



## Society of Plastics Engineers Detroit Section Board Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2023 Meeting

### Meeting Location

**ZOOM and ACC**

**Board Member Attendance-** Lyle Beadle, Dawn Cooper, Neil Fuenmayor, Mary Gilliam, Todd Hogan, (Fang held proxy), Sandra McClelland, Adrian Merrington, Tom Miller, Dave Okonski, Bob Petrach, Tom Pickett, Martin Popella, Tom Powers, Armando Sardanopoli, Laura Shereda, Keith Siopes, Fang Wang, Eve Vitale, Bill Windscheif. *19 of 22 voting members present. (quorum met)*

***Emeritus Board Member Present – Norm Kakarala***

**Board Members not present –** Mahmoodul Haq, Rob Philp, Sassan Tarahomi.

**Guest –** SPE Foundation employee Evan Morton.

### **Meeting Call to order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm by President Neil Fuenmayor who welcomed everyone.

### **Roll Call**

**Neil Fuenmayor**

Neil had us go around the room and then did role of on-line participants, record is above.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

**Neil Fuenmayor**

Minutes of 2023-01-09 Board Meeting were pending approval.

Neil Fuenmayor referenced the copy of 2023-01-09 Bob sent out 2023-03-06 (along with officers' meeting minutes from 2023-02-23) There were no corrections or additions. Lyle moved minutes be approved, Sandra seconded and motion was approved by voice vote.

### **President's Message**

**Neil Fuenmayor**

Neil reviewed some of his slides.



Mar. 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting – President's Remarks

#### **Welcome**

2022-23 Goals – Current Focus Areas:

- *Solicit Input and Learn*
- *Foster Collaboration and Cooperation*
  - *Build / Re-Build Sub-Committee Meetings – Add new members*
  - *Sub-Committee Meetings encouraged*
- *Focus on Creativity*
  - *Think about "new" Targets/Goals for what we do*
  - *Re-Think Purpose – new ways to accomplish?*
- *Reinforce Core Values and Our Mission*
  - *Return to "Full Schedule" of Events and Activities in 2022-23*
  - *Technical Programs*
  - *Toy Program, Material Auction*
- *Emphasize Trust and Transparency*
- *Nurture Growth*
  - *Grow Membership / Future Board Members → Use Events as Membership Drives*



Mar. 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting – President's Remarks

#### **Open Roles (Chairs)**

- *Programs*
  - *Martin Popella (Chair)*
- *Membership Chair & Next Gen. Advisor → Consolidate*
  - *Dr. Haq (Chair), Laura Shereda*
- *Communications → Need Leader. Must Focus on This!*
- *Treasurer (successor to Tom Powers) → To be announced*
- *Newsletter – Eve Vitale would like to hand over → Seeking Volunteer(s)*
- *Awards – Fang Wang, Bob Petrach have been leading*
- *Nominations – Fang Wang, Bob Petrach have been leading*
- *Historian – Bob Petrach has been "acting" chair*



Mar. 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting – President's Remarks

#### **Eliminated Roles (Chairs)**

- *Volunteers Chair*
- *Social Outings Chair*
  - *Not critical and responsibilities covered by other chairs*
  - *Removed/Remain Vacant for now (2022-23 Term)*
  - *Could revive in future as necessary*

Board is now back to full size. We will continue to nurture growth to grow membership, bring in more new board members. Ideas for membership drives are welcome.

We are returning to a full schedule of events, Golf Outing, Toy Program, and Materials Auction are in the calendar and planning started and we are getting back to a full schedule of TDMs.

Martin Popella is now Programs chair.

Wednesday Neil has a meeting with Dr. Haq concerning Dr. Haq taking over chair of Membership Committee and adding Next Gen responsibility to that role. Laura remains on the Membership Committee in a support role to Dr. Haq.

Neil emphasized Communications Committee still needs a chair. He was happy with work Keith is doing with eCommunications, Rob with web and Eve with newsletter but noted Eve would like some relief from the newsletter role and that a lead for the committee would make it stronger. We are removing the roles of volunteer coordinator and Social Outings Chair.

We need people for Nominations and Elections as well as Awards. Bob is currently handling those and is doing Historian job.

### Treasurer's Report

Tom Powers

Tom reviewed Performance to Budget and Check register files.

Student support \$10,000 each to Kettering and Ferris is done to support students traveling to ANTEC.

Sandra explained to Eve we were not being billed for Fred Schwab scholarship support by the Foundation that money comes out of "National Support" line and has not been spent. Eve will investigate. Sandra explained how SPE Detroit has supported students to ANTEC independently to cover our student chapters rather than sending money to Foundation to distribute.

Tom noted we still have \$2400 in budget for ANTEC travel. Sassan is going but there is a separate line for Councilor ANTEC travel budget. Dave and Eve are also going to ANTEC but their trips are paid by Injection Molding and Foundation respectively. Neil is unable to go to ANTEC due to timing (Spring break for his son); Fang is unable to go for the same reason.

3/13/2023	Category	7/1/2022 Actual	Budget	6/30/2023 Difference
	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>312,617.50</b>	<b>237,000.00</b>	<b>75,617.50</b>
	03-Education Income	526.50	600.00	-73.50
	04-Technical Meeting Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
	05- Membership Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
	06-Golf Outing Income	246.00	12,000.00	-11,754.00
	08-Material Auction Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
	11-Newsletter Advertising	0.00	2,400.00	-2,400.00
	12-TPO Conference Inc	307,445.00	150,000.00	157,445.00
	13-Auto Epcon Income	4,400.00	72,000.00	-67,600.00
	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>346,642.89</b>	<b>359,016.00</b>	<b>12,373.91</b>
	01- Board Expenses	7,772.06	12,000.00	4,227.94
	02 Awards	7.38	1,200.00	1,192.62
	03-Education	116,300.00	167,592.00	51,292.00
	03 1 Scholarships	47,450.00	60,000.00	12,550.00
	03 2 Plasti-van	57,250.00	57,250.00	2.00
	03 3 National Support	0.00	3,996.00	3,996.00
	03 4 Area Programs	1,600.00	9,000.00	7,400.00
	03 5 Administration	0.00	840.00	840.00
	03 6 Special Programs	0.00	0.00	0.00
	3 92 Next Generation Program	0.00	504.00	504.00
	Student Sections	10,000.00	36,000.00	26,000.00
	04- Monthly Tech	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	05- Membership	0.00	600.00	600.00
	06-Golf Outing Expense	405.00	12,000.00	11,595.00
	07-Introsociety	0.00	300.00	300.00
	08-Material Auction Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
	09-Councilor	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
	10- Administration Expense	12,235.90	21,204.00	8,968.10
	10 1 APC services	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	10 2 Special Items	5,179.01	12,000.00	6,821.99
	10 3 ACC Rent	1,250.00	5,004.00	3,754.00
	11-Newsletter Expense	960.00	4,080.00	3,120.00
	12-TPO Conference Expenses	203,585.67	80,040.00	-123,545.67
	13-Antec Expenses	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
	14-Credit Card Fee	4,288.64	6,000.00	1,711.36
	15-Auto Epcon Expense	1,087.44	48,000.00	46,912.56
	<b>Net Difference:</b>	<b>-34,024.59</b>	<b>-122,016.00</b>	<b>87,991.41</b>

