

Nebraska Section ASME Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 10, 2007

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Miller's house

In Attendance

Ballain, Loscutoff, Miller, Randall, Ruhl, Stransky

General Committee Items

The sign up deadline for the Leadership Conference is January 19th. Currently there are no committee members who are able to attend.

The section plans to present our annual industry award at the upcoming E-Week Banquet. The committee discussed potential recipients. There was preliminary agreement to present the award to Cargill this year. Susan will send out a list of past recipients and confirm this year's selection. (This was later completed and Chad will work with Bill to get the plaque ordered.) Dave M. said he would talk to Cargill and find someone who would accept the award at the banquet.

We need to begin recruiting nominations for new committee members. The preference would be to have at least three or four candidates. Dave S. will send out the pitch that Kevin Madsen wrote last year which outlines the benefits of serving on the committee.

The committee discussed offering employment advertisements. A tentative rate of \$50 was set for one spot in the newsletter plus one direct email to the membership. This will be compared to rates for other forms of local advertising to see how it compares. Ads will be restricted to engineering or engineering-related positions in the section's region. The ad may be condensed for the newsletter, but the email will be unlimited.

December Meeting Recap

The Christmas Play at Mahoney was attended by 37 people. There was only a \$64 loss on the event.

February Meeting

Bill is working on a joint meeting with ASHRAE. There will be a lunch at Anthony's at 11:45am on February 13th, followed by a tour of the UNMC power plant. Bill will provide information on the tour for the next newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

The current checking balance stands at \$8,426.42. This is a significant increase over last month, reflecting the receipt of national merit funding and revenue from the PD course. No amount was budgeted for the national merit funding due to uncertainty about their intentions for this year. However, we did receive \$2,797. The November PD course was very successful despite higher than normal expenses. We had revenue of \$6,650, of which \$2,942 was profit.

The CD is also doing well. It has made \$460 in interest in the first two quarters.

Other expenses for the month included dues for Engineer's Roundtable, PEC, and the December meeting.

Membership Report

Mark indicated that our renewal rate currently stands at about 90%, which puts us in 3rd place out of 30 sections. The committee continues to work on establishing company contacts.

Professional Development Class

Plans are progressing for the March professional development course. Brad Little has agreed to present his structural engineering seminar, which is an introductory course geared towards engineers in other disciplines. The tentative date chosen is March 29th. Susan will check the availability of rooms at Mahoney. (It was later determined that this day was booked and the 28th was chosen instead.) Gary noted that this week should fit well between OPPD plant outages.

Dave S. reviewed the anticipated expenses with the committee which includes a \$500 instructor stipend, approximately \$650 for travel, \$850 for course binders, and \$1100 for Mahoney. It was suggested that we make the instructor's costs a lump sum. This was agreed to by the committee. The committee also reviewed the course pricing and decided on \$125 for ASME members and \$150 for non-members.

Dave S. will continue with the arrangements and getting the course materials produced. Susan will coordinate with Mahoney. Dave S. will produce a flier for the next newsletter.

Newsletter

Input for the next newsletter is due by January 26th. This will include information on the joint meeting with ASHRAE in February and an announcement for the March PD course.

Government Relations

New members of the unicameral are getting up to speed. Chad noted that he knows an engineer, Tony Fulton, who has been elected. He may be a good future contact regarding engineering issues facing the senate.

Other Business

Susan mentioned that we should be on the lookout for possible national award nominations. A nomination (they don't have to win) is one of the factors used in determining our merit funding score. Susan will send a link to the list of awards on the ASME web site. Nominations are due by April 1st.

Next Meeting

Friday, February 16, 2007, 7:30 am, Garden Cafe.