

Minutes for Council Meeting of April 10, 2018

(Virtual Meeting using GoToMeeting.com)

Attendees (all on-line) – David Manuta, Joe Porcelli, Dick Schauer, Bernie Ennis, Richard Goodman, John Pace, Randy Meierowitz, Bill Hoffman, Mike Blumenthal, and Charlie Leonard

Proxies – Girish Malhotra, Tom Vichroski

Meeting opened by President David Manuta at 7:00 pm EDT. No changes needed to Agenda. Minutes accepted after motion by Goodman and seconding by Schauer.

Duerr was absent so there was no Treasurer's report. Manuta's President's Remarks began with his question to Leonard regarding the previous ACS Insurance ad. Leonard confirmed that ad was removed from our Newsletter but he was waiting to hear when he could remove it from our website. He disclosed that he had initiated discussion with Alliant, the insurer for AIChE and AIHA and was waiting for a marketing response as to their possible interest in having an ad or contact information on our website.

Manuta continued with several items for which key people were not on the call. The first was the second draft by Vichroski of the "Client" tri-fold brochure. Most of us had not reviewed the second version, and it was agreed to table any discussion until we all had a chance to review it and comment, with Vichroski present.

Ad hoc committee to review Bylaws regarding membership criteria had not come to consensus, so that also was postponed.

Finally, there was an extended discussion of Manuta's and others' conflicting events on the planned next council meeting on May 8. Since Council had not decided whether Borne could continue as Vice President based on health issues, Porcelli volunteered to chair the meeting as scheduled, with inputs from Manuta, and arrangements in advance by Leonard if he could not work around his conflict. Leonard also suggested that Ennis could cover for him. It was pointed out by Manuta that this illustrated the need for new members stepping in as backups to our officers.

A substantial and confused discussion took place regarding the second draft of the Client brochure and the "final" hard copy of the Consultant brochure. Ennis reported that there were changes that ought to be made in the Consultant brochure that became obvious to him after having the actual hard copy" in his hands". Porcelli reminded everyone that we had 250 copies of that brochure. It was also suggested that we should review and comment on the second version of the Client brochure and then make a few hard copy for final comments. Porcelli will be sending 6 of the hard copy of the consultant brochure to Goodman for immediate use with some of his friends.

Note from Secretary Porcelli – it would appear that several members will be reviewing the hard copy of the Consultant brochure, and with a possible conclusion to dispose of the print version (or to use them). Meanwhile, as described above, we will post comments on the second version of the Client brochure, and then as Vichroski to prepare a third version, including printing out a few to be distributed to Council members for final review.

Membership Chair Schauer reported that there were no new membership prospects at present.

Program Chair Goodman introduced Mike Blumenthal as the speaker for our first GTM broadcast of a presentation. Blumenthal described a major cyberattack causing interruption of his computer and communication systems, but which has been repaired to the point where he is able to make a presentation. The proposed subject is "Food Industry Forensics", including both processing and chemistry. It is based on a course Blumenthal is preparing for Rutgers with several colleagues. Blumenthal stated he will speak for about 45 minutes if we agree.

Porcelli brought up the problem that such a presentation length would make our original idea of a combination with a Council meeting impractical. It was suggested that using our May 8 date for the presentation would solve all of our Council Meeting conflict problems. Manuta asked whether Ennis could work with Blumenthal to obtain a verbal and video recording. Ennis and Leonard responded that recording capability was a feature of our GoToMeeting subscription. It would produce a large file, but doable. The discussion led to the idea that the presentation might be posted to LinkedIn with a link to the ACC&CE website in order to see the presentation.

The statement was made that other past presentations such as those at the Chem Show and prior monthly meetings are already on the ACC&CE website. Further, links could be posted on the association's LinkedIn page to bolster its utility. Leonard requested that anyone with presentations not already on the website should forward them to him for inclusion. There ensued a discussion about confidentiality of discussions on LinkedIn and whether attendees should be limited to ACC&CE or opened up to all comers. It is currently an open Group. This would be discussed further in future.

Goodman discussed his plan for an Expert Witness presentation and his search for appropriate speakers. Manuta described how his firm has a number of people, including himself, who carried out Expert Witness assignments. After some discussion, it was recognized that members are looking for "does and don'ts" on how to become a candidate for expert witness assignments. Goodman stated he hoped to have this scheduled for July, stating that he saw no reason to not have meetings during the summer.

Porcelli reminded Goodman that we have a month until the Blumenthal presentation so we should hurry to create publicity information. Blumenthal will write something and send it to Goodman.

Porcelli stated that the Newsletter had just been published and that it was skimpy and that he really needed help with content.

Leonard mentioned that our web hosting consultant Canova was making some updates and information on metrics search terms will be passed onto the Council.

Manuta asked Ennis for comments on proposed changes to Bylaws to develop language to deal with unusual types of consultants (members of consulting organizations, etc.). Ennis had sent out some suggested language to stimulate discussion but several of the Council members had not received it and a re-send was requested. Porcelli asked Ennis whether he had come across discussion of the "5% commission" in Bylaws or Constitution. Ennis was not certain if in the By-laws or constitution; simple matter of checking. The group expressed interest in firming up language and procedures. It was noted that we can have ad hoc meetings at any times over the next few months.

Manuta brought up the CHI regarding replacement of Linseed Oil, and asked whether Marvin DeTar was working on this project. DeTar has communicated his interest but has not communicated further with Leonard. This was prompted by Hoffman's interest in this CHI, and he had not been able to reach the prospect, and Porcelli suggested that either Hoffman or Leonard should reach out to DeTar to learn the status of his discussions with the prospect, and whether he needs help.

Leonard described changes to LinkedIn with Porcelli now as "Owner" and Leonard as "Manager" with any number of others as "managers" who can make changes. Porcelli said he would try to learn how to invite other ACC&CE members to join the LinkedIn group, and other operations to add value to our members and organization. There are group members who are not members of ACC&CE and it was suggested that this might be a way to recruit new members. Manuta read a message from Malhotra on three actions requested for changes to LinkedIn. Porcelli said he will take care of answering these questions. Ennis asked whether posting on LinkedIn is different from posting on a blog; Leonard responded that a website blog would probably not have the traffic of LinkedIn.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 8, 2018, starting at 7 pm EDT, and will be the Blumenthal presentation. The next Council meeting will be June 12, 2018 at 7 pm EDT.

The meeting was closed at 8:02 pm EDT.