



Northeast Region Construction Specifications Institute BOARD REPORT

DATE: October 21, 2023
TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors
FROM: Steve VanDyke, Worcester Chapter Director

SUBJECT: Report of the Worcester County Chapter

A. Report Summary

1. The health of the Worcester Chapter is good. Membership has remained steady, our Board remains nearly full and engaged, and our exclusively live-and-in-person programs have been well attended.

B. The Report

1. Summary of activities since last report:
 - a. **March 2023 – Worcester Carbon Neutral by 2030.** The Governor’s “Leading by Example” policy requires State-owned buildings to be carbon neutral by 2050, but the Worcester City Manager plans to beat that goal by 20 years. City officials will outlined tactics to meet that goal. Held in person - 21 attended, plus 2 presenters.
 - b. **April 2023 – Construction Recycling.** Presented by Sika Sarnafil, covering tactics to improve sustainability goals and get LEED points. Held in person - 14 attended.
 - c. **May 2023 – Building Tour.** A walking tour of a the \$300M 5-story Doherty High School designed by members of the Chapter. This was a joint-event with Central Mass AIA (we’ve done this before). A total of 46 attended between the two organizations.
 - d. **June 2023 – the 25th annual Construction Industry Summer Open golf tournament.** Our annual fundraiser event, giving multiple \$1,000 scholarships out each year. This year 127 people golfed and the tournament grossed \$33,550. Over 25 years, we’ve given out \$129,750 to 62 college kids.
 - e. **July 2023 – WooSox Summer Social.** Family-oriented fun at Polar Park in Worcester, watching the farm team for the Bost RedSox play. We had a semi-private section shared with other groups, and with a couple of sponsors, we were able to offer the game and buffet for \$30 adults and \$20 kids. A total of 78 people participated.
 - f. **September 2023 – Architecture of Lincoln Sq.** A walking tour of historic Lincoln Square, co-presented by a docent from Preservation Worcester and the firm revitalizing the Worcester Memorial Auditorium. Held in-person at the Salisbury Mansion, before heading out – a total of 28 attended.
2. Status of current programs:
 - a. **October 2023 - Hands-on masonry** program at Camossee Masonry with Conproco. Participants learn techniques for stone repair, and then get to try their hand on actual materials.

- b. **November 2023 – Lightgauge steel framing.** Classroom presentation on the design of steel studs walls to resist lateral forces. Presented by MarionWare.
 - c. **December 2023 – Audacious Holiday Extravaganza,** featuring a buffet dinner, professional comedian and a Yankee Swap that is sure to leave you with something you never wanted.
 - d. **January 2023 – Wood Framing Challenge.** Architects in the group drew up a wood framed dormer which students at Keefe Vocational Tech will build for us live at the school. Student get introduced to CSI and how to read drawings, while professionals learn how to figure rafter lengths, valleys and how to read a speed square,
 - e. **February 2023 – Mock Bid.** An interactive game “borrowed” from the Portland OR chapter where teams compete to compile a bid amidst ever-changing design addenda and pricing fluctuations from sub-contractors.
3. Problem areas:
- a. None really. We have a strong board of 7 plus our immediate past president, we host in-person programs every month which are well-attended, and membership is holding steady.
 - b. We are having trouble getting Board members to step up into the President’s role. Marty and I have taken turns as President since around 2015...
4. Success stories:
- a. Membership is currently 36. So far for 2023, we’ve picked up 4 new members, but lost a few as well. We’ve been hovering around 35 for a long time.
 - b. Our events are always in-person and are very well attended. For the 4 educational programs listed above, we averaged 27 people – not bad for a chapter with 36 members. More importantly, we see rotating visitors, so it’s never the same faces time after time.
 - c. Our August meeting is a program planning session rather than an educational program, and we routinely invite a few of the more engaged members to come and share feedback and ideas with us. This year, two members (who are not on the Board), pitched ideas and are taking leadership roles in organizing / running the events.
5. Liaison Activities: Certification Committee Chair.

C. Chapter Leadership Roster

1. Chapter Officers:
- a. President: Marty Helly
 - b. Vice President: Peter Caruso
 - c. Treasurer: Mike Lapomardo
 - d. Secretary: Rob Gutmann
 - e. Region Delegate: Steve VanDyke
 - f. Director: Roger Hoyt
 - g. Director: Mick Albro
 - h. Director: Kendra Likely

2. Chapter Committee Chairs: (while committee chairs may take the lead on issues related to that committee title, due to the chapter size the board operates as a committee of the whole on most activities)
 - a. Membership: Harry Poirier
 - b. Education: Roger Hoyt
 - c. Awards: Vacant
 - d. Programs: Peter Caruso
 - e. Certification: Marty Helly

3. Chapter Nominating Committee Appointee: Steve VanDyke

Respectfully submitted;

Steve VanDyke

END OF REPORT

CC: Region Secretary