

**New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 12, 2005
The Turner Group Office ~ Concord, New Hampshire**

Board of Directors Present:

Paul Schmidt(PS), <i>President</i>	Roch Larochelle(RL), <i>President-Elect</i>
Dan Hudson(DH), <i>Vice-President</i>	Joe Ducharme(JD), <i>Past-President</i>
Robert Couture(RC), <i>State Director</i>	

Members Present:

Ben Pratt(BP), <i>MATHCOUNTS</i>	Larry Dwyer(LD), <i>Scholarship</i>
Holly Clark(HC), <i>Membership</i>	John Alger(JA), <i>Legislation</i>

Directors/Members Absent:

Erin Darrow(ED), <i>Secretary</i>	George Fredette (GF), <i>Eweek</i>
Dave Eckman(DE), <i>Treasurer</i>	Jim Barrett(JB), <i>Director</i>
Matt Purcel (MP), <i>Education</i>	

Paul called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

1. Review and vote to accept minutes from December 14, 2004 Board of Directors (BOD) meeting.

- The December BOD meeting minutes were approved with minor edits. Motion to approve by DH, second by RL, motion passed 4-0.
- Noted that November meeting minutes need to be approved. Matt Purcell to provide (done 1/18/05).

2. "Promote Professional Development and Education"

There was some general discussion regarding potential ideas for future membership meeting.

January Meeting

Meeting set for January 26, 11:30am at the Common Man in Concord, NH. Topic is Update of Wetland Mitigation requirements and the Site Specific Program. Speakers are Collis Adams and Ridge Mauck of NHDES.

April/New P.E. Meeting

PS reported that the Joint Board has declined the invitation to schedule a joint member meeting with ASCE and UNH as an optional forum for the New PE Dinner opting for the traditional venue of focusing on new PE's only. Several ideas then discussed for meeting topics. PS agreed to discuss the possibility of a speaking arrangement with Art Schwartz. Other items that were discussed included the following:

- Author of "Engineer Your Way to Success"; Shawn P. McCarthy may be a good meeting topic for either the New PE Dinner or some other event.
- The Board should extend an invitation to the YEOY and EOY winners and possibly ask Woody Fogg to speak at the event.

June/Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be a joint meeting with Vermont. The event has been scheduled for June 6th. Bobby Price, NSPE President has been invited to preside over the meeting (now confirmed). This year's event will likely be a Golf tournament and Dinner at the Hanover Inn. Alternately, the venue could be held on the Dartmouth campus with tour of the new Engineering Science Lab which is currently under construction. MP currently coordinating the event.

3. *“Provide Membership Level which Enhances NHSPE’s Viability as an Organization”*

Membership Report

HC handed out an update a full report of which will be included in the next Observer. Additionally, the following should be noted:

- National has extended the *Give Back-Get Back* program for another year (through June 30, 2005).
- Updated membership applications have now been made available by National and have been posted on the website. The new application includes updated NH rates which show a reduction in the first year (\$155 vs. the previous \$220).
- As of January 1, 2005, NH has 188 members which is down from 192 last November, 2003.
- Dave Smith from National questions our approval of recent nominees for Life Membership. Holly to review and advise however it was thought that the board voted to approve in November. Meeting minutes for Nov. were still outstanding.

Observer

- DH has a draft of the next edition ready for review
- DH also reported that he has revised the ads contract and rate structure. We currently have 6 advertisers and are looking to expand participation.

Membership Initiatives

- HC is to request a list of NH PE’s from the Joint Board. This list is to be used as a potential mailing list in a membership call.
- Recent discussion with National on the six-month free membership initiative. National has since approved the new initiative (January National Meeting) and has asked each state to “sign on” to the program which requires a Board Vote. Once we have signed on with the national program, a new state application will be made up and forwarded for our use and distribution.

