



American Society of Civil Engineers
Philly Section Younger Member
Forum
Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday, September 26, 2013
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: Pennoni Associates
3001 Market Street, Suite 200
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Attendance List:

Chris Gray, Drew Sirianni, Steve Maakestad, Chris Renfro, Amanda, Kessler, Jesse Gormley, Brett Coleman, Meredith Lis, Zach Suralik, Scott Cepietz, Kevin Brown, Andrew Bechtel, Nha Truong, Mike Zettlemyer, Marc Preim, Colette Montague, Adrienne Nikolic, Allie Sedor, Eammon Farley, Kazi Hassan

Via telephone: Scott Cepietz, Jeremy Pampuch, and Niki Eno

Guests: Phil the Hedgehog (ASCE National Mascot)

Responsibility for action items is indicated by **bold type**

- 1) The meeting minutes from the previous meeting on August 12th were approved.
- 2) Section/National Update
 - a) YMF Budget Status – The YMF requested a sizable increase (~33%) in the budget for the 2013/2014 fiscal year, mostly due to the creation of the Engineering Club. The total amount is \$5,700.
 - b) Nov. Section Dinner Meeting – Chris Gray noted that the Section already has a speaker lined up for the November Dinner Meeting. The speaker will be Jeff Knupel (SEPTA Director) and the meeting will be on November 14th. The YMF should coordinate a speaker for January Dinner Meeting.
 - c) ASCE President and Governors Forum (9/22 – 9/23) – Chris Gray and Jenn Walsh attended the Forum in Reston, Virginia which involved a lot of information sharing among chapters.
 - d) ASCE National Conference (10/9 – 10/12) – Joe Platt and Jesse Gormley are attending the National Conference. The Section is looking for displays for past events to show at the Conference and Jenn Walsh suggested creating something for the Scavenger Hunt that was held in April. **Steve and Jesse** will coordinate to create a display for the conference.
 - e) ASCE Report Card (Pennsylvania) – It was noted that the Section is looking for volunteers to help with the development of Pennsylvania's Report Card, which is completed every four years. If interested, please contact Ann Tomalavage on the Section Board.
- 3) Recap of Past Events
 - a) Amtrak Technical Lunch Presentation (8/14) – Amanda Kessler provided an update on the lunch seminar and tour at Amtrak's 30th Street Station. The event had 39 attendees. Rich Levine gave a good presentation on Amtrak's plan and Paul Roddy gave a tour of 30th Street Station.
 - b) Six Flags with Central Jersey (8/18) – Chris Gray noted that the South Jersey Branch has a surplus of about 30 Six Flags tickets that are for sale at a discounted rate. Not many from the Philadelphia Section attended the event on the 18th.
 - c) Phillies Game (8/21) – The Phillies game was a success with over 120 tickets sold. The Delaware Section helped out but the South Jersey section did not get involved.
 - d) College Roundtable – Meeting was held on 9/16 with local universities to discuss upcoming events and past events as well as what the colleges would like to get out of the YMF. The President of Widener is paying their dues to get them off of probation. **Kevin Brown** will reach out to ASCE National to make sure that Widener's dues are paid. Subsequent to the meeting, it

was verified that Widener has paid their dues and brought back into good standing with ASCE National.

4) Upcoming Events

- a) Villanova Day of Service (September 28) – 7 people registered for Villanova Day of Service which will involve serving food at a shelter.
- b) Welcome Back Bowling Event – Mike and Nha organized the bowling event for October 15th. The bowling alley can accommodate 48 attendees.
- c) Philabundance Hunger Relief – Zach Suralik scheduled this community service event for November 26th from 6:00 to 8:30PM. This event will involve assisting the warehouse distribution center. There is a limit of 30 people for this event.
- d) Joint Happy Hour with ASHE– **Nha Truong** will coordinate with Alexa Harper of ASHE about a Happy Hour event in mid-December that will likely be in the King of Prussia area.
- e) The Winter Social will be held at McGillin’s Olde Ale House on January 27th. McGillin’s agreed to the same rate as previous years. The board agreed that members would also be charged the same rates as previous years. **Drew Sirianni** will send the \$500 deposit to McGillin’s and will email a sign-up list to the board to seek sponsorship from firms.

