



# American Society of Civil Engineers Philadelphia Section Younger Member Forum



## 2015-2016 Board – Meeting #6 Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, March 2, 2016  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** *Jacobs*  
1700 Market Street, Suite 1000  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Attendance List: Chris Renfro, Kevin Brown, Joe Natale, Jeremy Pampuch, Drew Sirianni, Scott Cepietz, Allie Sedor, Charlie Mumford, Katrina Lawrence, Meredith Lis, Mike Zettlemyer, Nha Truong, Paige Glassman, Eammon Farley, Kazi Hassan, Jesse Gormley, Kristin Leese

Via Telephone: Jon Miller, Brett Coleman, Kevin Walsh

Responsibility for action items is indicated by (**bold type**).

- 1) Introductions: At the time of the 1/13 meeting, the draft minutes from the December 15, 2015 Board Meeting were not available. Subsequent to the meeting, the minutes were motioned for approval via email 1/21/16 and during this meeting were voted on/approved. Additionally, the minutes from the 1/13 were approved. Both sets of minutes will be posted on the website. (**Sedor/Gormley**).
  - a) Renfro passed around the Event Advertisement and Planning Procedures document as a group reminder for protocol in event development/advertisement.
- 2) Organization Updates:
  - a) National
    - i. eRoom/Higher Logic Transition – Pampuch noted that he is currently adding past events from this year to Higher Logic. Organization of the HL structure continues. (**Pampuch/Renfro/Committee**)
    - ii. ERYMC – 2/12-13/16: February’s ERYMC was held in Pittsburgh, PA. Gormley summarized the conference, stating he felt a valuable session he attended focused on work-life balance. It was noted that one of the women nominated for President is seeking the YMF’s support. The determination of this support was tabled for another time/vote. It was suggested that the group view the videos posted on ASCE’s website for information on all of the candidates. Renfro is finalizing the reimbursement for the conference. (**Renfro**)
  - b) Section
    - i. Dinner Meeting – 1/20/16: This joint meeting with ASHE was held at the Radisson in Valley Forge and the topic was The “New” New York Bridge – Replacing a Critical Bridge via Design-Build Delivery. The group agreed that the presentation was very informative and the associated 3D models were interesting.

There was a very good turnout and many questions asked following the presentation.

- ii. Dinner Meeting – 3/10/16: The topic will be the Manayunk Bridge Trail Connection. This dinner will be held at Maggiano’s and RSVP ends 3/4/16.
- iii. Technical Groups Dinner Meeting – 4/14/16: As usual, this event will be held at the Villanova Conference Center, and RSVP is currently up on the website.
- iv. Student Representation: Temple will represent at the March dinner, and Villanova is the assumed representation at the April meeting. Farley and Glassman will connect with the Villanova Chapter and confirm representation. Glassman noted that the March meeting is during Widener’s Spring Break and this happens to be the second consecutive year it has fallen during their break. **(Farley/Glassman)**

