



IEEE AKRON/CANTON SECTION
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
OCTOBER 2011

Date October 11, 2011
Place Waterloo Restaurant, Akron, Ohio

Present	Blair, Jeff	jtb15@zips.uakron.edu
	Buchanan, Rick	r.buchanan@ieee.org
	Lanier, Gary	glanier@lanierconsult.com
	Osterhout, Bob	ROsterPE@gmail.com
	Pechenuk, Walter	wpechenu@cs.kent.edu
	Pisarsky, Shannon	spisarsky@ieee.org
	Sastry, Shivakumar	ssastry@uakron.edu
	Voss, Rob	rvoss@neo.rr.com

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Gary Lanier, Chair of the IEEE-Akron/Canton Section. The first order of business was introductions. Everyone introduced him-/herself for the benefit of newer members.

The second order of business was the minutes of the September meeting of the IEEE-Akron/Canton Section. Rick Buchanan moved that the minutes be accepted as they were, and Rob Voss seconded the motion. All approved.

The third order of business was the treasurer's report. Buchanan, the treasurer of the section, notified the board that the meal costs for the dinner prior to the Cisco Systems Tour was divided in accordance to membership attendance of each section. The turn-out was 51 persons for the Cisco event. Buchanan also notified the board that the expenses incurred in August by Shannon Pisarsky, who represented IEEE-Akron/Canton Section and Region 2 of IEEE, at the Sections Meeting in San Francisco had already been disbursed to her. Buchanan has requested the region to reimburse IEEE-Akron/Canton with the funds incurred by Pisarsky, but there has yet to be a response on the part of Region 2 in regard to this matter.

Blair motioned that the board approve the treasurer's report, and Voss seconded it.

The board meeting recessed at 6:13 pm for dinner and resumed at 6:58 pm.

The fourth order of business concerned the section's website. Lanier was concerned with the fact that Akron Engineers Week is not mentioned on the website. He urged that the webmaster create a link to it, regardless of the age of the information provided. Lanier also mentioned that a link to various scholarships should also be set up.

The fifth order of business concerned the Student Professional Awareness Conference (SPAC) to be hosted by the University of Akron Student Chapter at 6:00 pm on November 18. At the time of this board meeting, tickets were being printed. Tickets are for the buffet to be provided during SPAC. The cost is \$7.00 for students, and the buffet dinner will be at the Martin Center on the campus of the University of Akron. The actual cost of the buffet is \$22.00 per head, and this cost, which is charged by the university, is non-negotiable. The chapter's goal is to have 120 students attend, and IEEE-UA Student Chapter foresees a deficit of \$1800, which must be met by the chapter for SPAC to be a success. The chapter has already raised \$150.00 to pay for advertising. The chapter is also sponsoring a T-shirt design contest, and the design selected will be imprinted on t-shirts, which will be sold as a fund-raiser. Lanier pointed out to Blair that the student chapter only has to ask for assistance, and the board will try to help. Lanier said that Blair, on behalf of the student chapter, should ask for \$500.00, and Blair did. Buchanan said that that amount was available, and if more funds were needed, then the student chapter should ask later. Buchanan motioned that the board approve the \$500.00 donation, and Voss seconded the motion. All approved.

Shivakumar Sastry, who recently assumed the duties of advisor to the IEEE-UA Student Chapter, said that he will see what he can do to help the students with SPAC, and Bob Osterhout also offered his assistance in regard to any issues that may arise.

The sixth order of business was the Power and Energy Society (PES) of IEEE. There was nothing to report.

The seventh order of business concerned the chapter's Computer Society. Pisarsky is circulating a sign-up list, and a few people have added their names to the list. Sastry has also notified students of this society, and he will begin outreach to recruit as many new members as possible. IEEE requirements are that 12 people are needed to form a local chapter, and there are many Computer Science members in the region. Owing to the latter, it is anticipated that a chapter can be formed without much difficulty.

The eighth order of business was the Industry Applications Society (IAS) report. IAS will be joining PES members for a tour of the Orrville Power Plant at the end of October. IEEE-A/C is waiting for details about the tour.

The ninth order of business dealt with the Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE). Osterhout is currently learning the ins and outs of PACE and plans to bring in guest speakers for resume writing and other professional activities.

The tenth order of business concerned membership. There was no report.

The eleventh order of business dealt with the Akron Council of Engineering and Scientific Societies (ACESS). The ACESS banquet this year will be on November 3 at Guy's Party Center on Waterloo Road in Akron. Buchanan said that he will arrange a table for the IEEE-A/C Section. The section will order one table and has to commit it. If there is more interest in attending the banquet by IEEE-A/C members, then another table will be reserved. Malissa Clingman is co-chair, but IEEE-A/C has not heard from her yet.

The twelfth order of business concerned the Canton Joint Engineering Council (CJEC). The organization will hold its annual banquet on Wednesday, February 22 at Skyland Pines in Canton. The cost will be the same this year as last year – \$20.00 per member. The guest speaker will be Gary Dahl, and the topic of discussion will be the Engineering Services Lab at the University of Akron. As a reminder to board members, CJEC is Canton's counterpart to Akron's ACCESS.

The thirteenth order of business was Engineers Week. The banquet is slated for Thursday, February 23, 2012. Voss reported that the flyers for the week are not done yet, and that little can be done right now to notify interested parties about events. Voss said that information should be available around Thanksgiving. The IEEE-A/C is awaiting the flyer in order for it to be placed on the sections website. The venue will be the same as last year's – Emidio and Sons Banquet Center in Cuyahoga Falls. Prices have yet to be set for the banquet. Unlike banquets in previous years, the 2012 banquet will have no guest speaker. Instead the theme will be games. There will be engineering-based questions for games such as Jeopardy, the Price Is Right, etc.

The fourteenth order of business was the meetings schedule. The Orrville Power Plant Tour will take place on October 25, 2011. Steve Harmath has to be contacted for information about the tour, and Buchanan plans to send out a newsletter on October 12 about the event. The Canton Regional Society of Professional Engineers (CRSPE) will hold a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) meeting on November 29, 2011. John Greenhall will give a talk about changes being introduced into licensure and certification. The event will be held at the 356 Fighter Group Restaurant near Akron-Canton Airport. Pisarsky is working with Anna-Marie Robbins from Stark State to have her give a presentation on homeland security either in November 2011 or January 2012. There is no firm date yet. Robbins can also make catering arrangements for the event, which will be held at the Technology Center at Stark State. As the ACCESS Banquet (November 3, 2011) had already been discussed, no further action was taken.

The IEEE-Akron/Canton Annual Social and installation of officers will take place on December 10, 2011 at the Prime at Anthe's on Manchester Road in Akron. The number of people expected is 25, and the date has to be locked in as soon as possible. There will be a choice of four entrees that are usually offered at banquets. IEEE-A/C will cover the cost of wines. Installation of officers will take place after dinner. Officers this year will be elected electronically. The annual holiday social is the section's Open Meeting for everyone.

The following items had already been discussed and no further action was taken – CJEC Banquet, Akron Engineers Week Banquet, and the PACE activity.

The last item on the meetings schedule concerned student prize papers. Early March would be the best time for this event, as this has to be done before the regional and national contests.

The fifteenth order of business was "Old Business." This concerned a review of the bylaws about elections.

The sixteenth order of business was "New Business." This was concerned with the election of officers for 2012 and a check on the bylaws about elections.

The last item in “New Business” was introduced by Sastry, who presented before the board information about the Hudson STEM Alliance. This organization is planning to improve STEM activities in six school districts in the Hudson area, and it deals with both middle and high schools; these include the Hudson, Munroe-Falls-Stow, Kent and three other school districts. At the present the alliance is sponsoring Lego Robotic teams and trying to get Hudson teachers to learn content for this activity (not just pedagogy). The board noted that IEEE-A/C sponsors these kinds of activities through ACCESS and that the latter might be able to provide funds for this program. Sastry informed the board that Rockwell is already a sponsor, as well as Time-Warner, LCI at Kent State, etc. The Alliance would like to organize a sustainable mentoring program. This would include how to counsel students before their going to college, monitoring them through college, and then seeing what they’re doing at the end of their college careers.

The seventeenth order of business was adjournment. At 7:47 pm Voss moved that the board recess until 6:00 pm on November 8 for the chapter’s board meeting at the Waterloo Restaurant, and Buchanan seconded the motion. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Walter Pechenuk
October 30, 2011