

**Maine Section ASCE
February Board Meeting
February 21, 2008
Senator Inn
Augusta, Maine**

Role: Executive Board:

Tim Merritt, President	Present
Erik Wiberg, President Elect	Present
Chris Taylor, Vice-President	Present
Walter Fagerlund, Secretary	Present
Ralph Nelson, Treasurer	Present
Sarah Ashley, 1 st Year Director	Present
Scott Gorneau, NE Delegate	Present

Other Attendees:

Lauren Swett, Newsletter Co-editor	Present
Lynn Farrington, Co-editor	Present
Peter Merfeld, Past President & Membership	Present
Bob Chaput, Past President	Present
Jeremy Bragg, Outreach	Present

Meeting Minutes:

1. 4PM start; Welcome any guests, introductions.
2. **Approve January Board Meeting Minutes.** (Walter) – **Approved unanimously**
3. **Review/approve Treasurer's Report** (Ralph) - **Approved unanimously**
 - a. Consider raising Section dues based on remittance info from Ralph at summer planning meeting, survey membership for support on election ballots.
 - **To be considered further in Summer Planning meetings**
 - b. **Ralph explained the benefits of all electronic Informant**
 - c. **Additional ad revenue received**
4. Maine Section/Region 1/National events calendar (Tim)
 - a. **Governor's E-week proclamation** – Feb 26 @ 2:30; who attending with child??
 - i. **Need volunteers- Bob and Jeremy, Scott is back-up**
 - b. **E-week banquet & expo** – Feb 29/March 1; who going to banquet (2 tix) & who attending booth??
 - i. **Tim, Lauren to attend**
 - c. EOY, YEOY, & Citizen Award nomination deadline – March 31st
 - d. **Spring Region 1 Assembly/NEC mtg;** April 4-6 @ Springfield – hotel reserve. by March 4th
 - i. **Need to know who is interested – Jen or Scott**
 - e. Legislative Fly-In; DC, March 5-6; Phil and Walter going
 - f. Web page award deadline – June 1
5. Committees
 - a. Government Relations / Legislative Task Force (Be/Peter/Phil / Jeremy)
 - Any news yet from A/E Task Force on proposed bills?
 - No further movement on Resolve 46 Draft Proposal; building code changes

b. Program Committee (Chris, Erik, Patti)

i. **Monthly meetings (Chris):**

Feb 21: Salt water marsh restoration at Sherman Lake in Edgecomb, Charlie Hebson, MDOT
Augusta – Senator Inn Joint meeting with Society of Women Engineers

Mar 20: Technical Seminar; Renewable Energy and Infrastructure; Lewiston – Ramada
Still need a wind power speaker.

Mar 26 : Separate board meeting @ 5:30pm @ Stantec, 482 Payne Road?????

Apr 16: Student Chapter led meeting; **still want ASCE Executive Director, Pat Natale ?????**
Orono

May 15: Annual Meeting

Location TBD, YM helping Chris

- Eastland Hotel, Regency Hotel is being considered
- Tour of Ocean Gateway project

Ideas being considered:

- Skip technical presentation to allow more time for social activities, award presentations and other business
- **Order of the Engineer ceremony? – may still work since different group from April meeting, advertise it**
- Make it a more formal, fun event at a venue other than the usuals,
- Invite wives & husbands,
- Instead of having a technical presentation do a short, fun presentation. I'm thinking something historical from Maine - Greg??
- To go with the historical, fun theme do a 'slide rule competition' for each table with prizes.
- Offer a challenge to the regular firms to send the most employees/members with a prize for the employees attending.
- Do the usual awards but also add a few YM sponsored awards - maybe the most innovative project of the year and the Community Service award? **We have 10 Life Member Awards, including Tom Sanford this year.**
 1. **Who is inviting and doing the plaques? –Chris to handle it.**
- Obviously this will all cost a little more - maybe we could get companies to sponsor tables with their advertisements on them? Possibly sell hats or polo shirts as a fundraiser?
- **Golf needs to be considered**

Include with annual election ballots a survey RE: meetings.

- **Locations, times, cost, topics, etc.**

ii. E-Week (Erik)

- **Booth? Who? Laptops?**
 1. **Jeremy has sent in information**
 2. **SEAM may help too**
- Newspaper ads have been submitted for E-week supplement & MEPC TV commercial is on YouTube.

iii. Technical Seminar (Patti/Sarah)

- **Still need wind power speaker? Ralph penciled in for now.**
Next mtg will be March 3 or 5th (Mon or Wed)????
- **16 registrations so far**

iv. Special Programs – Jeremy mentioned trying to do another seminar with SEAM like Blodgett's Welding seminar. SEAM has plans to do a NDS for timber design seminar, we had initial talks at Jan joint meeting.

c. **Infrastructure Report Card** (Peter)

Progress is being made though slow. **Still looking for champions in several areas.** Peter has not put too much energy into this but feel May deadline for submitting draft summary reports and grades for each area is doable.

d. **Nominating** (Peter)

Lauren Swett has been nominated as 1st Year Region 1/NE Delegate. Ballot is ready for Informant. Need member survey to accompany it.