### 3) Past Events:

- a) 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Social – 1/25/16: Brown noted that there were 194 attendees and over \$4,000 in donation for raffle prizes. This resulted in \$2,155 for charities. He added that the YMF went \$180 over budget. In the past, the YMF has given \$1,000 to Philabundance, \$250 to Future Cities, and the remainder to another charity. Brown suggested donating to the ACE Mentor program and after a vote, the group agreed. As such, \$1,000 will go to Philabundance, \$250 to Future Cities, and \$905 will go to the ACE Mentor program. Brown added that Thank You letters should be sent out ASAP. **(All)**
- b) Future City Competition - 1/30/16: Renfro noted that the competition was held this date since postponed one week due to the blizzard. Although there were no representatives from the YMF present, our award (\$250 donation for “Evolutionary Engineering Excellence” Award) was presented on our behalf.
- c) College Chapter Outreach – completed with the exception of TCNJ, but it was noted that their chapter is becoming more involved with the Central Jersey chapter of ASCE.
  - i) Temple University – 1/27/16: This visit was a panel discussion during which the 20-30 attendees asked several questions.
  - ii) Widener University – 2/9/16: This visit was attended by 10-15 students and also answered several questions.
  - iii) Cepietz noted that Baker is sending representatives to Villanova to speak to freshmen in April. He can coordinate with the professor to indicate the YMF has been trying to reach out to Villanova’s chapter. Additionally, Leese offered to contact her own former professor. **(Cepietz/Leese)**
- d) ECP DVEW Young Engineers Social – 2/23/16: Over 100 people RSVP’d and the Young Engineer of the Year spoke at the event. There was very good feedback on the venue (Buffalo Billiards), and it also happened to be very affordable. Capacity is approximately 150 people.
- e) CivE Club STEM Program (ongoing): Volunteers are needed for the sessions on 4/5, 5/3, and 5/17. Walsh noted there are typically 4-6 students at each session. He added that the introduction to bridges started on 3/1, and there are also vacancies for bridge sessions and build sessions. The program is still on budget.

- i) Balsa Wood Bridge Testing Day – 5/24/16: Walsh noted this date is subject to change.
- f) K-12 Local School Outreach – ongoing
  - i) East Norriton Middle School - 1/28/16: The YMF visited two 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes to work on a website conducting street design. The teacher has inquired about a second trip to the school.
  - ii) Spring-Ford High School – 2/23-24/16: On 2/23, Chris Gray, PE (Timothy Haahs & Assoc.) and Alexa Harper, PE (Gannet Fleming) attended and spoke to approximately 60 students through a Q&A panel. On 2/24, Drew Horgan, PE (Drive Engineering), Mohamed Elghawy, EIT (TPD), and Brian Ward, MBA (Partner Engineering and Science, Inc) visited and led a Q&A panel for approximately 80 students.
  - iii) North Penn High School – 2/26/16: Mumford attended this event along with representatives from AIChE (Giselle Schlegel (Laporte Consultants), Ted Heron (Environex, Inc) and Colleen Guyre). They participated in a 4 classroom rotation, reaching approximately 210 students. Drexel students (Yasmina Shields and Assunta Maria) and Temple students (Caroline Voigtsberger, Takashi Izutsu and Cory Bogas) also volunteered to help with the event. Giselle Schlegel and Nicholas Silva of Engineer's Club of Philadelphia CYM as well as fellow YMF board members Kevin Brown and Katrina Lawrence were crucial to planning efforts.
  - iv) GETT (Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology) Expo – 3/12/16: Glassman stated that there are enough volunteers. Two activities have been organized for the table. She noted that it would be nice for future events to have swag to give out. Additionally, for this event, the YMF should likely budget \$100 (table fee).
  - v) Mastery Charter (Shoemaker Campus) – 3/18/16: Cepietz noted that he cannot attend due to a work conflict, but Natale volunteered to attend. **(Natale)**
  - vi) Arcola Intermediate School – 3/22/16: Chris Gray is attending this event. **(Gray)**
  - vii) Germantown Academy – TBD in April/May: This contact was made through Ann Marie Vigilante.
  - viii) Upper Perkiomen High School – TBD in April/May: This contact was made through Ann Marie Vigilante. Pampuch can attend (but would prefer it take place on a Friday).
  - ix) Mariana Bracetti Academy Charter School – TBD in April/May: This event would fulfill the K-12 goal of visiting a Spanish speaking school. The YMF's contact is Luis Gaitan from HNTB.
  - x) Hillcrest Elementary School – TBD in May/June: This contact was made through one of the Temple students.
  - xi) General George A. McCall School Women's Career Day – 5/5/16: Kolleen Backlund is helping with this event.
  - xii) General George A. McCall School STEAM-Fest – 5/12/16: Kolleen Backlund is helping with this event.
  - xiii) Julia R. Masterman School (5<sup>th</sup> Graders) – TBD in April: This event will involve two 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.
  - xiv) Julia R. Masterman School (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders) – TBD between 6/1-3/16: This event will involve two (or four) 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

