

Minutes of AVS/New England Board Meeting Sept. 25, 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

The AVS/NE board meeting was held at 6PM on Sept.25, 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** and Mike Connors. Guest: Ravi Rastogi

Treasurer's Report

- **Dick J.** reported that our current bank balance is ~\$3800, but we still owe Bob Childs his payment for the short course that he taught in June. After the payment to Bob for his instructor's fee is factored in, the chapter will still have \$1900. **Peter S.** will contact Bob to remind him to submit a request for payment to the treasurer along with any expenses that he may have incurred.

Plan Activities for Next 12 Months

- We discussed plans for the next 12 months. We are planning to hold a Dinner Meeting in Nov., and some type of event in April in the Hartford area. The Hartford event could be a daytime event with lunch and one or more speakers. With respect to the annual symposium including short courses in June, we are exploring locations other than the Burlington Marriott. **Jim W.** and **E.Ada** will investigate/ and price out the possibility of holding that event at the Conference Center of UMass Lowell.

Short Course Offerings in 2014

- Our board is planning to offer short courses again in 2014 whether with or without a symposium.

Dinner Meetings in Nov.2013 and April 2014

- The board is planning a Dinner Meeting on one of the following dates: Nov.13, 14, 20 or 21. **Peter S.** will look into both location and the date for such an event.
***** As a follow-up to our meeting, Jacques LaBrosse has offered to hold this meeting on Nov.14, at MKS in Andover***.**
The board asked **Dick J.** to 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

- The board agreed that we would like to hold a symposium in 2014, either with or without short courses. However, we felt that it was worth investigating venues other than just the Burlington Marriott. That is why **Jim.W. and Earl A.** will investigate the possibility of holding such an event in Lowell at the Conference Center of UMass Lowell. We should have some estimates available by our next meeting. In the meantime, **Peter S.** will check with the Burlington Marriott to have a comparison now that this hotel is under new management. If a suitable venue is identified and priced out, we'll contact our previous symposium vendors to gauge their financial support for such an event before we go ahead.

Report of Education Chair/SEW

- **Earl A.** reported that he had selected a high school science teacher from Keene NH to attend the Science Educators Workshop at the national AVS Symposium in Long Beach, CA as the selection of AVSNE. Arrangements are already moving ahead for the teacher to attend. In addition, he reported that he has received 4 more teacher applications from teachers who are interested in being placed on a waiting-list for future SEW consideration.

Collaboration with AVS Friends in Hartford Area

- Since **Dick J.** will be talking to the AVS members in the Hartford area who want to help build our organization, they may give provide us with some suggestions for other types of events.

Next Meeting Date

- **TBD: We will hold the next board meeting on Oct.16 either at UMass Lowell or at the Chateau Restaurant in Andover, MA again.**

Submitted by Peter Somssich on Sept. 27, 2013