



## Society of Plastics Engineers Detroit Section Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2018 Board Meeting

### Meeting Location

American Chemistry Council  
5750 New King St.  
Troy, MI 48098

### Remote Location

None

### Call-In Information

US: (712) 832-8330  
Pass Code: 5855927

**Attendance/ Voting** – Marc Bahm, Lyle Beadle, Neil Fuenmayor – Sassan held proxy, Pete Grelle, Wayne Hertlein, Norm Kakarala, Sandra McClelland, Adrian Merrington- Sandra held proxy, David Okonski Bob held proxy, Bob Petrach, Tom Pickett, Irv Poston, Tom Powers, Nippani Rao, Armando Sardanopoli, Suresh Shah, Laura Shereda (phone), Keith Siopes, Sassan Tarahomi, Eve Vitale, Bill Windscheif. Unable to arrange or did not designate proxies- Dawn Cooper, Todd Hogan, Tom Miller.  
Also in attendance –Kelly Beauchamp, Pat Farrey (SPE COE), Karen Rhodes-Parker

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Eve called meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

**Eve Vitale**

### **President's Message**

Eve introduced Pat Farrey

**Eve Vitale**

### **Pat then made a few remarks**

- He started by thanking the group of volunteers in the Detroit section for doing so much on behalf of the board and staff of SPE.
- He noted it was an interesting year since he started in June of 2017.
- His focus was to support Divisions and Sections by shoring up infrastructure at headquarters with staff changes, technology improvements and better, clearer processes.
- He then opened up to Q & A.
- Questions revolved around ANTEC
  - Pete started by asking what was being done to address attendance issues. Pat responded that Jaime Gomez headed a task group that brought recommendations back. Alternative of “blowing it up” and starting over was rejected. It was noted that last ANTEC attendance was up and revenue was up as well.
  - 2019 ANTEC first half will be similar to the traditional “academically” focused ANTEC with 2 ½ days of programming. Remaining 1 ½ days will be more industry focused with keynote speakers from industry. Focus will be primarily on Transportation, Building and Construction, and Packaging industries.
  - Networking opportunities will receive more emphasis with 3 receptions
  - Bob Grace is working on format for speakers with an OEM focus. Deadline for identifying speakers is 12/1/2018.
  - Pat noted that it is possible to register for just the first 2 ½ days or the second 1 ½ days, but fee structure will make it much more attractive to register for both.

- Norm asked if Division and Section board members could attend for free. Pat told us that the decision was not made yet, but if possible it would, at worst case board members would be at a student rate.
- Sassan asked status of sponsors. Pat indicated that there were 40 so far (13 new) and there were 12-15 sponsorship opportunities. Sassan offered to help. Pat said Stephani Clark is the one Sassan should contact.
- Tom Pickett told us he and Norm were the co-chairs for efforts to get Automotive speakers and were working to get papers and invite speakers and currently were trying to get Cynthia Flanigan Technical Leader – Elastomers – at Ford as a keynote.
- Nippani noted that we had not seen many industry papers in the past. Pat noted there will be a lot more industry focus with speakers at a high level about the business without a technical focus and that sponsors and exhibitors were happy with this change.

### Approval of Minutes-

**Bob Petrach**

Norm moved and Pete seconded that minutes for June 25, 2018 meeting be approved. Motion passed. Bob noted that he notice a couple of typos that he'd correct before sending in.

### Treasurer's Report

**Tom Powers**

Tom reviewed Check Register report and Performance to Budget 2017-2018. Both files embedded here.



2 - Check register 6-24 to 10-18.pdf    3 - Performance to 2017-18 budget 10-1-

Highlights: There was nothing out of the ordinary. Rebate did drop from the expected \$10K to about \$6K. He noted approximately \$1.2 million in scholarships have been handed out by the Detroit Section since that effort was started. Tom also noted that TPO straddles fiscal years so income is in one year and expenses in the next so performance to budget numbers on TPO are misleading without looking at multiple years or just TPO alone.

Tom Powers wanted to add Bill Windscheif as a second authorized signatory to the 5th Third Investment Account. On the Comerica checking account, Bill Windscheif as Assistant Treasurer would be added to the checking account. Tom noted, we were not requiring two signatures to issue a check, Bill was added so either one of them could sign.

Lyle Beadle moved and Nippani Rao seconded that Bill be added to the 5th Third Investment Account and Comerica accounts as requested by Tom Powers. Motion passed with none opposed.

Some other information: Some companies are trying to add a 3% surcharge to bills that we pay with credit card. We are not to accept this surcharge and should make that clear. Sassan will investigate attempt by the sign company that made the signs for TPO to add a surcharge. Pat Farrey noted that they are in violation of the merchant service contract with the credit card companies if they do this and could use their right to use the card.

Pat also warned against fraud scams particularly those involving calls for immediate payments. Call and verify if you get an email from someone asking for a particular purchase that you were not expecting. He noted that two sections and one SPE staff member have been caught in this type of scam.

