



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



**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2014  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Urban Engineers  
530 Walnut Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA

Attendance List:

Chris Gray, Drew Sirianni, Steve Maakestad, Chris Renfro, Amanda Kessler, Jesse Gormley, Brett Coleman, Meredith Lis, Scott Cepietz, Kevin Brown, Andrew Bechtel, Nha Truong, Mike Zettlemoyer, Jeremy Pampuch, Colette Montague, Jen Reigle, Kazi Hassan, Cathy Farrell, Darin D'Achille  
Via telephone: Niki Eno, Adrienne Nikolic

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

- 1) The November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved.
- 2) Section/National Update
  - a) The Section is having a joint dinner meeting with ASHE on 1/15 at the Radisson in Valley Forge. The topic is the Schuylkill River Trail.
  - b) ASCE student scholarships are due in two weeks. The scholarships are meant for sophomores and juniors and the applicants need to be a member of the ASCE student chapter. The YMF is advertising these scholarships on its website and email blasts.
  - c) The board discussed the CYM awards that YMF will apply for including the Peers Group Award, the Outstanding Chapter Award, and Outstanding Website. **Amanda Kessler** completed the annual CYM report and is completing all of the required applications for these awards. The YMF nominated two engineers for the Young Engineer award, Kazi Hassan for the private sector award and Chris Renfro for the public sector award.
  - d) Chris Gray discussed the ERYMC leadership conference that will take place in Indianapolis on February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. **Chris Gray, Kazi Hassan, Jesse Gormley, Brett Coleman, Kevin Brown, Nha Truong and Jeremy Chrzan (CYM)** are attending.
  - e) Engineers Week is coming up in February. The Young Engineer Social will be held at the Manayunk Brew Pub on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Kevin Brown has taken the lead with the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Planning Committee on organizing this event. The YMF will advertise this event on the website and through email blast once the Winter Social is over. Phillip Gonski was awarded Young Engineer of the Year.
- 3) Recap of Past Events
  - a) Jeremy Pampuch provided an overview of the Arcelormittal Tour in Conshohocken on 11/13. Approximately 21 people attended including 4 or 5 students from Swarthmore with their professor. It was an excellent tour and Arcelormittal is the largest steel mining/processor in the world.
  - b) Chris Gray provided an update on the Philabundance Hunger Relief volunteer event. It had a good turnout and we should definitely consider working with Philabundance to do this type of event in the future.
  - c) Kevin Brown provided a recap of the panel discussion at Villanova University. Approximately 27 students attended and they had several questions. Most of the students were either freshman or sophomores.

- d) The joint happy hour with ASHE at Rock Bottom Brewery in King of Prussia was a successful event with over 50 in attendance. 71 registered for the event and it stayed under budget. It was noted that space was limited and sectioned off to two areas which made it a little tight.

4) Upcoming Events

- a) The Future Cities Competition will be held on 1/25 from 8am to 1pm. **Jeremy Pampuch, Kevin Brown, Nha Truong, Chris Gray and Brett Coleman** are volunteering for this event.
- b) The North Jersey ASCE Section is holding the ski trip to Camelback Mountain on 1/25. The board discussed considering this as a joint event for next year.
- c) The board discussed the upcoming Winter Social (1/27). As of this meeting, there are 110 RSVPs and \$3,200 in donations. **Chris Gray** will bring the raffle tickets. Several logos are needed for sponsoring companies including: AD Marble, Dawood, DRIVE, and O'Donnell & Naccarato. Drew Sirianni requested that we bring the prizes with the donated amount and name of company written on the outside (**All**).
- d) **Jesse Gormley** discussed the Civil Engineering Club and provided an update. It looks as though the club will start up in mid-February. Chris Gray noted that he spoke to the Philadelphia Youth Network which connects people with High Schools. This may provide opportunities with another school and develop a program.
- e) The Drexel AEI Conference will take place from 3/27 to 3/29. Drexel invited the YMF to hold a joint social event at the World Café Live on 3/29. The board agreed that the YMF could advertise this event and possibly help sponsor. The YMF has limited budget available so it was recommended that the Section to consider sponsoring this event. **Cathy Farrell** will inquire with the Section regarding sponsorship.

