
ASCE Syracuse Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Call to Order - SG: January 21, 2015 at Bergmann Associates Conference Room at 5:30pm

Attendees:

Shaun Gannon – President	Kelli McArdell - Director/Sec	Emily Herbst
Chuck White – Pres Elect	Brian Byres – Director	Bill Finch
Kip Witchen – Vice Pres/Web	Seth Livermore - Director	Ray D'Hollander

Approval of December's Meeting Minutes

In Favor: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0

1. **Award Committee (CB):**

- Eric Dievendorf of Arcadis has volunteered to serve on the Award Committee this year;
- President-Elect Chuck White is also on the Award Committee, per the Section By-Laws.
- To date, there have been two submittals for "Project of the Year" consideration;
- An "Engineer of the Year" nomination is being submitted this week;
- Due to the paucity of nominations, I extended the deadline for award submittals to this Friday (01/23/15).

On the positive side, the two Project of the Year submittals are well done, so we should have at least one worthy project to be recognized in the Section. It would be nice, however, to see a larger and more diverse group of nominations, to reflect the range and scope of projects being done in the Section. The same applies to the Engineer of the Year awards – the current Board members represent many of the largest engineering companies in the area – as such, it would seem logical that there are a number of worthy recipients from these companies whose body of work merits recognition.

SG: I suppose that part of the problem is that engineers tend to be modest professionals who don't tend to toot their horns or draw attention to themselves. I'd appreciate any assistance or suggestions to solicit additional award nominations this year that you can offer. Ray D'Hollander also mentioned to me that you have some ideas and/or sources for award plaques, so I'd certainly appreciate your input so that I'll have time to work with a local vendor to prepare some plaques that the winners will be proud to display.

2. **Younger Member Committee (EH)** – SU Past-Student Chapter President contacted the Section regarding a "Resume Review" – They are hoping we would do it again this year for an upcoming Career Fair in February.

SG, CW, BB and BK agreed to help with the SU student's resume reviews. Each would look over 3-4 resumes and offer critiques.

Bruce (the one who is doing the SU ROTC) is interested in being a liaison if the position is available, if not, he will just volunteer.

3. **EWB Liaison (LH)** – Nothing new to update. EWB is waiting to reconnect to the community in late January or early February when Guatemalan schools are back in session.

4. **Treasurer Report (SG for DP)**: Dawn is unable to attend. She has circulated the current Treasurer Report via email on 1/14/2015. PDH Event last week went well and the PayPal worked out successful. Attendees liked the option to pay by credit card using the PayPal and card reader option. Event overall made a profit.
5. **History & Heritage Committee (PR)**: I am looking for local historic engineering awards and I have reached out to the DOT and DEC and received little to no response. I gave the application to the DOT to nominate Union Station in Utica (Region 2) and I-81 Bridge of Oneida Lake Outlet (Region 3) and received nothing back.

RD: Have you thought about the St. Lawrence Seaway project. PR: I will look into that.

6. **Golf Committee (LK)**: We are planning a kick off meeting in late January / early February. The committee is soliciting for new members for 2015 by word of mouth and in the e-blasts. Currently Sarah and Kelli have volunteered to help. A survey was sent out to all the vendors and the ASCE BOD. If you did not receive it or know of a vendor who didn't receive it, please let Lance know. The Committee would like to have sign up table for the golf tournament at a few of the spring events and is looking for volunteers to participate. If you're interested in joining the golf committee, contact Lance Ketcham.
7. **Student Chapter Report & Scholarship Committee (TH)**: Applications were sent to Clarkson and SUNY Canton on 12/29/14. SU and SUNY Polytechnic applications were sent around the same time. Completed applications are due February 20th, 2015.

We are anticipating a joint North Country meeting to be held sometime in April to award the scholarships. Matt Millus (SU Liason) & Aaron Faulkenmeyer (SUNYIT Liason) were absent but were requested to provide updates on their schools in regard to scholarships in an email to a board member.

8. **ASCE Regional Meeting in Miami (CW & KW)**: Chuck and Kip attended the ASCE regional meeting in Miami which contains different presentation and seminars that include member retention, younger member programs, and planning events.

CW: The Society has been putting on the on the same presentations and seminars each year. I propose sending new people to the regional meeting next year since the presentations remain the same. In my opinion, the flow of conference was not ideal and planning was poor. The meeting brought attention to increasing member retention by sending specific e-blasts including a birthday email or an email to member who have recently left ASCE.

KM: I send out the e-blasts and would like to look into sending a birthday e-blast. I will bring a rough draft to the next board meeting

9. **New York's Infrastructure Report Card (CW)**: The following ASCE sections; Rochester, Ithaca, Mohawk Valley, and Metropolitan will be moving together to push Society to release NY state's infrastructures report card in a timely manner. The plan maybe to utilize regional government positions to push this forward.

RH: Where does the gathered data for the report card come from? CW: The information is gathered from many viable sources generally specific task groups for different infrastructure types with each completing scoring templates.

10. **Government Relations Fly-In (SG)**: Bill, RD and I will be traveling to Washington DC, form March 24-26, 2015 for this event.

CW: Remember to those who travel to keep all receipts for reimbursement and to look into reimbursement requirements. KW and I found some discrepancies in our reimbursement from the ASCE Miami Regional Meeting.

11. **Website/Member Database (KW)**: I would like the board members to send me updated photos for the “Board Member” section of the ascesyracuse.org webpage. Please email them to me. Also, I distributed a list of members in which we do not have an email address for so they are no longer receiving e-blast or any information about events. Please review this list and if you know them, please encourage them to update their profile with ASCE so they may receive future communications.

12. **Future PDH Event Planning (All)**:

April:

SG: I was thinking we could have a PDH presentation on the Utica Aud with some snacks followed by a Utica Comets Hockey game.

RH: On April 16th, Kenneth Stucko, a Professor Syracuse University – Cross County Lecture, may could speak at a PDH during lunch or dinner then in the afternoon conduct a student event at Syracuse University.

May:

RH: I will look into the Gettysburg Flood Plan presentation to see it is PDH approved already or if I can get approved. I will report more details back next board meeting.

Open Discussion:

KM: I was approached to utilize the Flood Plan we used for the demonstration at the NYS Fair for a local elementary school’s science night. The date is February 27th from 6-8pm. I plan on volunteering at this event.

SG: We are looking for sponsors on our website. Please ask your employers if they are interested in sponsoring our website.

CW: I believe you should host a joint meeting with the ASCE-Ithaca Section and I will coordinate that and gather more details.

Motion to Adjourn - SG, Second: KW at 7:40pm