



BOARD REPORT

Northeast Region Board Meeting – Fall November 2, 2012

DATE: October 21, 2012
TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors
FROM: Maria G Smith, CSI | Rhode Island Chapter President
SUBJECT: Report of Region Director, Rhode Island Chapter

A. Report Summary

1. Goals for RICSIs FY11-12 vs. FY12-13:
 - a. Accomplished: Continue to diversify educational topics, tours, and dinner venues. Attendance averages 30+ A/E/C Professionals, highly recognized in the local construction community for education and networking.
 - b. Pending: Secure more annual and periodic tabletop sponsorships.
 - c. Accomplished: Enhance representation at the regional level.
 - d. Pending: Improve student & emerging professional attendance.
 - e. Unsuccessful: Increase overall membership for RI Chapter.
 - f. New: Planning an annual fundraiser as part of the Chapter Event Schedule

B. The Report

1. **Summary of activities since last report:**
 - a. Academic Affairs: Development of contacts at local colleges & universities to establish a dialogue with the the spokesperson at individual educational institutions.
 - b. Program: Planning all monthly educational and networking events continues to be a collective effort of the entire Board of Directors, and proven a huge success.
 1. Most events are hosted jointly with many of the industry-related organizations. RICSIs typically takes the lead in planning and organizing while the sister organization enjoys member rates.
 2. As a direct result of member feedback, venues for monthly events have been varied month-to-month and often themed to the event topic.

3. AIA Provider Renewal Fee is now paid for by the Chapter. Many programs are being registered for 1.5 or 2.5 credits. 2.5 CEUs are requested for presentations which include building tours. Responses to CEU requests average 10-14 days due to the volume of submissions.
 4. Since the AIA's announcement requiring HSW & SD credits be obtained only by AIA CEU Providers, the anticipation is the local chapter will experience an increase the attendance to the events with these credentials.
 - c. Finance: All processes are now electronic via online banking and billpay in conjunction with PayPal invoicing.
 - d. Fundraising: The First Annual Bowling Fundraiser will be held November 7, 2012.
 - 1) Philanthropic Efforts: The Rhode Island Building Industry Scholarship Funds continues to be an organization the RI Chapter donates monies. The fund offers scholarships to Rhode Islanders pursuing a careers in the building industry. Canstruction – an organization which collects funds to benefit the Rhode Island Food Bank.
 - e. Membership: Overall, membership has only varied by 1 or 2 members. Considering the unemployment rate in Rhode Island this is a positive sign.
 - f. Sponsorship: Chapter maintain a single annual sponsor for 2012-2013, plus periodic sponsors for themed events. With a heavy focus on specific sponsors based on a program and sponsors who are applicable to that topic.
 - g. Communications: Technological advancements implemented across ALL other Committees to accomplish the following streamlining of procedures:
 - 1) LinkedIn.com account currently has 236 members.
2. **Status of current programs:**
- a. Technical educational events number eight during FY 2012-2:013, in addition to the Chapter Fundraiser in November, Winter Social in December and Summer Social in June.
 - b. Attendance averages 30-50 A/E/C professionals.
 - c. Approx. 30% of attendees are CSI members. Non-members need to be converted and the Board will consider increasing the gap between the member attendee rate and non-member rate to reinforce the benefits of becoming a member.
 - d. Building tours, both completed and under construction, are our most well attended events. Our September 19, 2012 Kick-Off meeting which included a building tour boasted 70 people in attendance.

3. Problem areas:

- a. Membership recruitment and retention continue to both be a problem for this chapter as it is for most others throughout the country. Benefits of membership must be communicated via a focused promotional campaign implemented by the Institute at the Regional & National level.
- b. Student and Emerging Professional attendance are very low. Need to find a better way to draw them to events or create on campus satellite chapters.

4. Success stories:

- a. Joint meetings with other applicable professional organizations (which changes based on specific program topics) to bump up attendance and awareness for meetings.

5. Schedule of activities prior to next Board Meeting:

- a. Finalize planning for the remaining meetings for the year, logistically final details.

November 7.12	Fundraising Event
Dec. 2012	Winter Social
January 16, 2013	Prov Community Health Ctr & Tour
February 20, 2013	Firestopping
May 20, 2013	ICRA
April 17, 2013	URI College of Pharmacy & Tour
May 15, 2013	RI Blood Bank & Tour
June 19, 2013	Pell Elementary School & Tour
July 2013	Summer Party

6. Changes in Chapter Membership since last report:

- a. Current total is 71 (decrease of 1 member).

Member Type	04.01.12	10.01.12	Change
Emerging Professional	1	2	+1
Prof Emeritus	5	6	+1
Prof Lifetime	1	1	0
Prof Retired	1	1	0
Professional	62	60	-2
Student	1	1	1
TOTAL	72	71	-1

C. Suggestions for the benefit of the Region

1. The chapter has continued concern over the Region allocation of funds. Better understanding the actual benefits received at the chapter level for these funds would help us to understand what we are getting for these funds, if no other benefits are available then reducing the amount of money should be reconsidered.
2. Reducing the region assessment
3. Offer a reimbursement of Regional Dues to the Chapters to offer no cost promotional events to potential members.

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END OF REPORT