

Where do you go to build your commercial real estate network and industry knowledge? Building Owners and Managers Association, or BOMA! Currently in its 37<sup>th</sup> year, BOMA Southern Connecticut serves members that are building owners, managers, developers, leasing professionals, medical office building managers, corporate facility managers, asset managers, and the providers of the products and services needed to operate commercial properties. Collectively, BOMA International members own or manage more than nine billion square feet of office space, which represents more than 80 percent of the prime office space in North America! More than 80 percent of individual members have annual operating budgets exceeding \$1 million, while more than 75 percent of individual members are responsible for multiple buildings.

The value of a BOMA membership is that it provides:

- ❖ A strategic professional and business partner network where relationships are built.
- ❖ A place to continuously learn and improve from the best practices and experiences of colleagues.
- ❖ The source for the latest news and insights into trends impacting commercial real estate in Connecticut and nationwide.

Fun fact about me: Approximately 35 years ago I walked in to my first BOMA meeting as a guest (thank you very much Ron Macklin for the invite, may you rest in peace). I was immediately struck by the way I was welcomed into the fold, in a room full of people who were fully engaged in the commercial real estate industry and knew that I would be learning a lot from them. At that time, the meetings were not as structured as they are today, more social events rather than educational sessions. We as an organization have evolved light years, and thanks to all of you we will continue to.

Unfortunately, this year's educational programs, building tours, and socials had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis we are facing. We are fine tuning our video meeting capabilities so we can continue give our members as many opportunities to expand their networks and industry knowledge, and the coming year will provide many new programs and events. Save the date now for the BOMA Southern Connecticut must-attend program, our **State of the Market** zoom meeting to be held in January. This annual kickoff meeting features a panel of recognized real estate professionals who discuss and debate on current market trends and what we might expect to see in the coming year. This informative session will be interactive with attendee questions and comments.

Be sure to check out the BOMA Southern Connecticut website for the calendar of events at: <http://www.soctboma.org/>. And follow us on social media!

As the year comes to a close, I wish to express the great privilege it is to serve the BOMA Southern Connecticut membership. I want to thank the Board and Committee members for their hard work and loyalty during these crazy, uncertain times, many of whom have, and will continue to lend their talents and energy to the association, and to Jeannie St. Onge for all she contributes to our group.

Warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Thomas Izzo  
President of BOMA Southern Connecticut