5) Potential Events

- a) College Contacts
  - i) **Kevin Brown** will give a presentation to the Drexel Civil Engineering students about the GR1 construction project on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 7PM.
  - ii) The board discussed possibly holding a graduation picnic in order to keep the local students involved with ASCE. The board agreed that someone should be appointed to lead this and funding should be set aside for this event.
- b) Community Service – *Zach/Scott*
  - i) **Scott Cepietz** will look into setting up a community service event with in March. Scott or Zach Suralik will look into another opportunity to do volunteer trail work.
- c) K – 12 Outreach – *Jesse/Brett/Meredith*
  - i) **Brett Coleman** is looking into Great Valley for Boys & Girls Club of America.
  - ii) **Meredith Lis** noted that Widener University Engineering Girls Camp is on 2/8 and needs women interested in participating to contact her.
  - iii) **Meredith Lis** noted that McCall's Elementary School Women's Career Day is on 3/27 and needs women interested in participating to contact her.
  - iv) Transportation YOU (with WTS) was noted as a possible joint event.
- d) Professional Development – *Jen/Niki*
  - i) Jen Reigle discussed the Critical Issues Seminar and mentioned that "Risk and Liability" is the topic that they are currently considering.
- e) Technical Groups – *Marc/Jeremy*
  - i) The 202/Pierson Construction Tour on the list for next year.
  - ii) Jeremy Pampuch discussed the Schuylkill River Trail Boardwalk tour which will be held in the early spring of 2014. The YMF may consider making this a joint event with Drexel AEI.

6) Miscellaneous/Open Discussion

- a) **Kazi Hassan** provided an update on the addition to the YMF website for the Civil Engineering Club. Kazi will coordinate with Chris Renfro to finalize this.
  - b) **Chris Renfro and Kevin Brown** will lead Canstruction this year. Chris registered the YMF. Vince Manners attended the kickoff meeting this evening. Board members should let Chris know if you want to join the team.
  - c) **Amanda Kessler** discussed possible press release ideas and it was agreed that it would be worth highlighting one of the larger initiatives or upcoming community services events. It was noted that Canstruction may be a good fit for a press release.
  - d) Chris Gray noted that Darren D'Achille, a guest at the meeting, is interested in joining the YMF board next year. Darren is an engineer at AECOM.
- 7) Officer Reports
- a) Vice President (Drew Sirianni) – Drew will finish the Winter Social Event Flyer so that the event can be posted on the website.
  - b) Secretary (Stephen Maakestad) – Steve will send out an email blast highlighting the Winter Social and ASCE scholarships that are available. Steve recommended providing sign-up capability on the YMF website using Formstack which works with Constant Contacts.
  - c) Treasurer (Chris Renfro) – Nothing additional.
  - d) Newsletter Editor (Amanda Kessler) – Nothing additional.
  - e) K-12 Outreach Coordinator (Jesse Gormley / Brett Coleman / Meredith Lis) – Nothing Additional.
  - f) Community Service Chair (Zach Suralik / Scott Cepietz) – Scott mentioned that he attended the ASCE South Jersey tour at Flying Fish brewery. There was not a large attendance but it was a good time.
  - g) College Contacts Chair (Kevin Brown / Andrew Bechtel) – Kevin mentioned that he will plan to make one more visit to all of the Universities in the next 5 months. Andrew recommended considering a joint event with IEEE. The YMF could consider a joint happy hour on a topic that would interest the younger crowd.
  - h) Social Chair (Nha Truong / Mike Zettlemoyer) – Nha discussed the possibility of coordinating a joint event with AWRA.
  - i) Technical Groups Chair (Marc Preim / Jeremy Pampuch) – Nothing Additional.
  - j) Affiliate Society Liaison (Colette Montague) – Colette discussed the possibility of doing a joint event with MASITE.
  - k) Professional Development Chair (Jen Reigle / Niki Eno) – Nothing Additional.
  - l) Social Media Chair (Adrienne Nikolic / Allie Sedor) – Nothing Additional. The YMF has over 150 likes on Facebook.
  - m) IT Chair (Eammon Farley) – Nothing Additional.
  - n) Past President (Kazi Hassan) – Kazi inquired about the Constant Contacts open rate and mentioned that typical open rate for the section has been between 20% and 40%. The YMF has seen a similar open rate.
  - o) Mentors (Jeremy Chrzan, Cathy Farrell) – Cathy gave a pep talk.
- 8) The next board meeting will be scheduled sometime in early March. The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm. Kazi Hassan and Jesse Gormley provided an overview of their presentation on Organizing a Civil Engineering Club which they will present at ERYMC.