



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



Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2015
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: Powell Trachtman
475 Allendale Road, Suite 200
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attendance List: Kevin Brown, Joe Natale, Jeremy Pampuch, Mike Zettlemyer, Amanda Kessler, Brett Coleman, Nha Truong, Chris Renfro, Drew Sirianni

Via telephone: Adrienne Donaghue, Allie Sedor, Jesse Gormley, Zach Suralik, Paige Glassman, Eammon Farley, Scott Cepietz, Kristin Leese, Meredith Lis, Darren D'Achille, Chris Gray

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

- 1) February 16th meeting minutes were approved and are to be posted to the eRoom and website.
(Brown/Farley)
- 2) Section/National Update
 - a) Section
 - i. The Section Dinner Meeting will be taking place at the Villanova Conference Center in Radnor, PA. The presentations will be on Remembering Karl Terzaghi: "The father of Geotechnical Engineering," The 11th Street Bridge – Successful Re-sequencing During Construction and Ethics. Drew reminded everyone that this is not at Villanova University.
 - ii. There were approximately 7 to 9 student scholarship applicants and the Section awarded 2 students scholarships.
 - iii. The PA Infrastructure Day is on May 11, 2015 and the ASCE is allowing members to meet with legislators in Harrisburg on the 11th. Currently, the ASCE is looking for those interested in attending.
 - iv. There has been a tour scheduled for Dilworth Plaza midday on May 14, 2015.
 - v. The ASCE Philadelphia Section announced that the Spring Social will be on May 14, 2015 at the Le Meridien on Arch Street; the RSVP for this event is not currently open.
 - b) National
 - i. Board members Drew, Kolleen, and Chris R. will be attending the student conference at Penn State University (Main Campus) on Sunday April 12, 2015 to judge the concrete canoe, geowall and steel bridge competitions respectively. Drew mentioned that reimbursement for certain funds used while volunteering for the student conference could be reimbursed. **(Sirianni/Backlund/Renfro)**
 - ii. Sometime this year ASCE will be transitioning the eRoom to Higher Logic. An Archive Best Practices webinar took place which Jeremy and Chris R. were able to attend. Jeremy and Chris R. provided a recap of the webinar stating that though there isn't an official release date for Higher Logic, all Younger Member Groups should have the files that are to be transferred to High Logic in a folder labelled "Higher Logic" by July 1, 2015. There was discussion on backing up the YMF's files externally as a second "backup" in case some unforeseen issues come about during the transition. It was mentioned that there is a possibility that those YMGs with very large amounts of files can use Zythos to store larger amounts of data. Nha agreed to assist with this transition.
(Pampuch/Renfro/Truong)

3) Recap of Past Events

- a) ASCE YMF Mock Interviews - The Mock Interview sessions ran from February 23rd to the 26th and were very successful; 11 applicants, 10 scheduled interviews and 9 interviews conducted. A survey was sent to each of the participants to gain feedback on the sessions. The Mock Interview Committee also reached out to the volunteer interviewers for their feedback. The committee discussed all of the feedback during a debrief conference call held on April 1, 2015. The committee plans to run the next session in the fall semester.
(Brown/Kessler/Suralik/Zettlemoyer)
- b) Spring Happy Hour - The Spring Happy Hour at 2nd Story Brewing Company was very successful and there was a lot of positive feedback about the venue and the food. The food was a little pricy and this event went slightly over budget; the chairs suggested that this is accounted for in next year's budget.
- c) West Philadelphia Soup Squad - The West Philadelphia Soup Squad community service event went very well; 10 people attended to help make 85 servings of soup. The event lasted approximately 2 hours. There was interest from both parties to do this type of event again.
- d) ADS Facility Tour - The ADS tour in New Jersey was a successful facility tour with just under 20 people attending. The event was a tour of a plastic corrugated pipe manufacturing facility which was followed by a presentation at a bar/restaurant near the facility. Food was provided by the ADS representatives. If this venue were to be used again for presentations it was suggested that an HDMI cord be used to link directly to the monitors already in the room.
- e) GETT Expo - Paige and Amanda attended Great Valley High School on March 21, 2015 to participate in their Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT) Expo. Approximately 60 girls participated in their tower building competition. Teams were to build a tower out of paper, masking tape and paper clips. The activity took up a lot of space but the girls seemed to enjoy the activity.
- f) ASCE YMF/PSPE Joint Happy Hour - The ASCE YMF and Delaware County PSPE joint event was very successful. There were presentations from Pennoni Associates, Powell Trachtman, Jacobs and Communications Test Designs Inc. and PDHs were distributed. The YMF partly sponsored this event with an \$100 donation.
- g) Mastery Charter Career Day - The Mastery Charter High School career day took place at the Lenfest Campus on 4th Street in Center City. There were about 130 panelists that represented various career types. The students were very enthusiastic and asked very good questions. Scott will do a recap on this event. **(Cepietz)**
- h) Boyertown School Visit - Brett attended the Boyertown School and presented "What is Civil Engineering" to 8 of their classes.
- i) Arcola STEAM Day - Brett visited Arcola Intermediate School in Norristown, PA for their Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) Day event where he talked about civil engineering to the group.

