

Minutes of AVS/New England Board Meeting Jan. 21, 2015

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions /Visitors

Treasurer's Report

Confirm Newly Elected Board

Planning for Symposium 2015

- Dick Jacobs Vendor Response
- Mike Connors Short Course Plans
- Go or No Go Decision Symposium/ Conf. Center

Plans for April AVSNE Event in Worcester

Update of AVSNE Website

Other Business

Next Meeting Date: Feb.19

The AVS/NE board meeting was held at 6PM at the Chemistry Dept. of UMass Lowell, Lowell , MA.

Members of the board in attendance (as indicated by the symbol **) were: Cheryl Santarelli, Peter Somssich**, Dick Jacobs**, Jacques LaBrosse**, Earl Ada**, Bob Childs, Jim Whitten**, Mike Connors** and Ravi Rastogi
Guest: Bill Trotter, Bill Trotter Jr **.

Welcome and Introductions /Visitors

- Chair Peter S. welcoming all in attendance in particular Bill Trotter Jr. who is interested in getting involved with AVSNE.

Treasurer's Report

- Dick J. reported that our bank balance is currently ~ \$1600.

Confirm Newly Elected ExC and Board Members Appointments

- Peter S. explained the role of each of the members of our AVSNE board and also that after our elections we are still missing one member of the Executive Committee in the position of Secretary. Peter S. was elected to that position, but is looking for someone to be appointed to that position by the ExC. Bill T. was asked to consider that position or a position of Vendor Outreach Co-Chair. He agreed to consider the possibilities.
- The elections results for the AVSNE ExC to serve a 2 year-term from Jan.1, 2015 to Dec.31,2017: Chair/ Peter Somssich, Treasurer/ Dick Jacobs, Vice-Chair/Mike Connors, Secretary/ Peter Somssich. Of the 213 ballots sent out, 13 ballots(1 paper ballot and 12 Eballots) were cast (6.1% turnout).
- Peter S. made the motion to have the ExC make the following appointments to the board: Earl Ada/Education & Academic Outreach Chair, Jim Whitten/ Symposium Technical Chair, Jacques LaBrosse/ Dinner Co-Chair, Robert Childs/ Short Course Chair

Planning for Symposium 2015

- Dick J. and others in attendance reported that we have approx. 10 Vendor responses so far for 12 vendor tables. However, we are still awaiting responses from a number of vendors. Dick J. expressed

confidence that we would have over 20 vendor tables for sure. Board members are encouraged to continue their vendor calling and follow-ups.

- Mike Connors has put together a plan for offering 7 Short Courses on June 1-2, 2015 and is in the process of confirming the availability of the instructors needed.
- The committee decided that we should go ahead with a 2015 Symposium and Short Course program. It was decided that the ExC members would contact each other on Jan.30 to make the final go ahead-decision.
- If that go ahead-decision is made various board members including Dick J. and Mike Connors would meet with Kathleen of the UMass Lowell Conference Center to discuss a contract.

Plans for April AVSNE Event in Worcester

- Jacques La. Agreed to contact Prof. Nancy Burnham in Worcester to ask if she would be willing to host an event on a Friday or Sat. in April. The consensus of the committee was that an event early on Friday e.g. Noon to 4Pm would be best for travelers and attendees, especially given the different location and time of day.

Update of AVSNE Website

- Peter S. mentioned that our website is in need of updating. We should do this together with any symposium related information as well as an updated list of board members.

Other Business

- No new business was suggested.

Next Board Meeting Date

- Feb. 19 at UMass Lowell/ Chemistry, One University Ave. / Prof. Jim Whitten, 6PM

Submitted by Peter Somssich on Feb.19, 2015