### Councilor's Report

**Sassan Tarahomi**



4 - Meeting Minutes Council Meeting Sept-

Report is embedded here. Overall Sassan seemed pleased with the meeting and its content and focus. The embedded report has eight pages of notes from Sassan. Note the new membership dues process.

Sassan did note Toledo Section was faltering again. He'd get personally involved in that again and welcomed help. He made a comment (also not in the notes.) about Erin Keaney who is working on the Young Professional efforts. She is a PhD candidate at U Mass Lowell and is the daughter of one of Sassan's classmates from U Mass Lowell.

Pete noted Pinnacle application was on line now.

Pat noted "booth in a box" was available from SPE HQ for use at events. Right now one of them is at Montreal. Booth in a box contains promotional materials, banners, counter information, pins, handouts, etc. Works in spaces roughly 6 X 8 to 10 X 10.

## **President Elect House & Programs -2018/19**

**Laura Shereda  
Sassan Tarahomi**

December 7 we will have Holiday Dinner at Morton's Steakhouse in Troy. Diamond Awards (for 30 or more years of continuous SPE membership) will be awarded at that dinner.

Sassan's report is embedded here – not dates of upcoming events and "one pagers" included in report.



1 - House and TDM  
Report to Board Octo

Sassan asked for ideas for more programs. HE is particularly interested in suggestions for next year's September kickoff event. He did note that Bekum has offered the use of their facilities if we have something in their area (Williamston). Kelly said PCS in Fraser could host and event.

## **Technical Conferences**

### **TPO conference**

**Sassan Tarahomi**

The hugely successful conference was dedicated to Ron Price.

Founding members (Dr. Rose Ryntz, Bob Eller, Dr. Norm Kakarala, Ron Price, Nippani, Rao, Bill Windscheif, Tom Pickett, and Tom Powers) were honored.



2 - TPO Conference  
Report STarahomi.pdf

**Full report is embedded here**

## **Membership**

**Eve presented**

Laura's report is embedded here noting membership was down, particularly student but that student membership numbers were cyclical with the school year and should be going up dramatically in the next



3 - Detroit  
Membership Oct 2018  
report.

## **Volunteers Coordination**

**Keith Siopes**

Keith's report is embedded here. He reviewed his event information and status tracking form (Excel) which is also embedded here.



4 - Mind Trekkers SE Schoolcraft Sci-Tech  
MI Sci-Tech Open Hoopen House 2018102

## Nominations/Elections

**Irv Poston**

Just a head's up on the elections coming up, would like all nominations in by the January meeting. People can self-nominate. Five director are to be elected in March Terms on the board for Dawn Cooper, Tom Miller, Dave Okonski, Suresh Shah, and Sassan Tarahomi expire in June 2019. Dawn and Sassan would remain on the board by virtue of their 2019-2020 offices (President Elect and Councilor) Wayne will no longer be on the board as Past President in 2019-2020 so would need to run for a seat. Irv also pointed out that the President can appoint a board member. All this is included in report embedded here.



5 -

SPE18Nom&Ele1022.f Irv will coordinate the elections but Bios for candidates go to Nippani.

## Awards

**Nippani Rao**

## First Vice President Reports

**Dawn Cooper**

## Newsletter

**Eve Vitale**

Eve will have printed copies of the Newsletter at the Holiday Dinner. Will start working on the next newsletter to get it out for next meeting.

## eCommunications

**Irv Poston**

- News Brief – Near end of every other month - Irv Poston
- Local e-Blasts – As needed for special news - Karen Rhodes-Parker
- Social Media – Call attention to website posts - Adrian Merrington
- The Chain – SPE news for Detroit Section - Adrian Merrington

## Friday, October 26, 2018 News Brief

- Websites and Newsletter Availability Covering All Events Past and Upcoming
- Links:
  - Detroit Section Website: [www.spedetroit.org](http://www.spedetroit.org)
  - SPE International Detroit Section webpage: [www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3624](http://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3624)
- Sponsors of Newsletters and Website

Irv noted we all need to work hard to get more sponsors for newsletter and website. Newsletter sponsors are really overall communications sponsors included in Newsbrief and website. Right now we are honoring M Holland for their continued sponsorship over the years but do not have a commitment for this year.

## Webmaster Update

**Marc Bahm**

Marc presented his analytics report, web hits were as expected following interest in TPO conference. Copy of Marc's



SPE Detroit October  
2018 BOD Meeting w

report embedded here.

There was also discussion about pros and cons of hosting our website through SPE. We currently have about 30 pages, SPE sites have four. We did ours to maintain control. Bill noted AutoEPCON using SPE site, but TPO and Detroit are separate. With Marc as administrator there would be no cost (If SPE acts as administrator, there is a fee) Pat noted that they have done a mock up for Automotive Division. SPE hosting is getting better and they use same software as Marc. Sassan thought it was something to reconsider. Marc will handle.

## Intersociety Report

**Wayne Hertlein**

Wayne noted ESD just revised website and it is not working properly.