4) Upcoming Events

- a) CANstruction - Build night for CANstruction will be on Friday, April 17, 2015. The team will be building a rocket with its title being, "To Philadundance and Beyond." With the help of former board member, Steve Maakestad the CANstruction team was able to receive a generous donation of cans from Campbell's. The team will be meeting shortly to discuss progress and ideas on how to construct the rocket on build night. Kevin mentioned that if anyone is working on sponsorship for CANstruction please let him know. **(Brown/Renfro)**
- b) West Philadelphia Soup Squad - With such positive feedback from the previous soup squad community service event the community service chairs are planning another event with the West Philadelphia Soup Squad on either April 20th or April 27th. Coordination with the Section for the donation check is ongoing. **(Gormley/Suralik/Sirianni/Renfro)**

- c) Upper Darby High School Outreach - Kolleen and Jeremy will be attending Upper Darby High School on April 23rd to present to some of their engineering classes. There are two sessions scheduled: 9:10 – 10:30 AM and 1:22 – 2:41 PM. Jeremy mentioned he may not be able to stay for the second session and it was suggested that the YMF membership could be asked for volunteers via email blast.
 - d) Adopt-A-Highway - First ASCE YMF/ASHE YMC joint Adopt-A-Highway cleanup scheduled for April 25, 2015 (rain or shine). The group will meet at the Fireside Bar & Grill at 1:00 PM and will commence the cleanup shortly after. The cleanup will take about 2 hours and gloves, safety vests and trash bags will be provided. Participants will be invited to stay for a happy hour at the Fireside Bar & Grill post cleanup.
 - e) Critical Issues Seminar - The Critical Issues Seminar (CIS) is tentatively set for May 6, 2015 with the topic being P3 projects. As of now, the professional development chairs are leaning toward using Ladder 15 as the venue for the CIS. As far as speakers, they're looking into having PennDOT's head of P3 projects sit on the panel as well as another PennDOT representative. Darren has also been in contact with one of his colleagues to serve as a potential panelist. Darren is looking to have several different P3 project perspectives on the panel. Chris R. mentioned that he could possibly get a person to represent the contractor's point of view to sit on the panel and Mike Z. stated he could do the same for a lawyer. The chairs mentioned that their next steps are to work on the event logistics. Darren stated that Ladder 15 may have a 75 person minimum to use the space on the 3rd floor but he'll double check to see if they're flexible with that number. Allie added that ASHE agreed to contribute \$200 to the CIS and MASITE agreed to contribute \$200 as well. Chris G. suggested that the board come up with several questions to bridge any down time during the seminar. **(Sedor/D'Achille)**
 - f) Phillies Tailgate - Mike reserved 125 tickets for the Phillies game against the Braves on July 30, 2015 in Section 310, rows 1-7 and part of row 8. Mike mentioned that the Phillies are offering a \$4.00 per ticket discount to non-profit organizations which resulted in better seats for the same price as last year. There is a \$5.00 per ticket deposit required; the invoice will be mailed to Mike and the deposit can be paid by check. If there are over a 100 people in the YMF tailgate group there is a possibility that Lincoln Financial would allow the YMF to reserve a tailgate area within the parking lot. **(Zettlemoyer/Lis)**
- 5) Potential Events
- a) College Student Scavenger Hunt - Paige and Adrienne have emailed the student chapter leaders asking them to select a weekend for the scavenger hunt. As of now, they're looking into having the event on the weekend of May 2nd. There is a possibility that the scavenger hunt could be a joint event with the American Planners Association (APA). **(Glassman/Donaghue)**
 - b) Professional Networking Night - Temple University's ASCE student chapter president, Jacob Nichols, reached out to the college contacts about an event their hosting on Monday, April 14, 2015 called "Professional Networking Night"
 - c) Family Feud Happy Hour – Survey sent out to gain the responses needed for the family feud game. There were 50 responses with some responses being very good. The plan is for this to be a joint event with YPT. Field House is listed as a potential venue and Chris R. will look into Smith's to see if that is a viable option for a venue. It was decided that this event can take place in June. **(Lis/Zettlemoyer)**
 - d) Manayunk High Line Construction Tour – Currently, there is no update on this. Chris will follow up with his contact after today's board meeting and he'll target mid-May for this tour. **(Renfro/Pampuch)**
 - e) Election Happy Hour – The plan is to continue to have this event at Tavern on Broad. Drew would like the upcoming email blasts to include a blurb stating that if anyone is interested in joining the board then they should contact the current ASCE YMF President. **(Brown)**

