Women in Architecture Committee Meeting:
26 July 2017

JUNE / JULY EVENTS

June 29  Headshot Happy Hour @ Knoll Houston Showroom
Thank you to sponsors, Knoll, and photographers: Divya Pande and Mariella Ayala

July 20  Financial Planning Workshop: Joe Birkofer and Jillian Nel of Legacy Asset
Thank you to Huitt-Zollars and Mandy Dean

TENTATIVE UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 24  WiA Happy Hour, 5:30 PM at Brooklyn Athletic Club

Sept 27  WiA Committee Meeting, 12 PM at ArCH

Sept or Oct  Balancing Career and Family

Nov 29  WiA Annual Speed Mentoring Event, 5:30 PM at ArCH

Dec  End of Year Celebration

Feb  WiA Equality Series: Exploring the Role of Unconscious Bias in Professional Development

SUB-COMMITTEES UPDATES:

1) Speakers, Panels, & Workshops (Melvalean & Jennifer)
   - Next subcommittee meeting Aug 17 at noon. Contact Mel or Jen (email and end of notes) if you wish to attend.
   - Balancing Career + Family
     o Targeting October or November
       ▪ Set a date for this event by the next committee meeting.
       ▪ If scheduled in October, we could host in the new ArCH space
       ▪ Possibility of turning this into a series - Other potential topics:
         • Motherhood
         • Marriage
         • Caregiver (of elderly)
       ▪ Target a variety of people for the panel discussion
       ▪ Would like to establish child care for the event
   - Unconscious Bias Panel Discussion & Workshop
     o Applying for two $5k grants
       ▪ We are still waiting to hear back on our application for the grant
         ▪ This is 2 months later than expected
     o Target date for event in Feb to make sure we have enough time to plan
       ▪ Grant states that funds need to be utilized by the “end of the year”
         ▪ We need clarification on what this means: End of 2017 or 1 year from grant approval?
• Rusty suggested an honorarium if funding must be spent in 2017.
  o Panel to include Architect, Historian, Sociologist, and Business Expert.
    ▪ Confirmed speakers and workshop leaders:
      • Architect - Zaida Basora, FAIA, Historian - Despina Stratagakos
      • Mia Scharphie confirmed interest as workshop leader.
      ▪ Business Expert to have done research in business diversity
    ▪ Speakers are not attached to a specific date at this time
  o Panel will need a strong moderator
  o Event to be open to both men and women
  o Target location to be one of the big theaters at Match or equivalent
    ▪ Seats approximately 300 people
  o Sponsorships + In-Kind Donations
    ▪ Start fundraising now
- Financial Planning Workshop was a successful event
  o An example of meaningful programming with minimal effort

2) Networking & Social Media (Krystyn)
  - August Happy Hour
    o @ Brooklyn Athletic Club
    o Focus on back to school and reach out to local AIAS organizations
    o Wear your school colors
  - Future happy hour ideas:
    o An event that you bring your significant other to
  - Registered Architect Celebration at end of year
    o Also celebrate other achievements:
      ▪ Promotions
      ▪ FAIA
    o Provide a scholarship for the TxA or AIA convention?
    o Provide a drawing for a certificate frame?
- Headshot Happy Hour was a successful event
  o To be planned for every couple of years
- TxA meetup for WiA?
  o AIA Diversity and Equity Taskforce organizing an event?
- #WiAHardhats + #Herstory Social Media Campaign
  o Pick up a WiA sticker at our next event for your hardhat
  o Take pictures on your jobsite and share your story and tag #WiAHardhats, #WiAHouston and #Herstory
- #WCW series
  o Send suggestions to vice-chair for subcommittee for future WCWs

3) Education & Community Outreach (Juliet, Kiza, Dennis)
  - Design Like a Girl:
    o 1-to-1 mentoring with young girls
      ▪ Middle school aged (target before high school)
    o Meet 3-4 times per year
    o 2 year program
      ▪ In their second year, the girls are to become a second mentor to the new girls
    o Application based
    o Committee partnering with Kids and Architecture committee
- Speed Mentoring – Scheduled for November 29:
  - In collaboration with Networking Sub-committee
  - Start working on gaining sponsorships
  - Committee to start reaching out to potential mentors based on list from last year
    - Looking for new mentors each year
    - Diversify the mentors
    - Committee is open to suggestions for potential mentors
  - Event had 14 mentors last year
  - Feedback on last year’s event:
    - Sessions were too short?

4) Other
- Sponsorship opportunities:
  - Needs to be towards something specific
- Leadership would like to turn over responsibilities to new leadership for next year
  - Looking for nominations for chair and vice chair positions
  - E-mail Heather if you would like to volunteer or nominate someone

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Sept 27, 12p
WiA meet the last Wednesday of every other month from noon - 1 pm.
(January, March, May, July, September, November)

WiA Contacts:
WiA Houston: wia.htx@gmail.com

Chair:
- Heather Rowell – heather@contentarchitecture.com

Vice-chairs:
Speakers, Panels and Workshops:
- Melvalene McLemore – mmclem08@gmail.com
- Jennifer Traina-Dorge – Jennifer_trainadorge@me.com

Networking and Social Media
- Krystyn Haecker – khaecker@miradorgroup.com

Education and Community Outreach:
- Kiza Forgie – kizaforgie@gmail.com
- Juliet Serem – jiserem@gmail.com

AIA Houston Liaison:
- Aleks Savitski – aleks@aiahouston.org