## 4) Upcoming Events:

- a) West Philadelphia Soup Squad – 3/24/16: Renfro provided the draft flyer to the group. The outing will be advertised by the end of the week. Miller noted that he will be given a menu to choose which soup the participants will be cooking. **(Miller)**
- b) AIChE/ASHE/ECP Joint Happy Hour – 3/24/16: Renfro provided the draft flyer to the group. This event will take place at the Great American Pub in Conshohocken and will target a different audience than the Soup Squad event. The YMF need not provide any financial commitment. **(Brown/Sirianni)**
- c) Delco PSPE Joint Happy Hour – 3/31/16: Zettlemoyer noted that this is the same type of event as held in years past. There will be a cash bar and finger foods provided. The technical portion of the event will consist of four 15 minute presentations. Niki Eno will present on the Crum Creek project, and another speaker is desired. Renfro offered to speak on the East Falls bridge repairs. Zettlemoyer will confirm that the YMF is contributing \$100, as in years past. He added that the money came from the Technical Events budget last year. **(Zettlemoyer/Leese/Renfro)**
- d) Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup – 4/17/16: The Exec Board is in the process of reviewing this flyer. Miller added that for this outing, the YMF will be picking up the full tab since ASHE did for the last outing. **(Miller)**
- e) Critical Issues Seminar: Natale stated that the topic is “Grassroots Engineering-An Introduction to Government Relations”, and he has secured two speakers (Eric Madden, VP of ACEC and Dave Lowdermilk, former President of ACEC). He is targeting the last two weeks in April (4/21, 26, 27, 28). Other speaker suggestions included Barry Schoch, Kevin Johnson, Rina Cutler, and Leslie Richards. It will likely take place at the Field House with 75-100 attendees anticipated. Natale added that other venue suggestions would be helpful. ASHE has committed to contributing the usual \$200 and Natale is waiting to hear from MASITE. **(Natale)**
- f) Mid-Atlantic Region Student Conference – 4/22-24/16: Farley can no longer make this event. Lis is going to be a concrete canoe judge (she has coordinated with Chrzan). Gormley will be helping with Steel Bridge. **(Renfro/ Lis/Gormley)**

## 5) Potential Events:

- a) Engineering Quizzo with ASME: Zettlemoyer will target early-May for this event. **(Zettlemoyer)**
- b) I-676 Bridges Reconstruction Project: Hassan regularly attends the project’s construction meetings and can help set up a tour with Buckley. It was suggested that a room at the Free Library could be used to meet and have a brief presentation. The event is targeted for June. **(Hassan/Renfro)**
- c) 2016 CANstruction Competition: The theme of this year is “decades”, and the determination was made to build an old Polaroid camera with a picture (3D image) coming out of the bottom. The sketch for this year’s sculpture was submitted 2/25/16 and approved. The CAD version is being generated. It was suggested to use threaded rods to help support the various layers. Steve Maakestad has reached out to Campbell’s regarding sponsorship and there is also a \$658 surplus from last year. **(Farley/Cepietz/Renfro/Brown)**