- f) Fox Chase ES Outreach – Kolleen is currently working on scheduling a visit before the end of the current school year. **(Backlund)**
 - g) Joint Event with the Young Architects Forum (YAF) – The contact for this has been very slow with responding. It was suggested the Chris G. may have a contact that could be reached out to for this event. **(Brown)**
 - h) MontCo Infrastructure Advancement Presentation – Ken Starr is looking for interest in seeing a presentation on Montgomery County’s approach to addressing structurally deficient and obsolete bridges as well as a preview for upcoming projects. Mr. Starr stated in his email that he could host. It was determined that if the YMF agrees to participate, it should be done in June and Mr. Starr should be informed that there may be a low turnout. **(Sirianni)**
 - i) AWRA Happy Hour – Exploring the possibility of the YMF teaming up with the AWRA to do a Happy Hour where the YMF would promote to its members. The YMF members would pay \$10 for an open bar event. Nha would be able to work on a flyer for this event. **(Truong)**
 - j) Lansdale Interchange Construction Tour – Joe will follow up with Bethany from the Lehigh Valley Section for any updates on the tour. **(Natale)**
 - k) Plant Tours – Jeremy brought up the idea of possibly doing more brewery tours. It was agreed that if this were to be done it should wait to next year.
- 6) Miscellaneous Business
- a) ECP @ the Philadelphia Science Festival – The Engineers Club of Philadelphia is looking for volunteers to work at the booth for different blocks of time. Brett can share some activities for those who decide to participate.
 - b) YMF Board Structure – Drew mentioned that the executive board met about possibly changing the structure of the board slightly. The change would be as such, where the appointed board positions would be in a committee overseen by one of the four executive board members; this would relieve the president of the pressures of having all board positions reporting to the president by evenly dividing that work among the remaining executive board members. Any questions, concerns or idea can be directed to any of the executive board members. **(Sirianni/Renfro/Kessler/Brown)**
- 7) Open Discussion
- a) ASCE Section’s Website – The section will unveil their new website at the Spring Social.
- 8) Officer Reports
- a) Vice President (Chris Renfro) – Working on the Winter Social donation checks.
 - b) Secretary (Kevin Brown) – Nothing Additional.
 - c) Treasurer (Amanda Kessler) – Everyone is aware of their respective budgets, please let Amanda know if there is a chance you may exceed that budget.
 - d) Newsletter/Public Relations (Kristin Leese) – Please submit write-ups by the 17th or 18th of April.
 - e) K-12 Outreach Coordinator (Brett Coleman/Kolleen Backlund) – Nothing Additional.
 - f) CivE Club Coordinator (Nha Truong) – There is an upcoming field trip to a wastewater treatment plant. If anyone is interested in attending please let Nha know. Nha confirmed that there are volunteers assigned to CivE club sessions for the remainder of the year. Nha is currently planning the end-of-year ceremony; it’ll take place toward the end of May.
 - g) Community Service Chair (Zach Suralik/Jesse Gormley) – Nothing Additional.
 - h) College Contacts Chair (Adrienne Donaghue/ Paige Glassman) – Visited almost all of the schools and will be visiting Swarthmore College next week. Also, no visit to TCNJ has been made.
 - i) Social Chair (Mike Zettlemyer/ Meredith Lis) – It would be beneficial to have a calendar that the board had access to in order to organize and keep track of events. Drew to distribute Google calendar login info to the board for everyone’s use in planning and scheduling events. Anyone planning an event should create a full-day placeholder until the date is confirmed at which point it should be updated with times and details. **(Sirianni)**
 - j) Technical Groups Chair (Jeremy Pampuch/Joe Natale) – Nothing Additional.

- k) Affiliate Society Liaison (Scott Cepietz) – No longer on the call.
 - l) Professional Development Chair (Allie Sedor, Darren D’Achille) – Asked the board to think of questions for the CIS. There will be a google doc for board members to submit questions. Will be working on confirming speakers for the seminar.
 - m) Social Media Chair (Brian Einstein) – Not Present.
 - n) IT Chair (Eammon Farley) – Will start email thread with Nha, Chris R. and Jeremy on the eRoom transition.
 - o) Past President (Chris Gray) – Nothing Additional.
 - p) Mentors (Kazi Hassan) – Nothing Additional
- 9) Scheduling of next meeting – The next meeting will likely be early May. A doodle poll will be sent to the board. **(Sirianni)**