

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Kalamazoo Section ACS
Thursday, February 7, 2013, 6:30 PM
Hunan Gardens, West Main St.

Recorded by Doug Williams

Members Present: Josh Abbott (JA), Lydia Hines (LH), Alia Hinz (AH), John Miller (JM), John Engelmann (JE), Elke Schoffers (ES), Don Schreiber (DS), Tom Smith (TS), Doug Williams (DW), Maren Zanotti (MZ)

1. Secretary's Report

- a. Review of December 2012 Minutes – Minutes were approved by the Executive Committee (EC).

2. Treasurer's Report

- a. **Treasurers Report** - JM distributed the monthly treasurer's report. The AAAS donation for last November's Dance Event was received. The report was approved.
- b. **Investment Fund/Checking Account Update** – JM reported that he must file a federal tax return for 2012 to retrieve taxes withheld from our investment funds. He will follow up with Vanguard to ensure that taxes are not withheld again next year by filing necessary paperwork.

3. Communications Chair

- a. **Web site report** – No report.
- b. **Facebook Page** – No report.

4. Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College Chemistry Student Organizations

- a. Kalamazoo College – JA reported that 9 Kalamazoo College students participated in the “Battle of the Chem Clubs” and emerged as winners; he will submit a report and pictures for the next Newsletter. Students also attended the career event and brought their “Battle” trophy.
- b. MZ reported that the Chem Club made slime with 300 students at an Otsego school. The Chem Club is holding a bake sale for Fat Tuesday. Club members Emelia Moore and Evan Rasor volunteered to prepare refreshments for the career event.
- c. WMU Chemistry Grad Student Association – The CGSA had a poster at the Boost Your Career event and several members attended.
- d. NOBCCHE – NOBCCHE had a display at the career event.

5. Old Business

- a. Online “volunteer” document – This has been posted online (complete).
- b. Bylaws review meeting – DW has not organized a meeting yet. JE has agreed to arrange a meeting for the executive committee.
- c. Boost Your Career Event review – ES reported that the event went well, with 50 attendees. Feedback indicated that the leadership presentation by Dr. Obare was very informative. All affiliated student organizations presented posters for the event.
- d. February Science Café (February 20) – Final details are coming together. JE explained his intentions for the talk. He will send a title and description to ES in time for email distribution (see below). Pizza and drinks will be ordered.
- e. March tour speaker (Dr. Hazari) – Preparations for this event are on schedule.
- f. Do-Dah Parade – ES has the entry form from Joel Colburn for 2012. In 2013, deadline is likely May 1. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, June 8.

- g. Chemistry and Culture: Food and Cooking – DW reported on the prospects for hosting an event at the Can Do Kitchen (limit of 20 persons). This seems too small for our intentions. ES proposed postponing the event until the fall (ca. September) to coincide with the beginning of the semester and to allow for more preparation. This was generally agreeable to the EC members. DW and ES will continue to evaluate and suggest additional options.

6. New Business

- a. Education Committee Updates. (a) James Kiddle was not able to attend our meeting to discuss the current approach to identifying outstanding high school teachers. This is postponed until the next meeting.
(b) James Kiddle has mailed requests to high school teachers to determine participation in this year's competitive exam.
(c) DS reported that the annual high school science symposium will be on Apr 30.
(d) DS also indicated that we will host three SEED students in 2013 (two Summer II students, one Summer I student). Mentors have been identified.
- b. Earth Day – MZ has contacted the new outreach coordinator at the Kalamazoo Nature Center. She is seeking volunteers and ideas for demonstrations that can be performed. ES and LH are actively assisting with ideas for content.
- c. Poster event 2013 – ES reported that John Wendt confirmed that funding was once again approved from Pfizer. The event is planned tentatively for late in the year (Nov. or Dec.).
- d. FORMS – Annual Report. Financial report was completed by JM and has been approved, and submitted for review by LSAC, by LH. ES asked about expectations for attaching descriptions, comments, etc. on activities. She also asked for recommendations of national awards for which we might want to self-nominate. LH, DW and JM offered to review the list of awards and activities and respond promptly.
- e. ACS redistricting – LH reported that the Committee on Nominations and Elections has reviewed district membership levels and is proposing that the Kalamazoo Section be moved from District II to District V to assist with rebalancing the Districts. LH felt that we were and will be well represented in either district and saw no reason to object to our reassignment. Committee members were invited to send concerns or comments to her before the spring meeting in New Orleans.
- f. ACS Leadership Conference summary – JE described his participation. He enjoyed the opportunity to convene with leaders from other sections and has already been recruited to present a talk on patents in the Detroit area. JE will write a short report for the next Newsletter.
- g. Next PR Email – David Bolliet recommended sending an email invitation in advance of our Science Café event (Feb 20). We will ask David to send this to the local membership on Feb 13. We will also add “save the date” notes for other upcoming events.
- h. Next meeting was tentatively set for Thursday, March 7 (first choice) or Tuesday, March 12 (second choice).

8. Around the table

LH reported that our ACS President-Elect Thomas Barton.

JM reported no response to the announcement for professional development grants. He suggested that we reassess our efforts to promote this benefit at the April meeting.

LH requested that discussion of our commitment to the 2015 Great Lakes & Central Joint Regional meeting should continue to be an Agenda Item.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.