

BSA COTE meeting  
10/9/01

Present: Stephen Moore, Martine Dion, John Clancy, Nicholas Moons, Charlotte Mathews, Kenneth Fisher, Bob Thomas, Chris Leary, Dan Arons, Jay Jacoby, John Boehs, Dennis Carlberg, Tony Iacovino, Stacey Thomas

Minutes:

Charlotte explained that in this and ensuing meetings, committee members would have the opportunity to practice their client pitches on behalf of green aspects of their projects.

First up was Nicholas Moons. His project involves an addition to an existing dwelling which would encroach on the mandated 100' setback from an intermittent waterway (as per local conservation code - the Riverways Protection Act stipulates a 100' setback from an *annual* waterway), and resultant required green building measures. He noted that mitigation efforts are required where no alternative is available, and must result in no net impact on the riverfront area. The proposed addition (+/- 1000 sq. ft. added to an existing structure of 1000 sq. ft) would have an earth roof (to absorb runoff, put in place a vegetative filter, and increase green space), a storm water cistern (for garden use or release over time) integrated into an Alaskan water system, and would include construction protection.

Follow up questions focused on the local conservation commission's mandate and the issue of whether alternatives to the proposed siting of the addition exist (has the architect created a self imposed hardship?).

The second presentation, by Jay Jacoby, sought to gain client approval for the continued research, in the project's schematic phase, into certain green building initiatives which would be incorporated into the design of a new commercial building being planned for a pharmaceutical company. The presentation emphasized the ability of a progressive, green project to express its owner's forward-thinking image. The presentation, he said, while noting green concerns such as sustainability, energy use, and health and well being, would focus on the reduction of water usage in the new structure. He noted that using standard construction, the building would, at any given time, contain enough water to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool. Therefore, even a 20% reduction in water needs would enable a decrease in the building's structure. The proposal put forward a number of water reduction measures such as the storage and conservation of rainwater, as well as the potential for heating domestic water at rooftop panels incorporated into the mechanical room screening. The presentation asserted that funds for green building measures could be carved from other areas of the project budget if the commitment to these measures began early in the project schedule.

Questions focused on the impact of the increased research into green measures on the architect's fees (none - this would be incorporated into the project budget), and technical details of the proposed green measures.

Several announcements were made:

- Charlotte noted that George W. Bush's response to COTE's letter to the White House regarding its new energy policy is available for review.
- Stephen Moore could use some help with the COTE web site. Subcommittees should provide information regarding their membership and activities for the website.
- Dean Rykerson brought a copy of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's new calendar, which features information regarding planning strategies, water usage, etc.
- Charlotte Mathews met the editor of *Sustainable Design* magazine, Anke van Hal, a Dutch citizen who is in the U.S. for one year to research market-based initiatives for green building (prior to a recent change in the Netherlands to a more conservative government, green building initiatives there were largely government sponsored). Ms van Hal would be a good person to contact for additional perspective on this subject. She can be found by doing a Google search under her name.
- It was announced (by whom?) that the Chesapeake Bay Foundation has produced a video on green building