Teeny Simmons Prof Fraw Group Info only 5 E

From: Teeny Simmons <teeny@lsbae.brcoxmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 12:22 PM
To: 'Ladd Ehlinger'
Cc: 'Paul H Spaht'; 'Robert McKinney'; 'mporche@lsbae.brcoxmail.com'
Subject: RE: Response from ladd

ladd, that is great ... would be interested to know, if you don't mind, how many sign up by deadline...

From: Ladd Ehlinger [mailto:ladd@ehlinger.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Teeny Simmons; Teeny Simmons
Subject: Response

Teeny:

Thank you and the Board for sending out the announcement to all of the firms in the state for their interns. So far, we have received over 85 responses / intern applicants, which is more than four times what we've received in past years.

Thanks again,
Ladd

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners

Prof. Focus Group Info only

To: Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
Subject: RE: Professional Focus Group, Inc. Request // Vouchers for Portions of the ARE

-----Original Message-----
From: Jim Bridges [mailto:jimbridges@email.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 4:38 PM
To: Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
Subject: Re: Professional Focus Group, Inc. Request // Vouchers for Portions of the ARE

Teeny,

Thanks for the notice, that is something I could have used when I was pulling out my hair studying and worrying about where my next meal might come from! Kudos to the Board for administering this venture!

Sincerely,

Jim

J. C. Bridges, Architect
931 Highway 494
Natchitoches, LA 71457
318.352.9375

On 2/29/2012 1:19 PM, Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners wrote:
>
> TO: LA Registered Architects
>
> FROM: LSBAE
>
> RE: Professional Focus Group, Inc. Request //
> Vouchers for Potions of the ARE
>
> DATE: February 29, 2012
>
> Some of your interns may presently be involved in the ARE, you may
> want to let them know that voucher grants to ten (10) Louisiana
> interns to assist in their costs of taking the ARE will be offered by
> the Professional Focus Group, Inc, a corporation organized under IRS
> Code 501c(3). The grants are in the amount of $420.00 each and will
> be awarded to help pay the costs of two segments of the licensing
> exam. The grants will be given to those ten (10) exam candidates
> whose names are drawn out of a hat on March 24, 2012. To be included
> in the drawing, the candidate must apply by email to
> architect@ehlinger.com <mailto:architect@ehlinger.com> before March
> 23, 2012. Each applicant will need to include his or her name, email
> address, home mailing address, and NCARB candidate ID number.

Teeny Simmons Prof Focus Group Info only — Approval | Ladd 2/28/12

From: Teeny Simmons <teeny@lsbae.brcoxmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 1:27 PM
To: ladd@ehlinger.com
Cc: 'Paul H Spaht'; 'Robert McKinney'; 'mporche@lsbae.brcoxmail.com'
Subject: Professional Focus Group, Inc (Ehlinger) // re: vouchers for ARE candidates

Ladd, please review the notice below which the board will email to all instate architects within the next couple of weeks, as requested by you. Please note our next newsletter does not come out until early summer so we will not be able to publish same. Please advise if the information below is worded correctly. Thanks

"Some of your interns may presently be involved in the ARE, and you may want to let them know that voucher grants to ten (10) Louisiana interns to assist in their costs of taking the ARE are being offered by the Professional Focus Group, Inc, a corporation organized under IRS Code 501c(3). The grants are in the amount of $420.00 each and will be awarded to help pay the costs of two segments of the licensing exam. The grants will given to those ten (10) exam candidates whose names are drawn out of a hat on March 24, 2012. To be included in the drawing, the candidate must apply by email to architect@ehlinger.com before March 23, 2012. Each applicant will need to include his or her name, email address, home mailing address, and NCARB candidate ID number. Winners will have to supply their social security number for the voucher form which will be sent by PFG directly to the testing company after the candidate completes the form. If you have any questions about the grants, please contact Ladd Ehlinger through the email address listed above.

Notice: the Board is only supplying this information as requested by PFG, and it is not involved in the program in any way."

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS GROUP, INC.

2200 HOUMA BLVD • METAIRIE, LA 70001

23 February 2012

Ms. Mary "Teeny" Simmons, Director
Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
9625 Fenway Avenue, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

RE: 2012 Continuing Education Seminars

Dear Teeny:

Attached are applications for approval for two Saturdays of seminars. We are a little late this year because of Mardi Gras.

We are requesting that you notify all of the firms in the state, as we discussed in a Board meeting last year, of our program to award Voucher Grants in the amount of $420.00 to ten Intern Architects each to pay for two segments of the licensing exam. Professional Focus Group is a 501c(3) corporation under the IRS code and has to give surplus funds away every year.

We will give the money to interns by drawing their names out of a hat at our meeting on 24 March 2012. Please ask the firms to inform their interns and have them apply by email to architect@ehlinger.com before 23 March 2012. Each applicant needs to tell us their name, email, home mailing address, and NCARB candidate ID number. Winners will have to supply their SS number for the voucher form which is sent directly by us to the testing company after the intern fills out the form.

Thank you and the Board for you interest and help in this program.

