically brings out members' families and attendance runs around 75 people.
- July will be the Construction Industries Summer Open, our annual scholarship fundraising event. Money is raised for 2 scholarship categories: A/E/C students and non-A/E/C students. Last year almost 125 golfers participated.

3. Problem areas: Worcester's dues have always been \$50, so the realignment will force our members to pay double. It remains to be seen whether we lose any members because of that.

4. Success stories: Hands-on programs like the masonry and door programs engage members beyond simply listening to a lecture and provide a reason to come out to a meeting rather than attend virtually. Things are going well for the Chapter. We have a full Board, membership is steady, we continue to host live presentations which have been well-attended. Areas which could always use improvement are increasing membership and getting uninvolved members to be more involved.

C. Chapter Leadership Roster

1. Chapter Officers (effective at the time of writing)

- President: Marty Helly
- Vice President: Mike Sheehan
- Secretary: Robert Gutmann
- Treasurer: Mike Lapomardo
- Director: Kendra Likely
- Director: Harry Poirier
- Director: Roger Hoyt
- Director: Peter Caruso
- Immediate Past President: Steve VanDyke

2. Chapter Committee Chairs

- Membership: Harry Poirier
- Programs: Peter Caruso
- Awards: Mike Sheehan
- Newsletter: Robert Guttman

- Certification: Steve VanDyke
- Scholarship: Mike Lapomardo
- Audit: Peter Caruso, Kendra Likely, Steve VanDyke
- Education/Academic: Roger Hoyt

3. Chapter Nominating Committee Appointee: Steve VanDyke

Respectfully submitted;

Steve VanDyke, Immediate Past President, Worcester County Chapter

END OF REPORT

CC: Region Secretary