- **Chris and Tim to consider survey options, possible separate**

e. **Membership** (Peter)

Peter has reviewed presentation from nationals and added a couple of Maine section slides. Is good to go with a bit more tweaking. I have made contact with Bruce Van Note regarding idea for a Pizza recruitment party at DOT in Augusta and he concurred. I sent an email to a dozen existing ASCE members at DOT for their support and will try to schedule in April. I have not done anything regarding U>Maine graduates (gifts).

- **April 25th membership meeting at MaineDOT**
- **Discuss UMO graduate initiative at March meeting – gift to grads, encourage joining ASCE**

f. **Public Relations** (Erik)

- Developed short piece for E-week supplement highlighting WP Bridge Design Contest and Infrastructure Report Card
- Focus on reporter database and Report Card PR.
- Join Maine Public Promotion Council and subscribe to MaineBusiness.com?
- Maine Handicap Skiing ski-a-thon on March 29th, donations at www.firstgiving.com/scottgorneau
- Rebuilding Together event on April 26th. Raise money?

g. **Student Outreach/West Point** (Jeremy)

- West Point contest should be launched electronically ?. Hard copy mailing to go out by end of month???? Have sponsors been contacted? Flyer for E-week booth???
- Small brainstorming session to be scheduled for initiating a pre-engineering curriculum at Deering High School. Have developed a list of potential attendees.
 - **Working to bring high school engineering prep programs together**
- Met with Tad Johnston (Mathematics Specialist & Regional Representative Maine Department of Education) who is interested in Engineers into Classrooms initiative. He will be connecting us with other members of the Dept. of Education.
- Presentation to be given at high school class in Biddeford on January 25th (Lynn's boss will be presenting). He will be providing feedback.

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) summit in Augusta on January 24th. Will attend to see how state efforts can be married with ASCE effort in terms of engineering outreach.
 - Meeting on January 28th with Pat Hinckley, who is the associate director of professional development at Cianbro but also has a strong resume in engineering and organization. Pat is excited about outreach initiative and should have good advice if not an active role.
 - Will be meeting in near future with outreach committee members from BSCE and Rhode Island ASCE to discuss ideas and potential joint efforts.
 - Working with Steve Cole to mesh MEPC speaker's bureau with Engineers into Classrooms
 - **Initial effort for Engineer into Classrooms brochure begin this month**
 - **Effort will be made to establish a date for brainstorming session in April or May, as well as looking for a facilitator.**
 - Considering possibility of holding committee meetings as needed. Need volunteers.
 - **Committee meeting soon**
- h. Student Chapter (Eric Landis/Lynn)
- Order of the Engineer ceremony on March 25th.
 - April joint meeting – Pat Natale?
 - **Speaker to be determined.**
- i. Younger Members (Jen/Lynn/Lauren)
- **PE class venues? Third venue for back-up would be nice.**
 - Recent and upcoming events?
 - Red Sox tix
 - Ice Skating
- j. Awards (Phil)
- Phil/Tim created award criteria for Maine Section Citizen Engineer Award; in Informant and on web page.
 - **Need nominations**
 - Nomination for Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) Ralph Knowlton Award?
 - Peter presented a prepared nomination for consideration by the Board
 - Board to review, need to make a decision on nomination soon
- k. Newsletter (Lynn/Lauren)
- 2/20 deadline for March Informant submission. Need filler material?? Should re-run tech seminar ad, west point kick off, E-week info, Report Card champion needs, Section Awards call for nominations
 - **2000 hits on the website for the electronic issue**
- l. Web page (Ralph)
- **All updated, will add WPB information**
 - Ralph has added news articles
 - Web activity was presented,
- m. History & Heritage (Greg)
- **Status of dam applicataions? Wyman Dam? Bangor water tower?**
 - We have received 4,000 more Landmarks brochures, distributed to Maine Tourism and Turnpike, kept 100 to pass out to members at meetings or as requested (Tim has).
 - **Need to find co-chair** for Greg to better progress potential Landmark applications

n. Maine DEP Task Force (Kathy K/Dave K)

MDEP is developing a very robust GIS based system that includes contaminated sites, monitoring wells, water and gravel aquifers, drinking wells, borings. They plan to add vernal pools and septic systems as well.

o. Scholarship (Leslie)

All applications are in and are in the process of being judged. There was a record this year with 24 applicants, but 21 are being judged because 3 were incomplete. Judging will be complete in a couple weeks.

n. Diversity (Jen)

Jen has not been able to do much on this committee due to new job. She would like to step down as chair if we can find replacement, because she doesn't feel that she has time to do it justice. She would like to stay involved though.

Looking for a new Chair

6. Old Business

- Resolve 46 Draft Proposal by the Business, Research and Economic Development (BRED) Committee of the Legislature. SEAM taking the lead and if passed will nominate the structural engineer that will sit on the Technical Building Codes Board. Objectives are:
 - To reduce the cost of designing and permitting for new construction and rehab of existing and historic buildings
 - To improve public safety, accessibility, quality of construction and energy efficiency while reducing uncertainty and risk for lenders, consumers and insurers
 - To identify a process of building related codes administration that provides the appropriate scale and scope of building regulation for Maine.

7. New Business –

- National President-Elect candidate endorsement?? Should we endorse 1 from the 3 candidates?
 - **Board will review the nominations and review**
- Region 1 grant program
 - **May be opportunity for Section to submit – Jeremy to look into it**