

**New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 14, 2004  
H.L. Turner Group Concord Offices**

**Meeting attendees**

Robert Couture	Dave Eckman	Ben Pratt (P)
Holly Clark	George Fredette (P)	Matt Purcell
Joe Ducharme	Dan Hudson	Paul Schmidt
Mike Delloiaccono (P)	Roch Larochelle	Bill Straub

(P) indicates left early.

Joe Ducharme called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. A summary of the items discussed is presented below.

**Review of the December 2003 Board of Director's Meeting**

Roch Larochelle motioned to accept the minutes as submitted and Dan Hudson seconded the motion. The December 2003 Board of Director's meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

**MATHCOUNTS**

Ben Pratt reported the following status update

- Fifty-five schools are currently registered and participating in this year's MATHCOUNTS (this is down 5 schools from last year). Ben believes that teacher reassignments coupled with the fact that the program relies almost entirely on volunteer efforts of NH teachers seems to be the main reasons that the school count is down this year.
- The schedule has been set for all 6 of the New Hampshire regional events. This schedule will be included in the upcoming edition of the Observer.
- Fundraising is continuing. Ben noted that Lee Carroll has had some success in getting donations. Ben has sent out a large number of letters to companies requesting donations and is awaiting replies.

Paul Schmidt mentioned that one of the topics being put on the table for discussion by NSPE was the possibility of ending involvement in MATHCOUNTS. A discussion followed where board members expressed their opinions on the NSPE and NHSPE support for MATHCOUNTS.

## **Engineer's Week Banquet Update**

George Fredette provided handouts and summarized ongoing preparations for the February 19, 2004 Engineer's Week Banquet.

- Debbie Douglas (Curator of Science and Technology at MIT Museum) has been confirmed as the speaker.
- The Engineer of the Year and the Young Engineer of the Year have been selected.
- Special invitations (as discussed at previous NHSPE Board of Director's meeting) have been mailed to selected personnel.
- Governor Benson's proclamation as well as the picture opportunity for the Engineer of the Year with Governor Benson is scheduled for February 11.
- Letters to NH society presidents are prepared to go out. These will ask for a \$200 donation to support the event, offer the society a seat at the head table, and discuss if the society will participate in the exhibits prior to the banquet.
- The press release has been submitted.
- The Holiday Inn has agreed to provide an overnight/breakfast package for NHSPE use as a raffle prize.

ACTION: Matt Purcell will investigate the availability of ski lift tickets as an additional raffle prize.

## **NHSPE Website Update**

Due to preparations for Engineering Week, no actions for this topic were completed.

ACTION: After Engineer's Week activities, Joe Ducharme will get together with Mike Delloiaccono to review NHSPE web site and prepare recommendations for potential updates. These will then be presented to the board for review.

## **NHSPE Promotional Materials**

At the request of Joe Ducharme, Mike Delloiaccono provided a magazine with potential items that NHSPE could purchase to "promote" NHSPE. A discussion followed on the merits of pens, coffee cups, mouse pads, and shirts. Joe Ducharme asked the board members to review the magazine during the remainder of the meeting. No specific actions or decisions were made on this issue.

ACTION: Joe Ducharme will get back to the board members with recommendations.

## **Enterprise Program**

Matt Purcell updated the board members on his efforts to promote the Enterprise program in New Hampshire. One company in NH (Timken located in Lebanon) has signed on to the program. Matt is working with two other NH companies to arrange presentations.

ACTION: Matt Purcell will provide a report on the activities that he has taken in support of the Enterprise program to NHSPE board members for their information and review.

## **Membership Update**

Holly Clark stated that NHSPE membership was stable at 196. She noted that following her Observer article on Life membership, she has received requests from some NHSPE members requesting to be designated as Life members.

## **January 2004 NHSPE Membership Dinner Meeting**

Bill Straub reported that the announcement for the January 29 dinner meeting at UNH has been mailed out. Bill is working with the UNH faculty and staff to get the meeting information out to the students.

ACTION: Matt Purcell will investigate the availability of ski lift tickets as an additional raffle prize.

## **March 2004 NHSPE Membership Dinner Meeting**

Roch Larochelle stated that the meeting location has been confirmed. The meeting will be at Fratellos on March 18. Matt Purcell recommended that the meeting announcement be mailed the week of the Engineer's Week banquet in February. Matt also suggested that meeting announcements be available at the Engineer's Week Banquet.

