

Association of Consulting Chemists & Chemical Engineers, Inc.



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MINUTES

Virtual Council Meeting of May 12, 2020

ATTENDEES: David Manuta (President), J. Steve Duerr (Treasurer), Koki Doshi (Secretary), Charles Leonard, Richard Goodman, Dick Schauer, David Morse, Bernie Ennis, Cathy Byrne, William Hoffman, John Wetzel and Vincent Fuschetti. There were no proxies.

AGENDA AND CHANGES: Meeting was called to order by David at 7:03 PM EDT. The agenda was accepted by everyone present without any change. Acceptance motion was moved by Richard Goodman and seconded by Koki.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: The Minutes of March meeting were approved. The motion to approve was moved by Dick Schauer and seconded by Bernie Ennis. The motion carried and the Minutes were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Steve Duerr: The bank balance is just short of \$29,387. Our total membership is 38 including 1 honorary. Treasurer's Report was accepted after the motion by Bernie and second by Charlie with no objections.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: David Manuta

David talked of the recent loss of long time member Tom Vichroski due to COVID-19. He said he had communicated with Mrs. Vichroski. A condolences email was also sent and copied to members. The family lives in a suburb of Long Island, New York which is pretty much in Lockdown. Tom was cremated and the family was not able to be with him due to the circumstances. Tom has contributed greatly to this Organization over the years, most recent being the creation of brochures for the Association and marketing of the consultants in their respective fields of expertise. The brochures were used recently at the Javits Centre. A discussion ensued after Richard made a suggestion as to how Tom's memory could be respected and honored by the Association as we do not have Awards or Plaques, considering Tom's tangible contribution to the Association for a long time. Mrs. Vichroski had mentioned to David that she and Tom were looking forward to their Anniversary at a restaurant they went every year and if some of his colleagues from the Association could join to celebrate his memory. Suggestions were made to draft a letter from membership. Another suggestion came from Bernie that Tom's legacy was the recent brochures and he will communicate with Charlie to see if the brochures can in some way reflect Tom's immense contribution as the designer of the brochure. Dick Schauer then made a suggestion that a scholarship can be given to a deserving student of science who wants to study chemistry or engineering

from the nearby New York/New Jersey area in Tom's name next year, if an amount can be agreed upon. Bernie said that AIChE have an active scholarship program. There was no consensus on the matter. Separately, David mentioned that he has communicated with the officer from the Department of Labor regarding their project for creating definition and data of chemical engineers referred to in the previous meeting. He said that the officers are working from home and the project is on hold until 2021.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PROGRAM: R. Goodman

Richard re-visited the issue of ACS project of certification of consultants. This is on hold until another 6-9 months due to the prevailing pandemic. He is invited to be on the committee as an expert for the project by ACS.

Davis Morse's presentation on June 2, 2020 is already canvassed to the members and he also agreed to join the council meeting. David gave a brief overview of the proposed presentation, which involves bench chemistry, hazardous waste regulations, scaling up involving different engineering aspects including resources interaction during the scaling up from a concept to a working system, and kinetics of liquid-liquid extraction with the then available technology of 1994-95. Everyone agreed that the presentation will indeed be an interesting one and all look forward to it. Steve asked as to how we can ensure more attendance for this presentation. Charlie said he will send out announcements as reminders as David mentioned that it needs to be extensively publicized. Vince commented that since he had not seen the abstract of the presentation he cannot comment on the subject. Bernie said he will also get some members from AIChE to attend the presentation.

NEWSLETTER: Joe Porcelli

David noted that since Joe is not with us here tonight he will try and contact him to check on his wellbeing.

MEMBERSHIP: Dick Schauer

We have a new member Arthur Finkle, an engineer who has extensive chemical industry background throughout his career. His paperwork for membership is being circulated to David, Steve and Charlie for webpage inclusion.

WEBSITE: Charles Leonard

Charlie has started working on inclusion of A. Finkle on the Association's web page. Updates on critical things running the website are done (PHP and plugins) that make the website faster. Remaining for now are a Theme update and Search Engine Optimization. Members are encouraged to ensure that key words and phrases are included in their profile. We have 10 CHI so far through May this year (2020), compared to 15 last year (2019). Increased CHI's will eventually turn into revenue.

OLD BUSINESS:

Improved attendance at presentations is needed and we should expect good turnout at Morse presentation. Collectively we should let know as many people as possible for the presentation. Succession is an on-going problem. Tom Vichroski's work should be continued by other members in the field of critical marketing. We would like Newsletters to be published quarterly. New members can and should get involved in the governance of the Association. The North Jersey section of AIChE has announced a presentation by P. Sibilski on May 27. The subject should be of interest to the members of our Association, the subject is the Phillips 66 explosion of 1988 in Pasadena, Texas which was the cause

of creation of the Chemical Safety Board and regulatory regime governing hazardous materials. This is an interesting topic. Charlie will circulate the details to members.

David had contact with Jim Rose 6 weeks ago. The initiative of DOL is pushed back due to many government officers not working in offices.

NEXT MEETING

There being no new business to discuss, it was decided that David Morse's presentation will be on June 2nd and the next council meeting is scheduled on Tuesday June 9, 2020 both at 7:00 PM EDT.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Bernie and seconded by Charlie. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM, EDT.

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