Sincerely,

Ladd P. Ehlinger, AIA

[3/18/11 Minutes] (Ehlinger)

2. January 26 (N.O.) AIA/LA Board of Directors, along with Ron Blitch
3. January 27-28 (N.O.) Critical Issues Summit
4. January 31, 2011/David Broussard (Sound Cinema)
5. February 14/Skipper Post and Scott Perrilloux (am) Fire Marshal (Interior Design) meeting (pm)
6. February 15/Kami McDonald (Peacock)
7. March 9-13/Jersey City (SC/NCARB)
8. March 15/Representative Scott Simon and Marsha Cuddeback (IDP)

Legal

5. Mr. Spaht presented the following legal matters for discussion/action:

A. Chapter 15 (Titles, Firm Names, and Assumed Names) – The board reviewed the NOI published on February 20, 2011, in the Louisiana Register proposing to amend Chapter 15 of the board rules concerning Titles, Firm Names, and Assumed Names. The NOI was reviewed for informational purposes, and the proposed amendments will be considered for adoption at a future meeting after the required time delays have expired.

B. 2011 proposed legislation – The board reviewed drafts of two proposed legislative bills. One bill proposes to adopt R.S. 37:158 concerning firm practice, and the other bill proposes to amend R.S. 37:155 concerning exemptions from the licensing law. Lynn Robertson advised that AIA-Louisiana had met with Representative Scott M. Simon who has agreed to sponsor these two bills in the upcoming fiscal session, unless he is unable to do so because of the limitation of five bills per legislator in the fiscal session. He may be able to only sponsor the bill concerning exemptions. No further board action at this time was considered necessary.

C. Building Official's Guide to Architecture Requirements – The board reviewed a draft Reference Manual for Building Officials and Design Professionals prepared by Mr. Spaht. Mr. Spaht updated the 1995 edition of this manual in accordance with the current licensing laws and rules of architects and engineers. Since the 2011 legislature may amend the Architects Licensing Law concerning exemptions, Mr. Spaht suggested that the manual not be finalized at this time. After discussion, it was decided that Ms. Simmons will advise the Executive Director of the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors of the board's efforts on this issue, and she is authorized to share the updated draft of the manual with such director. The board hopes that this manual will in due course be published jointly by the two licensing boards.

D. Surplus funds – The board reviewed a letter dated December 29, 2010, from the Attorney General's Office advising that the board's request for an AG opinion had been assigned to Michael Vallan of its office. Ms. Simmons advised that no further information from the Attorney General's Office had been received. If an opinion is not received prior to the next meeting, Mr. Spaht will seek to obtain a report from Mr. Vallan concerning the status of the board's request.

E. Professional Focus Group/Ladd Ehlinger – Mr. Ehlinger appeared to discuss his request for a list of the names and addresses of IDP candidates. Mr. Ehlinger advised that the Professional Focus Group has a surplus, that it wants to donate this surplus, and that it desires to assist interns in taking the ARE. In his email, Mr. Ehlinger explained that

the purpose of his request is so the PFG can notify the interns to apply to the PFG for Voucher Grants awarded in a drawing to pay for portions of the ARE. Mr. Ehlinger understands that the board does not have the information presently.

Mr. Cardone and others expressed the board's concern for the privacy rights of interns, and Mr. Spaht explained that once the information was received by the board it would probably be considered public information and, as such, subject to disclosure not only to the PFG but to anyone who requested it. Some interns might feel that their right to privacy had been violated.

Mr. Spaht suggested that Mr. Ehlinger provide the board with some sort of notice that the board could publish in its newsletter or website, or send to the architectural profession advising of the Voucher Grant program being offered by the PFG. Mr. Ehlinger agreed to provide such a notice, and the board agreed to work with Mr. Ehlinger in sending this notice to the architectural profession.

F. Appearance of Lynn Robertson – Ms. Robertson provided a status report on the two drafts of legislative bills, discussed *supra*. In addition, Ms. Robertson requested the board's financial support for the South Quad Louisiana conference which is scheduled for March 31 – April 3, 2011, and which will involve several hundred architectural students from across the region. The conference will provide an opportunity for architectural students to explore Louisiana's unique built environment and also engage with and contribute to the greater issues relevant to the field of architecture. The conference will encourage participation in IDP and the education of interns, both necessary for the licensing of an architect. On motion by Mr. Blitch, seconded by Mr. McKinney, the board agreed to fund up to the sum of $3,000 the accommodations and honorarium cost for Brian Mackay-Lyons, guest lecturer at the conference, since the conference in general and the lecture in particular will encourage participation in IDP and the education of interns.

G. Interior Designers – At the invitation of the executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Interior Designers (LSBID), Ms. Simmons attended a meeting in February of 2011 at the Fire Marshal's Office. Also present were Don Zeringue (OFM), Butch Browning (OFM), two other representatives of the OFM, the executive director of the LSBID, two LSBID board members, and the LSBID attorney. During the meeting, the LSBID asked the OFM several questions concerning what prohibited interior designers from stamping plans. Ms. Simmons invited the LSBID to attend the March 18th LSBAE board meeting or present any materials that it wanted the LSBAE to consider. Ms. Simmons reported that the LSBID had declined her invitation, and the board reviewed an email so confirming. No further board action was considered necessary at this time.

H. Personal financial disclosure form deadline – Ms. Simmons reminded the board that the personal financial disclosure form deadline for all board members is May 15, 2011. Mr. Spaht encouraged all board members to mark this date on their calendars. The board asked Ms. Simmons to remind them of the deadline on or about April 15, 2011.

I. NCARB Resolution 2011-A and proposed amendments to NCARB's Legislative Guideline, Model Law and Model Regulations – The board reviewed a draft of Resolution 2011-A concerning changes to the continuing education requirements set forth in the Legislative Guidelines, Model Law and Model Regulations published by