

Association of Consulting Chemists & Chemical Engineers, Inc.



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MINUTES

Virtual Council Meeting of March 12, 2019

Attendees (all on-line) – David Manuta, Joe Porcelli, Charles Leonard, Steve Duerr, Tom Vichroski, Bernie Ennis and Richard Goodman.

Proxies – Jim Divine (Planned to attend but stopped by snowstorm)

Meeting called to order by President Manuta at 7:00 pm EDT.

The proposed agenda was approved, after motion by Vichroski and second by Goodman. As is our new practice, the minutes of the previous meeting were attached to this meeting's announcement. They were accepted, after a motion by Leonard and a second by Vichroski.

Treasurer Duerr reported that "very little is happening and all is good". Ennis moved to accept and Vichroski seconded.

President Manuta remarked that this meeting was the second of the two meetings required by our constitution for all members to review the proposed revised constitution. He reminded us that 10 of us have already expressed our acceptance of the new constitution, but that we needed to **submit a signed ballot** to make it official. Porcelli reported that all the ballots were ready to go out right after the meeting. Porcelli suggested that a reminder be sent to all members that the constitution required signed paper ballots from every member either voting to accept or reject the revised constitution. We need every member to return the ballot, even if not filled out. It was recognized that the reminder should be sent out promptly, so that no member will receive his ballot and throw it away.

Duerr, Leonard and Manuta agreed to "wordsmith" the reminder email.

Duerr informed the attendees at the meeting that member Fushijima had resigned.

Manuta explained that he has been getting correspondence on the 2019 ChemShow, and that once we've taken care of the constitution revision, we should turn our attention to deciding the theme for our presentations at the show.

Manuta asked if we agreed that we have satisfied the obligation of the second “reading” of the draft constitution, and the answer was affirmative.

The meeting moved to Programming Chair Goodman. He has agreement from his speaker, Dr. Glavin, for May 14, for a presentation entitled, “Life on Mars”. Over the period since the last meeting, a number of our members, including Goodman, Ennis, and Vichroski have developed a graphic for the presentation, and have worked on possible larger venues in New Jersey which could house the presentation plus offer seating to students as well as professional attendees. During this meeting, the discussion ranged over several venues and various dates, but with the only date accepted by the speaker thus far being May 14th. Furthermore, there are constraints due to final exam weeks. It was finally decided to put off the idea of a larger venue until a later date, and to focus on trying to gather a larger on-line participation this time. We will be able to learn from this experience for future presentations

It was agreed to try to spread the word on this presentation to students and faculty at Stevens, recognizing that the subject matter could be of interest to microbiologists as well as chemical engineers and others. There was discussion of preparations for the site at Stevens where this presentation would take place. Ennis, Goodman and Leonard will participate, but with Ennis taking care of the on-site preparations after discussion with Leonard. Ennis suggested that Charlie follow-up with Pete Sibilski at NJ AIChE to publicize to their mailing list.

Porcelli stated that the next issue of the Newsletter was planned for the end of March (deadline of mid-April) and Porcelli suggested that we have content on several of the subjects of this meeting, and that next week requests will go out for possible content. Goodman promised a column on the Mars presentation by end of March, and Manuta will discuss the constitution as his topic, and promised his content also the end of March. Porcelli will start work on the newsletter in the coming week.

Membership chair Schauer was not on the call, but there were no new candidates.

Regarding the website status, Leonard stated that he has been able to solve a number of problems, but he still needs to look for more help for the future.

Manuta suggested that a priority should be figuring out how we can attract younger members to participate in on-line meetings. Porcelli suggested we review the membership and ask specific people to participate, rather than waiting for volunteers. Apparently we have not been seeking reasons for any of the recent resignations.

In a related subject, Manuta said another priority was to add new members, and it was suggested that our interesting GTM presentations might be an attraction. Ennis raised the question of offering membership to professors (there are large numbers of adjunct professors with relatively low incomes). These professors also participate in various government projects. We need to review whether we have left this option open in our revised constitution. A number of our attendees appeared to be positively inclined, and several volunteered to look into this with their academic contacts.

Vichroski was asked if there were any developments in the marketing area, and he had one more possible approach to C&E News. Manuta and Goodman have some contacts that could be pursued..

The next GTM meeting will be on April 9, 2019 at 7 pm EDT. Adjourned at 7:51 pm EDT.