

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Kalamazoo Section ACS
Monday, October 10, 2016, 6:30 PM
Blue Dolphin

Start time: 6:37 PM

End time: 7:42 PM

Members present: Lydia Hines (LH), Sarut Jianrattanasawat (SJ), Mike Walsh (MW), Audrey Thomas (AT), Sharat Kamath (SK), Jeff Bartz (JB), Doug Williams (DW), Andre Venter (AV)

Minutes recorded by: Angela Willson-Conrad (AW)

1. Secretary's Report (AW)

- a. **The September minutes were approved.** They will be sent as a .pdf to Mark Wolf for the website. AW sent all previous minutes to Mark, so once he uploads those the minutes on the website should be up to date.

2. Treasurer's Report (AV)

- a. **Treasurer's Report** – We received local section dues, which were smaller than expected. We have not received funds from ACS for Lydia's councilor travel. Our expenses included the picnic and the Air Zoo deposit. We also need to send \$300 to the elementary school STEM event at Lake Center Elementary. AV said he would follow up.
- b. **Investment Fund / Checking Account update** – Investments are down almost 1%.

3. Communications Chair (CP)

- a. **Facebook page report** – There are 353 likes on Facebook. A Facebook event was created for Chemistry day and reposted a link from KZOOKIDS.COM. Chris posted the newsletter and call for nominations to the Facebook as well.
- b. **Website report (Mark Wolf)** – We have not heard from Mark who is no longer a part of our local section, so we need to make sure any news is getting to him.
- c. **Newsletter Report** – The last newsletter went out on October 2nd.

4. WMU and K College Chemistry Student Organizations

- a. **Kalamazoo College (AT, AN, SK)** – KCollege CHEM Club got a new secretary (Sabrina Leddy). The club had fun helping out at the museum day. The club is planning to possibly to do a chemiluminescence day and make glow sticks.
- b. **WMU Chem Club (JKirk)** – LH has been very impressed with their new president and community outreach person. They have been very responsive to the EC. They had a STEM event at Valley 2 dorms at WMU. They have been asked to go back and hold the event again. They are in the process of scheduling demos at local schools. They are also in the process of ordering lab coats with the club logo instead of selling t-shirts. Lastly, they are trying to organize a visit to a local chemical industry such as KALSEC and MPI.

- c. **WMU CGSA (SJ for KC/JH)** – On September 30, 2016, the CGSA hosted their annual ice cream social for undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and staff of the Department of Chemistry. More than 60 people attended the event. They sent their appreciation to the KACS for their continued support of this event. Their next event will most likely be the Thanksgiving potluck.

5. Old Business

- a. **Update on Status of Air Zoo for 75th Anniversary celebration for KACS in 2017 (LH)** – There isn't much update for the event except we sent the deposit. **We are starting to recruit volunteers** (note: we are in need of help) **to develop the program** on February 23rd, 2017 from 6-9pm. KACS is sponsoring the event. We have a speaker lined up; he is a retiree from an engineering company and is an Air Zoo do-cent. We would like to make it a large gala event with a cash bar. Four rides will also be open. We are hoping for more than 100 people to attend the event.
- b. **Report on 30th Chemistry Day at the Museum (LH/BE)** – DW spent all of his time in the Challenger center for the forensics activities, which opened around 1pm. We had a crime scene with evidence, and more evidence was available at the tables in the center. It was well received by the attendees. About 500 people went through the forensics activity. She was pleasantly surprised to see very few kids on their cell phones and saw that they were very engaged in the activity. Some people thought the activity might have been a little too complex, but people worked in groups to solve it. LH added that the whole event was also well received. The downstairs area was also swarming with children and parents/grandparents.
- c. **Status of Invitation to D. Lowe for KACS event (JK)** – No report on the status of this invitation.
- d. **Status of search for “Chair-elect” for 2017; also Chair** – We are still soliciting nominations for the positions. BE has not received any nominations at this point. We ask that **each person tries to come up with one nominee**. AV had a suggestion that as an incentive we could cover the Chair's national dues for one year while they are serving.
- e. **Status of invitation from Lake Center Elementary (Stephanie Norg) to participate and/or contribute to their “I <3 STEM” event on October 20 evening** – In addition to sending a \$300 check the WMU Chem Club is hosting two tables (Gold pennies and Slime). Former member and avid presenter to students, Carl Stachew, will be having 2 activities at the event.
- f. **Continue discussion of Competitive Exam / Homeschooling questions (All)** – One homeschooled student has requested the ability to take the competitive exam. Most of us are inclined to try to make this happen. There was also a discussion about whether a student like this who is enrolled at KVCC taking college level chemistry may be overqualified for our exam, which is aimed at High School chemistry students, and should be disqualified from taking the exam for that reason. There was strong sentiment that the IChO (The Olympiad Exam) guidelines, which disqualify anyone who has taken college chemistry for credit from taking the exam, be followed for our exam as well. We agreed to use this same guideline to disqualify for our exam. At this time, it sounds like it will be left up to the Education Committee to discuss “next steps” and to report at the next meeting if and how we would include eligible home-

school students in the competitive exam sequence. Since the exam information is readily available, there may be no need to do further recruiting.

6. New Business

- a. **Bell's Recycle-a-Poster event – Zoetis co-sponsor (ES)** – No report from ES. LH understands that we are having a Bell's event and the question is when we should have it. Per Denis Billen, our Zoetis contact, he has a speaker from Zoetis ready to talk about a drug they've developed, but we are waiting on ES to put things in motion. It seems like **November 15th is the preferred date**, as K College will not be in session in December.
- b. **Next PR Email** – If we manage to organize an event we will need to send out an **email ASAP. Info for an e-blast** gets sent to Dave Bolliet and Chris Pruis.
- c. Please send items for the **November newsletter** to ACSkzoo@gmail.com by **November 1st for November 10th publication**:
 - Content: Chair's comment (BE)
 - Report on Chemistry Day at the Museum (LH)
 - Report on CGSA Welcome Ice Cream Social at WMU (JH)
 - Announcement of Bell's Event (ES)
 - Halloween Report from Haverhill (AW)
- d. The next EC meeting will be **Thursday, November 10th at 6:30pm at Blue Dolphin Restaurant**.

7. Around the Table

- a. **Sarut** would like to continue to be included in our KACS emails for EC until we have completely figured out his replacement to attend meetings.
- b. **Angela** will be at Haverhill Elementary School for the third consecutive Halloween Day at 2:15pm on Monday, October 31st, doing demonstrations with the entire student body.