- d) Philadelphia Bicycling Infrastructure Tour: This event will likely take place in the late spring (targeting May/June). MASITE typically does a bike tour, and APAPASE also wants to team with the YMF. **(Renfro)**
  - e) Phillies Game & Tailgate: Zettlemyer was contacted by the Phillies and has a few potential dates prepared. He suggested that the YMF create a duties/supplies list similar to what is done for the Winter Social. This could help spread responsibilities for the tailgate. A decision on whether or not to coordinate with PWD's annual tailgate was made subsequent to the meeting resulting in holding separate but similar events in the same place on the same day.
- 6) Miscellaneous Business:
- a) National Awards: Unfortunately, due to the change in deadline and lack of advertisement, the YMF missed the opportunity to apply for the National Awards. It is okay, since YMF won last year.
  - b) Google Drive: The regular Joint Events list will be added to the Google Drive for future Boards.
  - c) LinkedIn Account: Sedor will check in with Einstein for an update on the transition from a personal account to an organizational account. Einstein had indicated that switching the type of account is more difficult than anticipated. **(Sedor/Einstein)**
  - d) Philanthropic Fundraising Campaign: At ERYMC, Pampuch spoke to a potential contact at the ASCE Fundraiser Foundation regarding membership renewal and the option to provide a donation upon checkout. He noted that if required, we would likely solicit in the Fall prior to distribution of Winter Social sponsorship letters. The question was posed whether one bulk sponsorship request (for Philanthropic causes, Winter Social, and CANstruction) could be sent out rather than contacting companies multiple times a year. No determination was made regarding this item. **(Pampuch)**
  - e) Rebranding Logo Contest & Apparel Order: The polo shirts have been designed, and Natale asked that the Board send him size/cut preference. The four entries for the new YMF logo will be posted and voted on, but the t-shirts may be postponed until next year. **(Natale/Renfro)**
  - f) Website Redevelopment: Gormley sent out an email with a link to the beta site for the Board to review. **(Gormley/Renfro)**
  - g) RSVP Photo Disclaimer/Liability Waiver: Natale has emailed Tara Hoke, legal counsel at ASCE National and will set up a teleconference. **(Natale)**
  - h) Financial Planning Consultants: Sirianni noted that YMF members are receiving an increasing amount of phone calls from financial planners soliciting business. He advised that in an effort to avoid this, we limit speaking engagements with this industry. The Board agreed and decided as a group to decline this and future similar offers of these types, reinforcing the precedent of previous board years.
- 7) Open Discussion
- a) Truong stated that a few of the ERYMC participants had received a list of at-risk members who have not yet paid their dues.
  - b) Renfro noted that the Exec Board had a discussion earlier in the day and determined that for events in which the YMF partners with other organizations, the preference would be

to plan coordination well in advance and limit it to events where the partnership is between YMF and **one** other organization.

- c) Renfro added that the Exec Board would like to limit email blasts to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month, with the next blast scheduled for 3/9.

8) Officer Reports:

- a) Vice President (Kevin Brown) – The next round of Mock Interviews will be starting shortly.
- b) Secretary (Allie Sedor) – Nothing Additional.
- c) Treasurer (Nha Truong) – Nothing Additional.
- d) Awards Chair (Scott Cepietz) – Nothing Additional.
- e) CivE Club Chair (Zachary Suralik & Kevin Walsh) – Nothing Additional.
- f) College Contact Chair (Eammon Farley & Paige Glassman) – Nothing Additional.
- g) Community Service Chair (Brett Coleman & Jon Miller) – Nothing Additional.
- h) Information Technology (IT) Chair (Jesse Gormley) – Please remember to send event recaps and photos. If they are not provided, they will not be included on the website.
- i) K-12 Contact Chair (Katrina Lawrence & Charles Mumford) – Nothing Additional.
- j) Professional Development Chair (Joe Natale) – Send along any suggestions for questions at CIS.
- k) Public Relations (PR) Chair (Meredith Lis) – Nothing Additional.
- l) Social Events Chair (Kristin Leese & Michael Zettlemoyer) – Nothing Additional.
- m) Social Media Chair (Brian Einstein) – Not in attendance.
- n) Technical Events Chair (Jeremy Pampuch) – Nothing Additional.
- o) Past President (Drew Sirianni) – Nothing Additional.
- p) Mentors (Chris Gray & Kazi Hassan) – Hassan reiterated that the Election Happy Hour typically takes place in May. He also suggested that given the Vice President’s responsibilities are lighter after the Winter Social, it might be worth giving some of the Phillies game responsibilities to the VP in the future.

9) Scheduling of next meeting – Renfro will send out a Doodle Poll for an April meeting.