

Minutes of AVS/New England Board Meeting Oct 16, 2013

Agenda:

Treasurer's Report
Plan Activities for the next 12 months
Short Course Offerings in 2014
Dinner Meetings in Nov.2013 and April 2014
Symposium in June 2014
Report of Education Chair /SEW
Collaboration with AVS Friends in Hartford Area
Other Business

The AVS/NE board meeting was held at 6PM on Oct.16, 2013 at the Chateau Restaurant, 131 River Rd. in Andover, MA. Members of the board in attendance (as indicated by the symbol **) were: Cheryl Santarelli, Peter Somssich**, Dick Jacobs**, Jacques LaBrosse**, David Diamond, Earl Ada, Bob Childs, Jim Whitten**, Mike Connors and Ravi Rastogi**

Treasurer's Report

- **Dick J.** reported that our bank balance will be ~ \$1000. after finalizing the payment to Bob Childs for the Short Course instructor fee and paying for expenses of the science teacher who is attending the 2013 SEW workshop.

Plan Activities for Next 12 Months

- We agreed to ask **Jim W.** and **E.Ada** to continue to investigate/ and price out the possibility of holding that event at the Conference Center of UMass Lowell. Dick Jacobs will provide them with any needed past financial information from symposia past. We should know if there is a minimum amount we need to spend for the center to be able to accommodate us and how early we need to make a commitment for a date and a price. Also, what is the cancelation policy in the case of classrooms being cancelled when enrollment for a Short Course is not high enough?
Together with our regular vendors and exhibitors, we plan to use this information to evaluate the viability of a 2014 Symposium. Based on that feedback we hope to make a decision as to the type of event we shall organize.

Short Course Offerings in 2014

- Our board is planning to offer short courses again in 2014 whether with or without a symposium. Ravi R. is willing to work with Mike Connors on this effort. We shall be more cautious about any changes in dates and instructors going forward considering our experience with the 2013 courses.

Dinner Meetings Nov.2013 and April 2014

- The Fall Dinner Meeting will be on Nov.14 at MKS Instruments in Andover, MA at 6 PM. Our speaker is Dr. Christopher Harrison of Schlumberger-Doll Research.

Dick J. will contact the two individuals from the Hartford area who have volunteered to help the AVSNE to build some support in that geographic area. We are hoping to have a Spring Event sometime in April. One format that was suggested (similar to the New England chapter of APS) would be to hold a Saturday event, with a lunch and 1-2 speakers at a venue like UConn or a local business. We are hoping that this event will attract AVS members and potential members living in that area, who do not normally travel to our events in Burlington, MA.

Symposium in June 2014

- As mentioned above, **Jim.W. and Earl A.** will continue to investigate the possibility of holding such an event in Lowell at the Conference Center of UMass Lowell.

Report of Education Chair/SEW

- There was nothing new to report. However, our selected high school science teacher from Keene NH is ready to attend the Science Educators Workshop at the national AVS Symposium in Long Beach, CA. Since both **Earl A. and Peter S.** also plan to attend, they expect to meet up with him there.

Collaboration with AVS Friends in Hartford Area

- **Dick J.** will be talking to the AVS members in the Hartford area about the types of events that they can support.

Other Business

- **Peter S.** reported that we have been notified by the national AVS office that our draft for new by-laws will be submitted to the national board soon for final approval. **Dick J. and Peter S.** had been working with the national office to fine-tune our initial draft. After the by-laws are approved, the national office will schedule electronic voting to approve the by-laws.

Next Meeting Date

- **Nov. 14: Next board meeting at 5PM before the Dinner Meeting at MKS Andover, MA**

Submitted by Peter Somssich on Oct.25, 2013