ACTION: Roch Larochelle will contact Dennis Mullen, the dinner speaker, to determine if a tour will be offered as an option prior to the meeting.

## **NHSPE Annual Meeting**

Matt Purcell stated that the date for the NHSPE annual meeting needed to be finalized in order to coordinate schedules with the speaker, NSPE president Teresa Helmlinger. The board finalized the date of May 26 for this meeting. The meeting is planned to be held in Portsmouth and will be a joint meeting with the Maine Society of Professional Engineers.

## **Treasurer's Report**

At the request of Joe Ducharme, a full treasurer's report will be presented to the board once per quarter with a review of accounts balance on the other months. Dave Eckman reported the following balances:

- General checking: \$18,700
- NHSPE scholarship fund: \$4,145
- NHSPE MATHCOUNTS fund: \$3,853

## **National and Regional Updates**

- Paul Schmidt and Roch Larochelle will represent NHSPE at the upcoming national meeting in Washington DC.
- Paul requested input from the board members on a survey/questionnaire that will be discussed at the upcoming national meeting. The survey asks for ranking of activities that NSPE sponsors to determine interest/priority of the activities.

ACTION: Paul Schmidt and Roch Larochelle will make a recommendation to Joe Ducharme about NHSPE's vote for the representative to the 2004-05 NSPE Nominating Committee. There are three people on the ballot and NHSPE input must be submitted prior to February 15.

ACTION: After receiving the recommendation above, Joe Ducharme will forward a proposed name for NHSPE's vote for the 2004-05 NSPE Nominating Committee to the NHSPE board members. The intent is to get an e-mail vote of the NHSPE board members so that the NHSPE ballot can be submitted prior to the February 15 deadline.

ACTION: Paul Schmidt and Roch Larochelle will make a recommendation to Joe Ducharme about NHSPE's vote for the regional vice president.

ACTION: After receiving the recommendation above, Joe Ducharme will forward a proposed name for NHSPE's vote for the regional vice president to the NHSPE board members. The intent is to get an e-mail vote of the NHSPE board members so that the NHSPE ballot can be submitted.

## **Legislative Update**

John Alger was not able to attend the meeting but provided a brief general interest update by e-mail. There were no specific items needing action by the NHSPE board of directors.

### **April New PE Dinner**

Joe Ducharme reported that a letter had been sent to Senator John Sununu requesting his participation as a speaker at the upcoming new PE dinner in April. The dinner is planned for April 13.

### **QBS Coalition**

Paul Schmidt reported that there had not been any recent activity in this area. Matt Purcell questioned if the NHPSE board should be concerned with the lack of any recent activity.

### **Engineer's Week Mall Display**

Roch Larochelle reported that actions for the mall display continue.

ACTION: Matt Purcell will investigate getting information/exhibits relating to Dartmouth's satellite work to support the display.

ACTION: Joe Ducharme will follow up on NHTI providing their solar car as part of the display.

ACTION: Holly Clark will provide information on membership.

ACTION: Erin Darrow and Roch Larochelle continue to work on the press release and setup of ZOOM Program activities.

ACTION: Dave Eckman will investigate UNH display concerning the pasta bridge program at UNH.

### **NHSPE Scholarship Report**

Roch Larochelle reported that he has received the first scholarship application. In December, mass mailings to local schools and guidance councilors were sent out. The board then had a brief discussion on the number and size of NHSPE scholarships to award with the consensus being that a final decision could be made in the next few months once the total amount of money available was finalized.

### **Update on Math and Science Teachers Award Program**

Dan Hudson reported that there was no specific activity to report this month.

## **Observer Report**

The current issue of the Observer is being finalized for distribution. The next Observer is planned for April and the deadline for submission of articles to Dan Hudson was not finalized. It was noted by Matt Purcell that the next issue of the Observer needed to contain the NHSPE ballots for 2004-2005 board of directors.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the NHSPE Board of Directors is planned for February 19 at 4:30 pm prior to the Engineer's Week banquet. The meeting location will be the Center of New Hampshire.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Joe Ducharme adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Couture P.E.  
NHSPE State Director