4 - Intersociety  
Liaison Report 10-22-

Wayne's report is embedded here.

## Second Vice President Next Gen Report

**Bill Windscheif**  
**Eve Vitale**

BOM bowling event was less well attended than expected but still worked out well. Report is embedded here.



1 - Next Gen Oct  
2018.pdf

## Education

**Sandra McClelland**

Eve presented the budget. After discussion the \$5000 for AWIM was removed for the budget. Sandra indicated it was not enough to be effective in the SAE program. Original idea was to fund a plastics unit for 13 weeks of instruction 4 to 6 hours per week. That was turned down by the board at the June 25 meeting. The \$9,950 Wayne requested for Plastivan visits reserved as prize for the Future Cities Competition winners was removed from the Education budget and moved into the Intersociety Budget. During the discussion, money for Schoolcraft was discussed. Tom Powers noted that he needs receipts for actual money spent. He does not just write a check to the School for what has been budgeted. Sassan will get those receipts to Tom so a check can be cut. Documentation should also go through Sandra so Education committee can keep track of it.

Bill moved to approve the Education Budget as modified during the discussion. Tom Powers seconded. Motion was



2018-19 Approved  
Education Budget.pdf

approved with no opposition. A copy of the approved budget is embedded here.

## Schoolcraft Report

**Armando Sardanopoli**

- Very Active Advisory Committee:
  - 6 Members Met Thursday With Many Good Suggestion/Observations
  - Helped with Credit and Non Credit Programs
- Krauss Maffei Supplied 80 Ton Machine on Consignment
- Universal Back Plate Purchased with SPE Foundation Funds
- Current Student Count is 33/23 in Credit Program
  - Largest Enrollment In Introductory Class: 11 Students
- Non-Credit Program still going at Ford
- Manufacturing Day: Over 500 Students Toured
- Mind Trekkers This Coming Weekend
  - Over 2500 Students on Friday
  - Family Open House on Saturday
  - Plastivan Will be There
  - Coordinating Volunteer Needs
    - Getting Students from U of M: 6 Sat./4 Friday
- Two New Instructors In Winter 2019
  - Mike Balow and Sam Kharchenko
- Presentation Made and Being Made to Intro Engineering Classes
- Should Have 3 Graduates w/AAS Degree in Spring
- Important Proposal On Ballot:
  - Canton, Plymouth, Northville, Garden City an Livonia
  - Armando noted this millage must pass for Schoolcraft to stick with current plans, if you are in that area, make sure people know this.

## Old/New Business

Eve Vitale

### Support to HQ/ (Research/Eng Tech)

Eve Vitale

Tom Pickett told us of reason Automotive Division would not split ANTEC hosting support with Detroit Section. Automotive Division is focused on Technical track support at request of SPE headquarters.

### ANTEC hosting support from Detroit Section

Eve Vitale

**ANTEC committee** (Armando, Bill, Dave, Eve, Laura, Pete, and Sassan) approved \$25,000. Committee was no able to convince Automotive Division to split as was noted above.



Detroit Section LOA - ANTEC 2019 .pdf

Letter of Agreement between SPE and SPE Detroit embedded here.

Local media will be brought in to publicize.

Sassan made a motion to increase ANTEC support budget to \$50,000. (add an additional \$25,000) Motion was seconded by Bob.

There was considerable discussion and disagreement on this and no definitive answers as to what we as the Detroit Section would get for the additional \$25,000. Pat Farrey gave some ideas, but at a moment's notice could not give a specific list. Vote was held and vote came out 10 for and 10 against before Eve voted "for" as a tie breaker. **NOTE - Due to amount, approval will require a second vote.** Pat did note SPE was very appreciative of the generous \$25,000 commitment and we should be careful to not let this divided the board.

Bill moved to make an additional named scholarship of \$25,000 to present at ANTEC. Marc seconded. That vote passed with none opposed. That vote also would require a second vote and more specifics given on the named scholarship.

### Insurance -Warranty Statement

Eve Vitale

There are no pending actions, she'll work with Tom Powers and Karen to get paperwork in order and processed.

### SPE Research and Technology Award

Norm Kakarala

Norm noted that Rose Ryntz was one of the nominees for the SPE Research and Technology Award to be awarded at ANTEC. Norm moved that the Detroit Section contribute \$2,500 to that award prize. Sassan seconded. Tom Powers brought up that we need to bring these items up on a timelier basis for budgeting, but did note he could put it into Special Programs item. Motion passed.

### Meeting Adjourned

Eve Vitale

Lyle moved to adjourn, Wayne seconded. Adjourned at 8:23 pm

Submitted by Secretary - Bob Petrach

**NEXT Meeting Day & Date: February 4, 2019 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

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American Chemistry Council

5750 New King St.

Troy, MI 48098

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None

#### Call-In Information

US: (712) 832-8330

Pass Code: 5855927

**Appendix (Proposed Agenda for this meeting) is embedded here.**



October 22 - 2018  
Agenda.docx