Subsequent to the request, RL made a motion on Feb. 2, 2005 to accept the program, 2nd by Jim Barrett and the motion passed. PS forwarded the membership agreement to Artesha (National) on Feb. 8th and we now await a new membership application.

- PS and RL to coordinate on sending a membership call letter for all attendees of the January 2005 meeting that are non-members (done 2/2005 however distribution is pending receipt of new application as noted above).

4. *“Maintain a Workable and Effective Organizational Structure”*

Treasurer’s Report

- The Board is continuing efforts to find a replacement for the current Treasurer (DE) and has found an interim solution through Larry Dwyer. It is currently planned that the position will be transitioned to a new Treasurer to be named and the Board will accept Dave Eckman resignation. Subsequently a meeting was held on Feb. 9th with PS, LD and DE to iron out details and to set a transition date (April, 2005). At that time we should have identified a new Treasurer to be placed on the ballot for 2005 elections.
- JD has been coordinating with National, the NH Sec. of State and NH Past-Presidents on our ability to name a new Treasurer that works in New Hampshire, but lives in Massachusetts. The question had been relative to any restrictions placed on the board relating to our incorporation as a non-profit organization. JD confirmed

that no such restrictions existed however we would need to review our Constitution and By-Laws to remove any restrictive language that restricts such an action (other states do allow as well).

- JD and RL to coordinate on proposing revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws as appropriate to eliminate the language that prohibits professionals who are licensed in NH but reside in neighboring states such as VT, ME and MA.

Website

DH reported several additions to the content including the following:

- Eweek Planning Update
- Information on the January Membership Meeting
- Legislative update
- Information on the new Observer ad contract

DH also reported that BOD minutes from March, May, Nov., and Dec. are needed for posting to the website.

DH also reported the recent addition of several new email accounts such as info@nhspe.org and others such as membership, programs, president, secretary. Once their activation has been confirmed a general membership notice will be provided to inform of their use.

NSPE Winter Meeting

DH and PS are to attend the NSPE winter in San Diego (Jan 20-23) and will report upon their return. Erin Darrow had previously coordinated with National to confirm that the Secretary would qualify for expense reimbursement since there is no Executive Director in NH. She had indicated that she was interested in attending the meeting and would be making arrangements in the near future.

5. *“Be involved in Government Affairs as they Relate to Professional Engineering Issues”*

Legislative Update

- HB 72 Hearing held in January and was subsequently defeated in committee. Testimony provided by NHSPE (PS), ASCE (Tony Puntin), SENH, ACEC, NHDOT (Jeff Brillhart), Joint Board (Marc Morin). JA will continue to monitor and advise of any further activity on this item.
- Discussion of the Amicus Brief that has been closely followed by ACEC which challenges a previous Supreme Court decision. Current legislation would change the current statute of repose (currently 8 yr) by removing the limitation thus opening liability issues for Designers and Contractors. The Brief has been filed in response to the legislation and is supported by ACEC, AIA-NH, SENH, AGC-NH and NHSPE should consider signing on as a “friend of the court” in support of the Brief. PS to forward information to Art Schwartz for input from National (done 2/8/05).
- After affirmative movement was recommended by NSPE council, a motion was made by DH to sign on January 21, 2005, 2nd by JD, the motion carried. PS forwarded NSPE’s request to sign on as a “friend of the court” on Feb. 3, 2005.
- Currently tracking HB 629 which will change the penalties in the PE law (in addition to surveyors, architects, and several others) for unlicensed practice. NHSPE will likely take a positive position on this bill and will continue to track.

6. *“Promote the Ethical Practice of Engineering”*

UNH Engineering Without at License

JD had previously shared with the board that the committee that was formed last spring did send a letter to the UNH College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (CEPS) pertaining to concerns about engineering being practiced by students without the supervision of a licensed Professional Engineer. No response from the school has been received as yet. Future action required to follow up as the Dean and administration is currently turning over.

