

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Kalamazoo Section ACS**  
**Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 6:30 pm**  
**Hunan Gardens, W. Main**

**Members Present:** Steve Seacreast (SS), Sarut Jianrattanasawat (SJ), Doug Williams (DW), Lydia Hines (LH), Brian Eklov (BE), Andre Venter (AV), Chris Pruis (CP), Angela Willson-Conrad (AWC), Mike Walsh (MW)

**Start time:** 6:32 pm

**End time:** 7:58 pm

**1. Secretary's Report (AWC)**

- a. The January 2017 minutes were approved and will be sent to Mark for the website. AWC will also send minutes for the archive file on Google Drive to BE and SS.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

- a. **Update on Gas Money for Chem Clubs** – AV will reimburse Chem clubs at WMU and K College for gas money when they produce receipts.
- b. **Investment/Checking** – Investments are down slightly. We have upcoming income from PayPal for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. AV will check on the JGLCRM check and see if Mark has it or if it was sent to the hosting site.

**3. Chair's Report**

- a. **Review 2016 Annual Report and 2017 Budget** – We reviewed 2016 events that have been covered in the annual report. The events we covered included: 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Chemistry Day at the Museum, The Science Behind Crafting Beer, Dr. Tom Higgins, Chemists Celebrating Earth Day (Nature Center and city of Portage at Celery Flats), Recycle a Poster, Awards Gathering, Alton Brown, Journeyman, DowBQ, CGSA Ice Cream Social and Picnic, The I "Heart" STEM event at Lake Center, and so many more! BE would like to submit AV's beer crafting event for a ChemLuminary industrial event.
- b. **Review Leadership Conference** – SS found the event in Dallas very interesting and useful for his chair duties. He was able to network with other local sections and worked on joint project planning. They hope to have a rendezvous with other Michigan sections to discuss what is working at the local level. He got the most from the strategic planning sessions, which could be helpful to apply to our local section.
- c. **Chair Thoughts on 2017 Goals** – The ACS National goals are to provide information, empower members and member communities, support excellence in education, communicate chemistry's values. From this SS presented his 2017 goals that he would like to include in the report. This includes updating the KACS strategic plan, support excellence in education by reaching out to high school teachers to help implement new MI science standards, and communicate chemistry's value by expanding science café events to have a more reoccurring meeting. We had a brief discussion about how often these events would occur. We would strive to have monthly events. In February we have

the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in March we are open, in April AV is holding an art event that we might be able to co-sponsor or invite members to, May we have the Awards gathering. SS mentioned a few possible lines on speakers including disposable hand warmers with a man from Grand Rapids and/or Flint water crisis.

- d. **Call for ACS fellows, CCED committee chair, Teacher of the Year nominations (others?)** – If you know of anyone who would like to be an ACS fellow please let SS know. LH has offered to be CCED chair again. Teacher of the Year below under Education Committee.

#### 4. Education Committee

- a. **Teacher of the Year** – The Education Committee typically handles Teacher of the Year nominations. Historically we have asked for nominations from principals or teachers who wish to self nominate. We also include a post in the newsletter, which we will do again this year. We have kept nominations that we have received in other years, which means we have a possible nomination that we could use as the award winner. In addition, we discussed soliciting nominations from the students during the final competitive exam. After this year's exam, we have two weeks to turn around a student nomination before the Awards Ceremony. This means that we could give the students some sort of essay question asking them to nominate their teachers and give us some information about what they think makes them a great teacher. If this does not work we can use our past nomination, who we know is still teaching.
- b. **Project SEED application and needed follow-up** – We put in an application with two mentors; one mentor is from WMU and the other is from K College. We are waiting to hear from national if we get approved or not. If we get approved we will have to start contacting the high schools (counselors and/or teachers) to get qualified students to apply. We will need to update the budget to double check that we have \$2500 allocated to match ACS funds.

#### 5. Old Business

- a. **Update on Status of KACS' 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration (23 Feb)**
  - (i) **On-going prep work** – SJ passed around the bill for the food and linens for the event. The catering event has asked for 25% down of \$2,964 to hold our event (\$740.94). We can have 100 people at the Air Zoo without increasing our out-of-pocket cost, but children do not count for the catering count (12 years old and under). LH received an e-mail from the speaker today about the event. He is looking for help from a chemist to completely explain the fuel mixture. LH and BE have been working on getting photos organized and printed for the event. ES and LH will have poster displays of past activities, and ES has secured permission for us to borrow easels from Zoetis. She will also be at the event taking pictures. An order of the events needs to be finalized. We can start setting up at 5pm.
  - (ii) **Number of tickets sold** – We have sold more than 70 tickets (56 adults plus children) for the event.

- (iii) **Final publicity push** – CP scheduled Facebook reminders for the event that should go out to the membership. We would also like to send additional emails to membership about the event; these will need to be coordinated with CP. SS also offered to call members who have not registered for the event.

## 6. New Business

- a. Send items for the February Newsletter to: ACSkzoo@gmail.com by February 6th for publication by email on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. The final count day for the event is February 20<sup>th</sup>, but we set our reservation deadline for the 15<sup>th</sup>. Other content for the newsletter: Chair comments, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PayPal, Lake Center, Announce Fargo regional meeting.
- b. **Communication from Lake Center Elem PTA** – We received a nice thank you letter from the PTA thanking us for our financial support as well as participating the activity. LH will include it in the next newsletter.
- c. **Letters to Teachers** – The initial letters for the exam have gone out to high-school teachers. We have already received three requests, one of them from a new teacher, and WMU alum, at Bangor High School.
- d. **We need a Treasurer** – We are looking for nominations for a Treasurer to start in Summer to replace AV who will be on sabbatical.
- e. **Archive** – LH is interested in looking into updating our history using the archives. She will communicate with the history department for further information. SJ may have a lead on a historian who also has a chemistry background that he will send to LH.
- f. Set next EC meeting time will **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at Hunan Gardens on W. Main.**