3/13/2023	Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Amount	
	<b>BALANCE 1/9/2023</b>						<b>74,945.23</b>	
	1/9/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	AMFINE Che...		12-TPO Conference ...	8,000.00	
	1/9/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	Cimbar Reso...		12-TPO Conference ...	8,000.00	
	1/9/2023	5-3rd ch...	AD CC	Kal Poly		12-TPO Conference ...	4,000.00	
	1/16/2023	5-3rd ch...	1322	FSU SPE		03-Education Student...	-5,000.00	
	1/16/2023	5-3rd ch...	1323	Thomas Pow...		10-Administration Ex...	-211.13	
	1/23/2023	5-3rd ch...	EFT	LYB		12-TPO Conference ...	360.00	
	1/23/2023	5-3rd ch...	EFT	King Fa		12-TPO Conference ...	8,000.00	
	1/24/2023	5-3rd ch...	EFT	FPCUSA		12-TPO Conference ...	5,000.00	
	1/27/2023	5-3rd ch...	1324	Neil Fuenmayor		10-Administration Ex...	-194.71	
	2/1/2023	5-3rd ch...	1325	Holly Chapman replacement		03-Education 03 4 Ar...	-100.00	
	2/3/2023	5-3rd ch...	1326	Kettering Univ...		03-Education Student...	-6,000.00	
	2/3/2023	5-3rd ch...	Au Wh...	5/3rd Credit C...		01-Board Expenses	-4,588.01	
						10-Administration Ex...	-245.91	
	2/8/2023	5-3rd ch...	1289	Lyle Beadle		10-Administration Ex...	-49.41	
	2/9/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	NOF America		12-TPO Conference ...	4,000.00	
	2/9/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	RTP		12-TPO Conference ...	4,000.00	
	2/14/2023	5-3rd ch...	1327	SPE Foundati...		03-Education 03 2 PL...	-8,425.00	
	2/14/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	Elastron with Adell		12-TPO Conference ...	4,000.00	
	2/14/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	Adell		12-TPO Conference ...	4,000.00	
	2/14/2023	5-3rd ch...	DEP	Automotive Di...Asahi 8000...		12-TPO Conference ...	14,000.00	
	2/16/2023	5-3rd ch...	vv046	Karen Rhode...		15-Auto Epcon Expe...	-567.00	
						10-Administration Ex...	-297.00	
	2/28/2023	5-3rd ch...	AD CC	Evonik Corp		13-Auto Epcon Income	4,400.00	
	3/1/2023	5-3rd ch...	1328	Thomas Pow... trip to mi		10-Administration Ex...	-902.15	
	3/2/2023	5-3rd ch...	Au Wh...	5/3rd Credit C...		12-TPO Conference ...	-2,988.81	
						10-Administration Ex...	-585.20	
	3/2/2023	5-3rd ch...	EFT			12-TPO Conference ...	6,000.00	
	3/12/2023	5-3rd ch...	EFT			12-TPO Conference ...	3,000.00	
	1/9/2023 - 3/12/2023							46,788.67
	<b>BALANCE 3/12/2023</b>						<b>121,733.90</b>	
	<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>						<b>76,760.00</b>	
	<b>TOTAL OUTFL...</b>						<b>-29,971.33</b>	
	<b>NET TOTAL</b>						<b>46,788.67</b>	

Neil announced that Dave Okonski has agreed to take over the Treasurer role beginning with the 2023-2024 term.

Dave and Tom will meet prior to the June 19 meeting to get Dave on accounts and review procedures and status of accounts. Tom said Dave should get a copy of Quicken Deluxe and he can transfer the last 21 years of records.

**Bill moved that Dave be elected Treasurer, Lyle seconded. Measure passed with one abstention (Dave Okonski).**

Neil reported he has names of three CPA firms to contact for an external audit. He still would like to kick off audit before treasurer change, but is not sure that we can do that. Both Bill and Tom said the audit should be relatively simple as it is primarily a review of the checking account. Investment and checking accounts are both with Fifth Third Bank. Norm asked if investments will be reviewed in the audit. Bill said, "Yes", both would be reviewed. Tom said that too would be simple. He has made two withdrawals to cover revenue deficits during COVID. Other than that basically the accounts just follow the market and we have not made any withdrawals since the special board approved expense to buy a twin screw extruder for Kettering several years ago. Give our nonprofit status there are no tax implications with our investment accounts as long as we use any money we withdraw in support of our mission.

### **Councilor's Report**

**Sassan Tarahomi**

No report, next Councilor's meeting at ANTEC March 27, 2023 from 10:00 am to 2: pm

**Neil highlighted that today we are deviating from our typical agenda. We are starting with Second Vice-President section and Education Committee.**

### **Second Vice-President Education**

**Dawn Cooper  
Sandra McClelland**

Sandra reported scholarships were complete for the year. Essays were sent out for judging. Eve and Keith noted they had not received invitations to judge essays. Tom Miller reported he had just received seven more essays which were forwarded. He thought perhaps Todd had assigned Eve and Keith to north zone, but Tom sent the essays for South zone to Keith while we were discussing and a message to Todd to include Eve in the north zone judging.

Sandra noted that PlastiVan® visits were the largest single portion of the Education budget and all money (\$57,250) had been spent for the year.

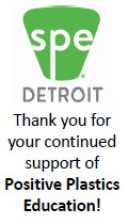
She explained that ANTEC support funds for MSU had not yet been sent as there was a technicality involving the approval of MSU as a student chapter by SPE. She noted it was just making sure approval was done per the bylaws. She saw this as something that would be done soon and ANTEC funds for MSU would, be disbursed.

Fang asked about student sponsorship opportunities for ANTEC as SPE had recently sent out request for sponsors. Sandra explained that we sponsor SPE Detroit student chapter students first, if that is low or none we'd give to ANTEC.

The question was asked "Who is on the Education Committee?"

Education Committee members are the President, the Past President, Todd Hogan, Tom Miller and Sandra McClelland.

Meeting was then turned over to Eve who thanked the Education Committee and the board for having her and PlastiVan® educator, Evan Morton present an update on Foundation activities and their requests. As we went through slides there were questions and discussion summarized after the slides.



**EMERGING WORKFORCE SUPPORT**

Scholarships  
Grants

**POSITIVE PLASTICS EDUCATION**

**THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PLASTICS**

PlastiVan

**EQUITABLE STEM OPPORTUNITIES**

Ecotek Lab  
Collaboration - science and engineering opportunities for students

After school SPE STEM Clubs  
Girl Scout Polymer Science Patch

Month	Day	Location	City
July	12	AIA Rosewood Campus	Inkster
July	26	DEPSA	Detroit
September	8	ACEE	Novi
September	27	Bullock Creek	Midland
September	28	Clare MS	Clare
October	3	Coopersville Middle School	Coopersville
October	3	Faxon Academy	Southfield
October	7	IACMI	Detroit
October	18	Davison Elementary Middle School	Detroit
October	18	Mead Mills Middle School	Northville
October	19	Beaverton Rural Schools	Beaverton
October	20	Detroit Henri Academy	Detroit
October	26 & 27	Grissom Middle School	Sterling Heights
November	3	AIA Elementary	Detroit
November	3 & 4	Taylor West Middle School	Detroit
November	11	John Glenn High School	Bay City
November	14	Priest Elementary	Detroit
November	16	Bates Academy	Detroit
November	17	Northville High School	Northville
November	18	Meridian Junior High School	Sanford
November	22	Cramer Junior High School	Essexville
November	28	Taylor West Middle School	Detroit
November	29	Bates Academy	Detroit
November	30	Brandon High School	Brandon

Our educators, most with plastics industry experience, include:

- Mechanical Engineer/Manufacturing Engineer
- Community Sustainability Professional
- Packaging Engineer
- High school science teacher/STEM Outreach specialist for the University of Akron
- Chemical Engineer
- Industrial Engineer
- Mechanical Engineer/Graduate Research Asst in Additive Mfg
- Material Scientist

**SPE FOUNDATION**

Eve Vitale +1 202 763 5412 Chief Executive, SPE Foundation	Julie Proctor +1 202 763 5426 PlastiVan Program Coordinator
Katie Zahrt +1 202 763 5427 Director of Development	Evan Morton +1 202 763 3438 Program and Sustainability Coordinator
Elizabeth Egan PlastiVan Educator	John Follenstein PlastiVan Educator
Mandy Mastbrook PlastiVan Educator	Dana Warner PlastiVan Educator
Jack Wilking PlastiVan Educator	Mark Welverton PlastiVan Educator

**Detroit SPE Plastics Education**

- Reasons for this increase:
- Sandra McClelland introduced Ecotek Lab
  - This created opportunity for PlastiVan School Visits
  - SPE After-School STEM
  - SPE Junior Researcher
  - SPE Mentoring Program
  - SPE Summer Program
  - Field Trips to local manufacturers
  - Teacher training
  - Due to demand SPE Foundation Detroit – Evan Morton
  - We have new and increased funding from other groups/companies

**PlastiVan Curriculum Sheet - Middle School**

BRASKEM

MIDDLE SCHOOL TOPICS

- How your life is impacted by plastics
- What engineers do and how they work
- High industries that use plastics
- Recycling of plastic
- Bioplastic and natural plastic materials
- Applications of plastic in everyday life
- Manufacturing processes and machinery
- Material properties and design
- Hydrophobic, hydrophilic, & isotropic polymers
- Crystalline polymers and amorphous polymers
- Recycling of plastic
- Material Science - Career and education
- Single use items vs. single use alternative

PROGRAM GOALS

1. DEMONSTRATE THE BENEFITS OF PLASTICS IN EVERYDAY LIFE
2. EXCITE STUDENTS ABOUT CAREERS IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY
3. ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO RECYCLE AT HOME AND IN SCHOOL
4. CHANGE THE PERCEPTION OF PLASTICS ONE CLASSROOM AT A TIME

**PlastiVan changes the perception of plastics one classroom at a time.**

Process for a PlastiVan Classroom Visit

- Contact Julie Proctor (or any of the SPE Foundation staff) to ask for a visit to your school or for your event e.g., community STEM fairs, Bring Your Child To Work Day, Manufacturing Day, Earth Day, etc.
- We need good contacts at schools to make the visit happen – your advocacy helps us be successful
- ~85% of schools ask for repeat visits year after year
- We need a sponsor \$1,750/day (Detroit SPE and SPE Auto Div get a discount of \$1,575/day)
- At their request we invite sponsors to visit the classroom to talk about their experience in the industry – they usually get 2-4 minutes per class
- PlastiVan becomes the science class for the day and usually has 45-55 minutes for the program

Please see [www.PlastiVan.org](http://www.PlastiVan.org) and [www.PlastiVideo.org](http://www.PlastiVideo.org) for more information.

**PLASTIVIDEO® HIGH SCHOOL**

PlastiVideo® High Schools are the introduction to plastics history and development through science and engineering including recycling processes and the need for personal responsibility and reuse of materials.

- Natural Plastics**
  - Imagines a World without Plastics
  - Natural & Synthetic Polymers
  - Additional Plastics Chemical Engineering
  - Manufacturing & Polymer Science
- Synthetic Plastics**
  - The Raw Materials of Plastics
  - Process & Application Engineering
  - Nylon & Epoxy Chemistry
  - Thermoplastics & Recycling
  - Thermoset And How to Recycle
- Processes & Material Science**
  - Viscosity
  - Crystalline & Chemical Reactions
  - Flow Applications
  - Hydrophobic & Hydrophilic Polymers
- Take Action**
  - How to Recycle
  - Make Plastic Claims and Solutions
  - Protect Our Waterland
  - Recycle Your Wrap
- The Future of Plastics**
  - Plastics from Renewable Resources
  - Innovative Recycling Techniques
  - Circular Economy
  - Production Science of Materials
  - Sustainable Materials Management

**PlastiVideo**

ROYALTY FREE

Sponsored by SPE and PLASTIVAN

Public schools do not have adequate instruction in science (or subjects) necessary for STEM opportunities, and the PlastiVan and ancillary sponsored **PlastiVideos** are being used in Detroit and around



It's not just PlastiVan anymore... Your support has built something bigger!



Following the lead of Detroit SPE's generous support we have new sponsors for the programs in Detroit related to PlastiVan

**SPONSORS:** BASF, ARKEMA, Celanese Foundation, Ascend Cares, The Materials Group, Braskem.

**We are turning away schools that want positive plastics education**

We are asking for 10 more visits this school year to cover the increased demand and to ensure that every school that wants positive plastics education can have a PlastiVan visit - \$15,750.

We are also asking for consideration for a bigger budget for FY23-24 and increasing your support by 10 visits - \$73,000.



**Detroit "Wonders of Plastics" Essay Contest**



Please consider changing the due date to early April

- Many schools don't get their PlastiVan visits until Dec/Jan/Feb/Mar
- The date comes quickly after the December break, semester end with finals, mid-winter break, and snow days.
- This is a request from many of our Detroit public school partners who are struggling to catch students up academically from the Covid years and the lack of qualified teachers



Eve told us that several years ago, Sandra had introduced PlastiVan® to Keith Young and Ecotek. Partnering with Ecotek has led to better contact with Detroit schools and a large demand in Detroit. To meet that demand the Foundation hired its first full time employee Evan Morton as a PlastiVan® educator and sustainability coordinator. Evan also works on after school STEM programs as well as presenting PlastiVan® in Detroit with a few visits to Texas and Florida as well. Evan is an alumnus of the Ecotek program and MSU.

Eve explained that PlastiVan® had been to 13 states and visited 42 cities last year. She noted the van is historic, that she had never seen it and there had been discussion about changing the name but decision was made that the branding was strong and worth retaining.

Bill asked how many PlastiVan® visits there were and how many students were reached.

Eve said that in 2020 they were on a track to reach 40,000 students in 2020 when COVID hit, but that dropped to 7,000 in 2020 in the first 2 months of the year. In 2021 there were 111 visits involving about 16,000 students. 36 of those visits were in Detroit. The majority of the visits were in Michigan with the bulk of the rest of the visits in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, a lot in Texas, a few in Florida and Mendy does some in North Carolina.

Eve said the target is to get back to preCOVID levels in 2023.

Armando asked if we have close contact with the teachers. Eve responded, yes. We have about 80-90% repeat visits and that Elizabeth is the best at building relationships with teachers.

Eve noted the Girls Scouts Color Your World with Polymer Science that started in Texas and plans to expand. The new Girls Scouts Sustainability Patch program has helped get more sponsors particularly in packaging sustainability.

Tom Powers asked about the money going into PlastiVan®. Eve explained that money such as that from the Detroit Chapter and Automotive Chapter was used for visits, Money from other sponsors such as Braskem was unrestricted and could be used for professional development, program improvement, supplies and for schools without a sponsor.

The question was asked how one gets a PlastiVan® visit scheduled. Eve said that anyone could do but Julie Proctor, PlastiVan® Program Coordinator was the main contact. Sandra told us request for new visits in the area should be funneled through Tom Miller or Todd Hogan to coordinate and noted most of the visits are repeat visits as after a teacher has had a PlastiVan® visit, they want that opportunity again in future years.

Eve stated PlastiVan® is also participating in GM's "Bring your Child to Work Day", Manufacturing Day and Earth Day activities. The Automotive Chapter is paying for the GM "Bring your Child to Work Day".

Eve reviewed the PlastiVideo™ series; Bill Windscheif said the videos were "dynamite". Sandra noted that the take action on marine debris was excellent as well as all the recycling focused videos.

Question was asked if anyone can watch the videos. Eve said the videos are not open source however she can give access, just ask and she'll arrange. Bill asked if access is granted to organizations without an SPE presence. Eve said that took a more formal process but the Foundation was willing to work with anyone.

It is not known how many times the videos have been shown; some schools have arranged for a license and use the videos regularly. There is a charge, the thought being that if there is a charge the videos will be more likely to be used and worked into curriculum. Currently it is \$5,000 for a one year for a typical high school license, \$1000 for smaller schools. Evan has taken the videos to Africa where he was part of a team and had virtual discussions with students.

Bill asked if there were surveys to judge the impact. Sandra supported the survey idea. Evan and Eve both said there are some surveys and also using the essay contests as a portal to participation.

Teachers are asked to answer surveys and approximately 90-95% of teachers like the program and want it to grow. Growth has been accelerating in Detroit and remained steady in the suburbs where the program is more established. Eve stated they were rebuilding in Texas as many of the teachers supporting the PlastiVan® program had retired during COVID.

Twelve students are being mentored with junior research grants of \$500.

There is summer programming at American International Academy where they are watching two PlastiVideo™ videos a day and students are going on tours to places such as Ford, Flex-N-Gate, and Kingfa.

The result is students now know more about plastics and career opportunities and are gravitating towards plastics educational opportunities.

Eve is doing teacher training at Ecotek.

In discussing sponsors, Eve told us she is requesting SPE Detroit increase budget for FY 2023-2024 to \$73,000 (from \$52,250) which would cover an additional 10 PlastiVan® visits.

Eve also asked that deadline for essay contest submission be moved later in the year than the current late February date to possibly sometime in April. Sandra explained that the date had been later but moved earlier to give time to process and recognize the students before the end of the school year. The Education Committee will review though.

Tom Miller asked about the essay contest on the Foundation website

[https://www.4spe.org/custom/submissions/submissions\\_portal/submissionForm.cfm?formID=121](https://www.4spe.org/custom/submissions/submissions_portal/submissionForm.cfm?formID=121) that had the note “If you have any questions, please send them to [ecoteklab@gmail.com](mailto:ecoteklab@gmail.com)”.

Eve said that Keith Young was prescreening essays and mentoring students. She reminded us that education in Detroit is not equitable to that in other areas and Keith wants to review and guide students. Sandra has had discussions with Keith in this regard and Eve also has reviewed. There is also a Florida essay contest. Sandra said she recognized the disparity and need for mentoring that in the past they had had some essays submitted with only one or two sentences from some of the younger students. Dave asked just what tutoring input does Keith give. Evan said it is mostly on content and grammar. Keith emphasizes quality over quantity. The focus is on improvement.

Eve told us she is not going to question how Keith runs Ecotek and noted his success. (Secretary's notes – go to <http://ecotek-us.com/> see more about Ecotek and note SPE Banner prominently in the center of the page).

Fang asked if there was any problem with showing some of the PlastiVideo™ videos at AutoEPCON as a part of promoting them. Eve said it was possible. Bill suggested that we review one or two videos at a board meeting to reinforce our team.

Sandra noted that we used to have SPE members show up when there were PlastiVan® visits to local schools. Eve said this was still possible and welcome but more advance notice is needed and some schools require background checks.

Eve also told us PlastiVan® will be at Careerfest in July and at the Jackson Learning Fair.

If there are any questions contact SPE FOUNDATION, Eve Vitale, Chief Executive

83 Wooster Heights Road, Suite 125

Danbury, CT 06810

+1810.814.6412 [evitale@4spe.org](mailto:evitale@4spe.org)

[www.SPEFoundation.org](http://www.SPEFoundation.org) [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org)

Next Armando gave us an update on the [SME Education Foundation](#) SME PRIME Schools Initiative. SME funded this through a \$5.5M grant from the state of Michigan.

Armando noted that there is no Plastics Technology component to the program and said SME is willing to add one. He'd like the Education Committee to review. Sandra welcomed the information. Armando said the program partners with high schools and students for internships and has a four year program.

#### High Schools in the SME PRIME Network

Since 2011, SME PRIME® (Partnership Response In Manufacturing Education) has reached nearly 100,000 students in 81 communities across 22 states. 84% of graduating SME PRIME students intend to pursue careers in manufacturing, and 60% of those students intend to pursue post-secondary education in a field directly related to manufacturing. Students in the SME PRIME network receive hands-on training on modern equipment, and learn about technology and processes through tailored curriculum that is informed by local manufacturing companies in their communities.

#### Michigan schools

Airport Community Schools in Carleton	Alma High School in Alma	Alpena High School in Alpena
Bay City Western High School in Bay City	Birch Run High School in Birch Run	Center Line High School in Center Line
Cheboygan High School in Cheboygan	Cornerstone Health + Technology High School in Detroit	
East Jackson High School in Jackson	Ecorse Community High School in Ecorse	
Edwardsburg High School in Edwardsburg	Freeland High School in Freeland	Genesee Career Institute in Flint
Grand Haven High School in Grand Haven	Gratiot Isabella Technical Education Center (GI-TEC) in Mt Pleasant	
Hancock High School in Hancock	Hemlock High School in Hemlock	Heritage High School in Saginaw
Innovation Central High School in Grand Rapids	Jackson Area Career Center in Jackson	
Merrill High School in Merrill	Pontiac High School in Pontiac	Romeo High School in Romeo
Rudyard High School in Rudyard	Saginaw Career Center in Saginaw	
Southfield High School for the Arts and Technology, Southfield		
Plymouth Canton Community Schools (Starkweather Academy) in Plymouth		
Swan Valley High School in Saginaw	Three Rivers High School in Three Rivers	
Troy High School in Troy	West Ottawa High School in Holland	
William D. Ford Career-Technical Center in Westland	Whitehall High School in Whitehall	

There currently are multiple pathways for students:

Computer Aided Design, Engineering, Metal Machining, Welding, Material Science, Mechatronics, Measuring, Industrial Maintenance, Additive Manufacturing.

SME supplies direction on equipment purchasing; equipment comes with complete curriculum; program comes with training for instructors.

At this point the program does not include financing, suggested funds required \$360k for multi-year installation/training.

The coordinator lives in Grosse Ile and willing to come in for a more detailed description/discussion.

The selected emphasis depends on the needs of local industry.

Program typically is a 4 year progression, and may need some adapting to career center format

Completed program comes with some industry certifications so that a high school student can get a job when they graduate.

Also includes the possibility for internships.

#### First Vice President

#### Advertising

Fang reported all we had to advertise SPE was a pull-up banner. (but it does look good)

It was suggested that we do something like a PlastiVideo™, Fang will work on an outline for a video and distribute for comment / suggestions.

Neil thought it would be good to give away SPE branded items. He asked Kathy Schacht and Sue Wojnicki about availability of swag / SPE branded items as he could find none on the 4spe website. That was still in process when he asked but there are some items now there. Eve suggested that we could have our own made for less since website was set up to sell single items at a profit. It was suggested that we could do flash drives or battery chargers. Sandra noted that we used to give half

**Rob Philp**

**Fang Wang/Neil Fuenmayor**

price memberships for those signed up for conferences. We have been giving option to conference attendees to get a discount on registration if they were SPE members.

**Sponsorships**

**Fang Wang**

No Update, no activity.

**Historian**

**Bob Petrach**

No Update, no activity.

**Golf Outing**

**Dawn Cooper**

Dawn reported that it is set for June 20 (the Tuesday after June 19 planning meeting) Contract is signed with Bay Pointe Golf Club and need to do deposit. Pricing and flier have been updated and sent to Karen. Lyle asked when the next meeting was as he was ready to help. Meeting was Thursday afternoon 2023.03.16 and virtual so she's get Lyle the link.

Neil told us there was a break even goal financially. Dawn said it never was a money maker but she had always targeted at least break even. We have a minimum of 80 people and we'd pay for that regardless of participation. Last year we only had 15 foursomes. Neil said we'll start promoting soon.

**Toy Program**

**Dawn Cooper**

Dawn has talked to APT and would receive an answer by 2023.03.20. After that is confirmed, she'll start work on material donations. We would consider other options if APT no longer would participate. Tom Powers mentioned Don Root had contacted him. Dawn talked to Don Root. Don does not want to participate; he was forwarding a request from United Way after he was contacted by them regarding the program.

**Materials Auction**

**Dawn Cooper**

There is a planned Materials Auction for 2023/2024 in January or February 2024 still at a casino downtown. Dawn has contacted MGM for open dates. She said the real leg work starts in October.

**Inter-society**

**Bob Petrach**

**Gold Award Program** is in person, on Wednesday, March 15, at ESD HQ in Southfield.

You all received the notice on 2023-02-11 and a reminder on 2023-03-03. Ultimately we purchased 5 tickets at the early bird price of \$275.00. Tom will pay that.

Attendees will be Neil Fuenmayor, Fang Wang, Bob Petrach, Angela Grelle, and Jackie Smiatacz.

Typically SPE Detroit would re-present Outstanding Member Award at the ESD Gold Awards Ceremony. I explained that we would not be presenting this year as we did not do any awards for 2022 due to the death of Pete Grelle. ESD offered to rearrange the program so we could do a tribute to Pete. Eve put Bob in contact with Jill Houser who is working to prepare a slide show and 2 page handout to be used at the Gold awards.

At this time total cost is not known.

Dave asked about the Gold Award winner Robert F. Bordley, PhD as Robert's bio indicated that he was a Technical Fellow, GM Engineering Staff, and Dave did not know him. Robert retired in 2011.

**President Elect**

**Fang Wang**

**House and Programs**

**Martin Popella**

Fang announced that Martin had taken over as Programs Chair.

Martin reported that the April 24 tour of Element Materials Technology was confirmed and he'd have promotional material to Karen tomorrow.



Next slot for an event would be June 5. But the schedule is quite full as the Planning meeting is set for June 19 followed by the Golf Outing June 20.

The Planning meeting is set for MSU Management Education Center in Troy.

Lyle pointed out there were several date mistakes on the calendar on the website. Neil has been working on corrections and would address.

Martin told us that we have started collaborating on SPE events with Akron and Cleveland. He also will publicize through ESD. Eve reminded us that she was liaison to Automotive Newsletter and could have sent out through them.

Martin showed us planning calendar. Dates run out into 2025, only selective snips from the calendar are included in the minutes.

2022-2023 Detroit SPE TDM and Board Meetings							2022-2023 Detroit SPE TDM and Board Meetings						
Date	Event	Location	Start Time	End Time	Cost	RSVP	Date	Event	Location	Start Time	End Time	Cost	RSVP
February 21, 2023	Plant Tour PCS Company	PCS Company	5:30 PM	8:00 PM	Free	Karen	August 12, 2023	Detroit Section Family Picnic	American Legion Post 377 Pavilion on Lake Oakland in Waterford Township.				
March 13, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	Virtual & ACC	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	N/A	Karen	September 4, 2023	Labor Day					
March 27-30, 2023	2023 ANTEC	Hilton Denver City Center, Denver, CO	All Day	All Day	SEE SPE HQ website	SPE HQ	September 6-8, 2023	ACCE	Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, MI				
April 9, 2023	EASTER						September 13, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	ACC Troy / virtual				
APRIL 16-19, 2023	AUTOMOTIVE DIV – Plastics in Electric & Automotive Vehicles Conference						*** September *** / Lb.d.	TDM	Lb.d.				
April 17, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Executive Board Meeting	Virtual / In person ACC	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	N/A	Karen	September 25, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Kick off Meeting (MSU pkg)	TBD				
April 24, 2023	Element Technologies Labs	Element Materials Technology Lab 27485 George Merrell Drive Warren, MI	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	Free for SPE/ \$10 for non-SPE	Karen	September 21-22, 2023	Innovation Awards Judging					
May 2, 2023	2023 Auto EPCON	Detroit Marriott - Troy, 200 W Big Beaver, Troy, MI	All Day	All Day		Karen	October 1, 2023	2023 TPO Conference	Detroit Marriott - Troy, 200 W Big Beaver, Troy, MI	All day	All day	N/A	Karen
May 8, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	Virtual / In person ACC	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	N/A	Karen	November 8, 2023	IAG 2023	Burton Manor, Livonia				
June 5th	TDM	t.b.d.	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	Free for SPE/ \$10 for non-SPE	Karen	November 13, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	Lb.d.				
June 19, 2023	SPE Detroit Section Planning Meeting (MSU Center)	811 W Square Lake Rd. Troy MI 48098	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	N/A	Karen	*** December *** / Lb.d.	X-Mas Dinner					
June 20, 2023	Golf Outing	Bay Pointe Golf Club	9:00 AM	5:00 PM		Karen	January 15, 2024	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	Lb.d.				

## Membership/NextGen

Laura Shereda/Dr. Mahmoodul Haq

Neil informed us that working with Laura and Mahmoodul the decision was made to have Mahmoodul take over the role of Chair. Laura, Mahmoodul and Neil have a virtual meeting Wednesday (3/15) to work on plans.

## Nominations/Elections

OPEN/Fang Wang/Bob Petrach

Bob is acting as temporary chair with support from Dave and Lyle. We do need a chair.

### 2023.03.13 Elections Report



At the January 9, 2023 Board meeting, the following Officers were elected by and from current Directors for the 2023-2024 term.

Past President Neil Fuenmayor  
 President Fang Wang  
 Pres-Elect Rob Philp  
 1st VP Dawn Cooper  
 2nd VP Mary Gilliam  
 Secretary Bob Petrach  
 Treasurer Tom Powers  
 Officers are automatically members of the Board of Directors.

**Since that meeting Dave Okonski has agreed to take over Treasurer position starting 2023-2024. Tom Powers has agreed to do tax reporting this November.**

Councilor Sassan Tarahomi is currently serving his second term as Councilor which will end at ANTEC in 2024. An election for his replacement will be held early 2024.

Bob reviewed the slides. We now have five candidates for the five open board positions for 2023-2026 terms.

Bios have been received from all candidates and we are ready for ballots to go out.

Fang gave Bob instructions on how to contact Sue Wojnicki at SPE Headquarters to process ballot.

Intention is to send out ballots to conclude election by March 31, 2023.

## Awards

### 2023.03.13 Elections Report



We have an election for a three year term (7/1/2023 to 6/30/2026) as Director coming up.  
 With the recent passing of Pete Grelle, we are running behind.  
 Plan is to send ballot materials to SPE HQ by March 17 and complete voting by April 15.

The intention for this election is to elect 5 directors  
 Current elected directors with terms ending 6/30/2023 are:

Todd Hogan  
 Armando Sardanopoli  
 Keith Slopes  
 They all plan to run for 7/1/2023 to 6/30/2026 term.

**We have room for two more elected directors and at this time have 2 more candidates.**

Chris Surbrook  
 Richard Umemoto

### 2023.03.13 Elections Report



Current Directors with terms ending 6/30/2024 are:

Adrian Merrington  
 Sandra McClelland  
 Tom Miller  
 Tom Pickett  
 Eve Vitale

Current Directors with terms ending 6/30/2025 are:

Lyle Beadle  
 Mahmoodul Haq (elected by Board at 2023.01.09 meeting)  
 Martin Popella (elected by Board at 2023.01.09 meeting)  
 Laura Shereda  
 Bill Windschief

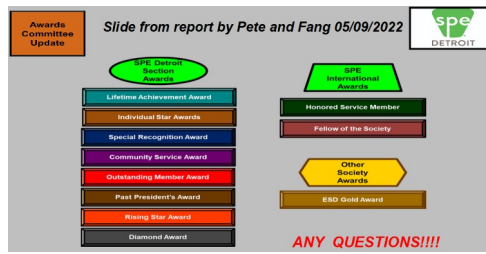
OPEN /Fang Wang

Bob reviewed slides. Nothing is coming up soon. Awards work needs to be completed for presentation at Kickoff meeting.

### 2023.03.13 Awards Report

Award	Nomination Deadline
SPE Detroit Awards	
Lifetime Achievement Award	2023.07.15
Individual Star Award	2023.07.15
Special Recognition Award	2023.07.15
Community Service Award	2023.07.15
Outstanding Member Award	2023.07.15
Rising Star Award	2023.07.15
<b>SPE International Awards</b>	
Honored Service Award	2023.07.01*
Fellow of the Society	2023.07.01*
<b>EDS Affiliate Council Award</b>	
EDS Gold Award	2023.10.31**

\* These are SPE International Awards for which Detroit Section nominates its selections. Actual nomination deadline is set by SPE International Awards Committee and is usually October but application process is lengthy.  
 \*\* ESD Affiliate Council Award, actual deadline is July end of November; time is for application process. Award is in March.



### 2023.03.13 Awards Report

#### 2022 Awards Selections

SPE Detroit Awards	2022 Selections
SPE Detroit Awards	<b>QUESTION – DO WE DO ANY OF THESE FOR 2022?</b>
Lifetime Achievement Award	??
Individual Star Award	??
Special Recognition Award	??
Community Service Award	??
Outstanding Member Award	??
Rising Star Award	??
SPE International Awards	??
Honored Service Award	??
Fellow of the Society	??
EDS Affiliate Council Award	??
EDS Gold Award	??

**ANSWER IS WE DECIDED NOT TO GO BACK AND DO 2022 AWARDS.**

**INPUT ON 2023 AWARDS IS WELCOME ANYTIME**

**WE FINALIZE IN BUT AFTER MAY 31 BOB MEETING.**

Involved and time crunch

Discussed and came up with no nominees

Discussed and came up with no nominees – awardee must be able to present at ESD Gold Event typically 3rd Wednesday in March

We are open to award nomination suggestions at any time. Selection criteria and decision making responsibility will be presented at next meeting. We have HSM nominee, Dave Okonski.

### AutoEPCON

Dave reported.

May 2, 2023 8 am -5 pm at Detroit Marriott – Troy. <https://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=8018>

The call for papers just went out.

New sponsors are coming to the conference (sponsors that have never been associated in the past).

More and different Divisions are asking to participate but there is not enough room in program to fit them. The conference still has the participation of Injection Molding as well as Sustainability and Additive chapters.

Neil asked if the Detroit Section could have space to promote the section and membership similar. Sandra said we have had in the past, sometimes as part of the registration table, sometimes separate, sometimes manned, sometimes unmanned. We just have to work out the details.

Sandra McClelland

### TPO

Neil reported there have been some changes in committee members but progress is going well.

Slides cover his reporting.

Neil Fuenmayor

2023 Conference – Status for SPE Detroit BOD (Mar. 2023)

Neil Fuenmayor  
SPE Detroit Section 80D Meeting (Mar. 13, 2023)

#### 2023 SPE TPO Automotive Engineered Polyolefins Conference

www.auto-tpo.com

Overview

- Event Dates: October 1–4, 2023
- Venue: Detroit Marriott Hotel Troy (Troy, MI)
- Overall Plan / Format / Length
  - Traditional 2 ½ Days
  - Full Live Event
    - Virtual Components (Live vs. On Demand)
- 2023 Theme: Engineered Polyolefins for the Mobility Evolution
  - Key Sub-Themes: Sustainability and Future Mobility
- Planning Committee, Steering Team, and Sub-Committee Teams
  - Finalizing Teams – some turnover → new members
  - Meeting 1x/Month / Sub-Committees meet separately

#### 2023 SPE TPO Automotive Engineered Polyolefins Conference

www.auto-tpo.com

- Technical Program Proposed
  - (9) Technical Sessions: Core + New
    - New: Thermoforming, Additive Manufacturing
  - Call for Presentations Issued E-Blast / Posted on Website and LinkedIn (Feb. 2023)
- New Content / Ideas for 2023
  - OEM Focused Talks
  - Workshop / Plant Tours
- Keynotes – Status:
  - Target 3
    - Wards Auto Interiors
    - Caresoft Global Inc.
  - Action: Seeking OEM Keynote (and Exec. Chair)**
- Sponsorship – Status:
  - Target: ~55 (Booth Capacity at Venue)
  - 33 Signed-Up thus far
    - 1 Platinum / 1 Gold / 20 Exhibitors

Communications / e-Communications

OPEN / Keith Siopes

Neil again appealed for a Communications Chair to tie efforts together and thanked Keith Rob and Eve for covering their portions of the communications efforts. Keith reviewed his slide. Fang asked people to look up SPE Detroit and follow so they'd get notifications.



E-Communications Update March 13, 2023

**Detroit Speaker**

**LinkedIn**

Reviewed & Replied to relevant posts (e.g. Likes, Congrats, Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary etc.)  
Posted Element Materials Technology Meeting & Plant Tour  
Shared post on personal LinkedIn page  
BOD- Please share on personal LinkedIn Page

**Facebook**

Reviewed posts – overwhelmingly personal posts, no business posts  
Posted Element Materials Technology Meeting & Plant Tour

**Updated TPO Conference Video**

Conducted preliminary discussions & e-mail exchanges.  
Draft to begin next week

**Newsletter**

**Eve Vitale**

Eve has newsletter ready to go out. She briefly reviewed file “Newsletter for Board Meeting Mar 2023.pdf”. It is 18MB so in not here.

Mary Gilliam introduction article will go into the next newsletter. Irv memorial also will be in there. Copies will be printed for distribution at AutoEPCON. (About 75)

Articles for the next newsletter are due March 15. Email was sent out to those who are to submit articles.

**Website**

**Rob Philp**

Rob was not at the meeting. Proposals for website revisions will be presented at the next meeting.

**Old/New Business**

**Neil Fuenmayor**

**Old Business**

Neil reported he had not yet had a chance to call a meeting of the Ad hoc Committee to discuss specifics of Sandra McClelland Scholarship and would call one soon.

Lyle asked more about our investments and the purpose of them.

Much of the discussion from the Treasurer’s report concerning the subject was rehashed.

Lyle asked if there were any tax considerations. There should be none. When we get to the audit, we will review with the CPA firm.

Bill said we could set a policy to disburse funds if we reached a certain trigger level.

Fang asked us to think about what major project we might want to do. Dave reminded us to be cautious as this was a fund to sustain us through rough times and transitions. The EV conference threw a wrench in AutoEPCON income. While TPO income is not what it once was it is still good, but we cannot expect it to ever go back to what it once was.

He also reminded us that Materials Auction once was the large revenue generator. Things change, we need a fund to cover us while we adapt.

Bill moved to adjourn, Eve seconded. Meeting closed at 8:45

Next board meeting is May 8, 2023.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bob Petrach, Secretary SPE Detroit.

Agenda is on following slides.



**SPE Detroit Section – March 2023  
BOD Meeting  
Proposed Agenda for Mar. 13, 2023  
ACC/SPE Office – Troy, MI & Virtual**

**Join Zoom Meeting** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85732578674?pwd=c2QyMkt5K1ZGUxYk0zUj1SXlU09>

**Meeting ID: 857 3257 8674      Passcode: 821525**

Call In Tel. Number: 1 646 931 3860 Meeting ID: 857 3257 8674 Passcode: 821525

**One tap mobile: 1 646 931 3860,,85732578674#,,,,\*821525# US**



5:00 PM	Dinner (In Person – Troy, MI)	
5:30 PM Meeting Start	<b>President</b>	<b>Neil Fuenmayor</b>
	Meeting Call to Order	Neil Fuenmayor
	Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions	Neil Fuenmayor
5:35 PM	Approval of Minutes (JAN. 2023)	Bob Petrach
5:40 PM	President’s Message	Neil Fuenmayor
5:45 PM	Treasurer’s Report - Upcoming Change for 2023-2024 – New Treasurer - Budget Update - Independent Financial Audit	Tom Powers
6:00 PM	Councilor’s Report (if applicable) / Update	Sassan Tarahomi
6:10 PM	<b>Second Vice-President</b>	<b>Dawn Cooper</b>
6:10 PM	Education Committee	Sandra McClelland
6:20 PM	Scholarship Committee	Tom Miller
6:25 PM	SPE Foundation / PlastiVan	Eve Vitale/Evan Morton (Guest)
6:35 PM	New Discussion/Brainstorming Topics (Education) - Changing Negative Perception of Plastics for Young Students / Teachers - Encouraging Plastics Technology Careers for High School Students	Armando Sardanopoli/All
6:50 PM	<b>First Vice-President</b>	<b>Rob Philp</b>
6:50 PM	Advertising Committee - SPE Detroit “Event / Media Kit” PR Disc.	Fang Wang/Bob Petrach
6:55 PM	Sponsorship Committee	Fang Wang
7:00 PM	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Open / Bob Petrach (Acting)</b>
7:05 PM	Annual Golf Outing (June 20, 2023) - Team - 2023 Event Goals/Targets - Prelim. Plans, Needs & Timeline	Dawn Cooper
7:10 PM	Annual Toy Program (Nov./Dec. 2023) - Call to Action: Need Team - Prelim. Plans, Needs & Timeline	Dawn Cooper
7:15 PM	Annual Materials Auction (Jan./Feb. 2024) - Call to Action: Need Team - Prelim. Plans, Needs & Timeline	Dawn Cooper
7:20 PM	Intersociety Committee	Bob Petrach

*Agenda continues, next page*

7:30 PM	<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Fang Wang</b>
7:30 PM	Technical Programs - Event Calendar - Upcoming Events	Martin Popella
7:40 PM	Membership/Next Gen – Plans/Update	Laura Shereda/Dr. Mahmoodul Haq
7:45 PM	<b>Nominations/Elections</b>	<i>Open</i> / Fang Wang/Bob Petrach
7:55 PM	<b>Awards</b>	<i>Open</i> / Fang Wang/Bob Petrach
8:05 PM	Auto EPCON Conference (May 2023)	Dave Okonski/Sandra McClelland
8:10 PM	TPO Automotive Conference (Oct. 2023)	Neil Fuenmayor/Rob Philp
8:15 PM	<b>Communications</b> / e-Communications - Discussion (see Advertising above)	<i>Open</i> / Keith Siopes
8:20 PM	Newsletter	Eve Vitale
8:25 PM	Website - Analytics - Refresh / New Website Proposals & Discussion	Robert Philip
8:40 PM	Old/New Business	All
8:40 PM+	<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>	<b>Neil Fuenmayor</b>

Next BOD Meeting: **May 8, 2023**