7. *“Maintain On-going Effective Relationship with Other Engineering Organizations in the State”*

2005 Engineers Week and Awards Banquet

GF forwarded a handout of current accomplishments in the planning of the event. BS provided an update as follows:

- Radisson Hotel arrangements complete
- Overnight stay for raffle is confirmed
- Exhibitors registration efforts are underway
- Arrangements for Keynote Speaker (Paul Demeo) secured
- Special Invitations to include: EOY/YEOY, Mathcounts winner/family, Math & Science Teachers Awards, Union Leader sponsor among several others. 21 total special invitations requiring Board action to approve. Motion made by RC to accept, 2nd by RL, motion carried.
- NHSPE asked to donate \$200 towards cocktail hour expense. Motion to provide donation made by JD, 2nd by RL, motion carried.

EOY/YEOY

Selections were made on January 7, 2005 and the winners have been notified. This year’s recipients are:

- Tom French, PE (YEOY)
- Woody Fogg, PE (“Old” EOY)

Invitations to the Awards banquet will be sent out. George Fredette to coordinate the event.

2005 Regional Meeting Committee

Mark your calendars for the 2005 NSPE NE Regional Meeting, to be held in at the Sheraton in Portsmouth on the last weekend in October (10/26-10/29). Flyers and a draft agenda for the event are to be handed out by PS at the upcoming National meeting in San Diego and will also be distributed in the next edition of the Observer.

- RL currently working on getting the technical program content from presenters so that New York CPC’s can be awarded for the sessions.
- Bill Straub is to contact the “Lobster Guy” to confirm participation in the event.
- Based on the current planning schedule, the complete (draft) agenda is to be forwarded to all technical societies in March (JD to coordinate with Tech. Society Meeting??).

Coordination with other Societies Initiative

JD looking to promote an umbrella organization including all Tech societies in NH. Previous discussion in November brought up the idea of starting an annual full-day technical program that would be organized and sponsored by all the societies as a collaborative effort. Currently looking to schedule a follow-up meeting in March to continue the dialogue.

8. "Strengthen the Public Image of Professional Engineers in the State"

Engineers Week Events

See item #7 above for Annual Banquet planning. Other items to note as follows:

- RL currently investigating a new forum for Engineering Awareness to replace the now defunct Mall Display event. Have begun some coordination with ASCE, Judy Houston and Mary Ann Gashnig (Project Lead the Way) as well as others to discuss the possibility of an annual rotating event to bring presentations to high schools during career weeks or some other venue. Has received good support so far but will require much work to organize.
- Erin said that she is going to organize the Zoom into Engineering event this year. She will look into having it at the Steeplegate Mall, but is interested in holding it at a different location.

MATHCOUNTS

- BP reported that we are currently looking at a deficit and are looking for more corporate donations. BP also passed out a budget report detailing the deficit which is now estimated at \$4,828. There was some discussion on the need to make corporate contacts for additional sponsorships.
- There are currently 56 schools registered for the event and the date has been set.

NHSPE Scholarship Report

- Larry reported that so far this year the scholarship fund has received \$2,100 from fifteen donors ranging from \$25 to \$300. A notice of donors and levels (Gold, Silver, Bronze) is to be placed in the Observer.
- Should consider raffle for Eweek Banquet. Suggestions included ski tickets to Loon, Sunapee and a free stay at the Radisson (Matt, Joe and George to coordinate on procurement of the tickets).

Math & Science Teachers Awards Program

- DH has received 7 nominations (1 Elementary, 2 Middle School, 5 High School). Nominations have been forwarded to the Selection Committee with votes due on 01/21/05. Currently waiting for funds that were noted by UNH. There is question as to the status of the W9 for that is required.
- DH working on ordering plaques for the winners. Winners are to be notified by Jan. 30th and an invitation to the Engineers Week Banquet will be extended to each.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 24, 2005**, at 4:30 at the Radisson Convention Center in Manchester prior to the Eweek Banquet.

Paul adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Roch D. Larochelle, P.E..