5) Potential Events

- a) College Contacts – Kevin and Andrew met with the local colleges to get an understanding of what they want to see from the YMF. **Kevin** will send an email around to the Board on discussion topics as well as potential dates to hold the meetings and presentations.
 - i) Temple requested a panel presentation of engineers with various backgrounds.
 - ii) TCNJ expressed interest in a presentation focusing on either Geotechnical Engineering or Water Resources.
 - iii) Widener was interested in a presentation on various design software packages.
 - iv) Swarthmore College would like a presentation on a bridge project or bridge maintenance project.
- b) Community Service
 - i) Scott Cepietz did not hear back from Rebuilding Together Philadelphia
 - ii) **Zach Suralik** will continue to work with Philabundance on planning future events.
 - iii) Zach Suralik is planning on completing a training session so that he can run FOW trail work events independently.
 - iv) The board discussed potentially running a charity event such as a volley ball tournament that could potentially raise money for CANstruction.
- c) K – 12 Outreach – *Jesse/Brett/Meredith*
 - i) **Brett Coleman** will reach out to The Boys & Girls Club of America about a future meeting.
 - ii) Jesse and Kazi are currently looking into obtaining grants to raise money to fund CivE Club programs. Jesse will develop an outline and meet with Mike to develop a curriculum for the CivE Club.
 - iii) Chris Gray suggested trying to start a Civil Engineering club at another school, perhaps one located outside of the City.
 - iv) The Future City Competition is on January 25th. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate.
- d) Professional Development
 - i) The Board discussed using the building collapse in Philadelphia for the Critical Issues Seminar. However, it was agreed that this could be a difficult topic to get people to talk openly about the issues amidst litigation and may want to consider Construction Safety or Disaster Relief Planning as an alternative topic. The YMF may want to consider a joint event with PSPE.
 - ii) The Board discussed doing a session on Golf basics/etiquette.
- e) Technical Groups

- i) **Jeremy Pampuch** discussed doing a tour of a concrete plant or the steel mill in Conshohocken in November. The Board agreed that this event would be ideal for the first week of November if possible.
 - ii) **Marc Preim** is looking into planning a construction tour in the spring for the Schuylkill River Trail Boardwalk.
- 6) Miscellaneous/Open Discussion
- a) eRoom Privileges – Board members should check to see if they have access. Note that it is easier to upload a zip folder with multiple photos than to load the photos individually. When uploading a file, full permissions must be set to “Everyone” so that the whole board has access, instead of only whoever uploaded the file being the owner.
 - b) **Amanda Kessler** developed a draft press release and will follow up with Adrienne Nikolic about posting in PA-AWWA.
 - c) National is encouraging the Sections to have a standardized logo format. The Philadelphia section can continue to use its logo but if it decides to change, ASCE National would like it to conform to the standard format.
- 7) Officer Reports
- a) Sirianni – Nothing additional
 - b) **Maakestad** – Will send out an email blast in the near future.
 - c) Renfro – Chris inquired about the CANstruction donation check from AECOM.
 - d) Kessler – Amanda noted that the newsletter is going out soon if anyone has write ups to send along.
 - e) Jesse Gormley / Brett Coleman / Meredith Lis – Nothing additional
 - f) Zach Suralik / Scott Cepietz – Nothing additional
 - g) Kevin Brown / Andrew Bechtel – Kevin brought up the scavenger hunt idea and the board decided to table it until 2015.
 - h) Nha Truong / Mike Zettlemyer – Nothing additional.
 - i) Marc Preim / Jeremy Pampuch – Nothing additional.
 - j) Colette Montague – Colette brought up that the board will be nominating Jeremy Chrzan for Young Engineer of the Year for Delaware Valley Engineers Week. The Board confirmed that Jeremy is still under 36 years of age....we think.
 - k) Eno – Nothing additional.
 - l) Adrienne Nikolic / Allie Sedor – Adrienne will select 2 winners for the bowling event.
 - m) Farley – Nothing additional.
 - n) Gray – mentioned that the Section commended the YMF on a job well done planning past and upcoming events.

The next board meeting will be scheduled sometime in late October or early November.

-The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm-