

HDC-SETAC Board Meeting

June 6, 2009

Noon to 1 pm

Present - Carolyn Bentivegna, Ron MacGillivray, Chris Nally, Don Nazario, Gina Ferreira, Bob Hoke, Nellie Tsipoura

Absent - Laurie Gneiding, Ben LePage, Nai-chia Luke, George Molnar

Agenda Items

1. Elections for HDC SETAC Board- Student and Regular Board Member

The new president Don Nazario presided over the meeting. The Board elected Gina Ferreira as the next Vice President. Chris Nally continued as the Treasurer and Carolyn Bentivegna continued as the Secretary.

The number of new Board members was discussed. It was decided that we could elect two positions but that one additional position would be enough. Potential sources of academic members were suggested including representatives to the NJ Marine Science Consortium (www.njmssc.org), Rowan University, and Montclair State.

The student position was discussed. It was mentioned that Montclair might be a potential source for a student member. Bob said that the student needs to be prepared to participate at the National level. The Board also hopes that they can help with the website.

2. 2009 SETAC North America Meeting in New Orleans, LA

Don said that he would arrange for the HDC Booth, Chapter meeting and annual Board dinner/lunch

3. 2009 Spring Meeting, Bear Mountain, NY

The final cost was approximately \$7000. A total of 44 people attended Thursday and 33 attended Friday. A discussion on attendance this year and in past years ensued. The poor attendance on Friday appears to be a consistent problem. Also, the number of people attending each short course is too low. The Board discussed combining the workshop and Chapter meeting. The Board recognized that the fall workshop has been scheduled too close to Nationals and that the workshop topic often attracts non-Chapter members, which is good. Combining the workshop and Chapter meeting might result in high attendance for both days of the meeting. There was concern expressed that eliminating the fall workshop would reduce contact with our membership. The following was decided and will also be discussed with the rest of the Board.

a) There will be no fall workshop this year.

b) Next spring the workshop will be offered the first day and the Chapter meeting will be held the second day.

c) The workshop topic will be "Wastewater Treatment: Bringing 21st Century Science to a 19th Century Technology",

See below for more information on this workshop (#7 of agenda).

d) The Chapter meeting will consist of two short courses, a poster session, and afternoon platforms. See below for more information (#4 of agenda).

e) We will “substitute” the fall workshop with an evening social event in which there will be a single keynote speaker. These events will revolve around dinner and networking. See item #7 of agenda.

4 and 7. 2010 Spring Meeting –Prallsville Mill/ “Fall” Workshop

Based on the above discussion, the meeting will be held in conjunction with the workshop. The proposed dates are April 21-22nd, which are on Wednesday-Thursday. Ron volunteered to Chair the event and intends to reach out to another Board member to Co-Chair with him.

Workshop: The proposed topic is wastewater technology, including both municipal and industrial wastewater. The workshop would be one day and attendees could pay to attend only the workshop, only the Chapter meeting, or both- at a reduced price. It was proposed that the morning of the workshop address municipal wastewater and that the afternoon address industrial wastewater. Chris has several contacts for finding speakers to address municipal wastewater technologies. Ron presented topics for industrial wastewater including removal of nanomaterials, treatment of oil and gas waste, coal mining wastewater and issues surrounding separate system for sewage and other types of waste water. Potential topics include:

- Whole Effluent Toxicity and other biomonitoring
- emerging contaminants (detection and treatment)
- use of nanotechnology in treatment
- use of wetlands in treatment
- wet weather flow issues
- treatment of combined sewer overflow (CSO)
- discharges from municipal separate sanitary sewer systems (MS4)
- treatment of wastewater from coal mining
- treatment of natural gas extraction wastewater

Annual Chapter Meeting: The scheduling of events was proposed as follows. Workshop on Wednesday, dinner Wednesday night with speaker for those attending the workshop or meeting the following day, two short courses on Thursday morning from 9- 11:30 AM, poster session from 11:30-1:00, lunch from 12-1:00, platform session (member presentations) from 1-4:00, business meeting. There will be specific theme for the meeting.

Social Event: The Board discussed having an event to bring members together to meet and network one or more times during the year. It was proposed that we would have a single speaker on an appropriate topic over dinner and drinks. Venues were discussed including Pine Manor in Somerville (Nellie) and Erini’s- location ? (Ron). Topics suggested included nanotechnology, accumulative risk assessment and stressor identification. Carolyn will contact potential speakers. The date for the first speaker event should be the 1st or 2nd week of October. Nellie and Ron will look into location availability and costs.

5. HDC SETAC By-Laws and Addendum to the By-Laws: The need to incorporate recent Board decisions into the By-Laws was discussed as well as where to host/post the By-Laws and other Chapter related content. It was decided that the By-Laws need not contain all “policies” of the Chapter and that Chapter documents should be put on the Chapter’s need computer, which currently resides with Chris Nally.

6. Corporate Sponsors: The amount donated by corporate sponsors declined by 45% this year. It was discussed when to take corporate sponsors, who did not donate this year, off the website. It was decided that Chris would send notes to those sponsors in October, and if they were still unable to donate, that they would be removed from the website etc. in January 2010. Bob agreed to help find new sponsors and to follow up on previous ones.

Bob suggested that we send continuing corporate sponsors a letter thanking them and include information on how their monies were being spent, i.e. student awards, science fairs, workshops and meetings. Carolyn suggested that the Board contact current and past sponsors to see if they would like to nominate someone from their company to serve of the Board.

The attendance list was discussed. It was decided that a workshop/meeting attendance list would be generated with the ability of each individual to opt out. The list would be sent to meeting attendees and corporate sponsors. It would contain name, company and e-mail address.

It was also decided that employees of corporate sponsors could continue to attend meetings for free, depending on level of sponsorship as previously decided, and that Board members could continue to attend events for free, as recognition of their serve to the Chapter.

8. Better Communication: The status of the newsletter and other modes of communication with membership were discussed. It was decided that we would have monthly articles on the website as oppose to a bi-annual newsletter. Chris volunteered to generate an article for June, Don for July and Carolyn for August. Depending on how this goes, we may extend an open invitation for Chapter members to submit articles. It was decided that we would continue to send out postcards as well as e-mail flashes to advertise events.

The process for registration on-line was discussed. Don looked into “Dream Weaver” and thought this might help track information on registrants. Nellie said she has experience with this program and could help. Bob said that he would contact National about helping us with registration.

9. Next Board Meeting or Conference Call: July 16th. We will need speaker, date and location of first social by then.

Meeting End

Submitted by Carolyn S. Bentivegna, secretary.