

IEEE Milwaukee Section 2007 Meeting Minutes

Minutes of IEEE Executive Meeting
February 28, 2007
Maxwell's Restaurant in Brookfield

Attendees:

Section Officers:

Glenn Wrate (*Chairperson*)
Tom Smith (*Vice-Chairperson*)
Debra Longtin (*Secretary*)
Eric Waydick (*Treasurer*)

Chapter Chairs:

Ram Bhatia (*Industrial Apps.*)
Jim Blaha (*Electromagnetic Compatibility*)
Mark Juds (*Magnetics*)
Shrinivas Joshi (*Antennas and Propagation, Instrumentation & Measurement, Microwave Theory and Techniques, Electron Devices*)
Paul Tindall (*Power*)

Section Directors and Others:

Sylvia Wrate (*Program Chair*)
Rikki Green (*potential GOLD chair*)

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Glenn Wrate.

An agenda for the meeting was distributed by Glenn.

Introductions were made since there were new members in attendance.

The minutes of the January 19th meeting were distributed and reviewed. Ram moved to approve the minutes and Tom seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

The EMC seminar brochures were passed around for anyone who may not have already received one. More than 90 attendees have registered for the seminar plus 14 vendors are signed up. The seminar will be held on March 27th.

Next, a discussion was held concerning the planning of meetings for the year.

- It was suggested that we hold 2 chapter meetings this year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

- By consensus, the spring meeting will be a student night, with teams of students from local colleges giving poster presentations.
 - This concept allows the students to interact with local professional IEEE members and practice their presentation skills.
 - Awards would be given out. We could check into getting some money from PACE for the awards as long as we provide matching funds.
 - Need to make sure the date does not conflict with the Great Lakes Biomedical Conference on Friday, April 20th. A tentative date of Tuesday, April 24th was set for the student night.
 - It was suggested that the meeting be held off campus to even the playing field between the various college teams. Cost is an issue. Will look into having it at the Miller Inn.
 - Need to limit the entries to maybe 4 teams per school due to possible space constraints.
- Jim mentioned that he has had discussions with a Mr. Mark Montrose about speaking at a fall section meeting (after the EMC Rockford meeting).
- Paul mentioned that he may have a speaker for arc-flash protection for the Power meeting and asked if any other chapters would be interested in co-sponsoring. Both Magnetics and IAS were interested in joining Power for a joint meeting with an arc-flash speaker. It was suggested that this meeting be held in later May or June so that it is not too close to the Student night meeting (attendance would be better at both if they are not too close together).
- Most section and chapter meetings will continue to be held at MSOE to hold down costs.
- The Holiday Party was also discussed.
 - Tentatively planned for the first weekend in December.
 - Family Event (usually better attendance).
 - A couple of options were discussed: Milwaukee Public Museum (with IMAX movie?) or perhaps a night at the theatre (A Christmas Carol with food after at the Stackner Cabaret).
 - Sylvia will investigate options and report back.
- Paul reported that the joint Power/Industry Applications meeting on High Resistance Grounding in January was a great success. In addition to the interesting speaker, many folks positively commented on the free pizza.

Next topic was the need for a Membership Chair. Glenn asked for ideas. Training will be available through Region 4 for whoever volunteers. The group suggested that Tom could use another assignment and lightheartedly volunteered him as chair. Discussion tabled for now. Please provide any suggestions for candidates to Glenn.

IEEE Membership in this region is down even more than other regions, so a membership chair is badly needed. In addition to needing a membership chair, it

was suggested that we recruit any co-workers and/or colleagues we know who are not presently IEEE members.

A Communications Chair is also needed. No suggestions. There are presently only two people on the membership list, even though there are many more out there in the section. It was suggested that perhaps folks were not paying the additional fee for membership in the Communications Society above the IEEE general membership fee. It was also suggested that perhaps the list is out of date. Discussion tabled for now. Please provide any suggestions for candidates to Glenn.

Next topic was the IEEE mailing list.

- This is an outstanding (national) issue that needs to be worked out. The list is not kept up to date so many folks do not receive notices and mailings concerning IEEE events.
- It was suggested that we all check out our personal information on the IEEE website and make sure we have the correct e-mail and postal addresses, etc. There are also check boxes that allow you to opt out of mailings, so we should check to make sure they are correctly checked or unchecked, depending on our preferences. Let Glenn know if you need help figuring out how to update your information. Also let him know if you are not receiving mailings.
- It was suggested that we get the word out to our fellow IEEE members to make sure their information is also current.
- Another suggestion was made that we perhaps take a poll at chapter and/or section meetings to find out how folks are hearing about the meetings (i.e. mailings, word of mouth, website). If they are not receiving mailings, we need to get the word out for them to update their information also.

A discussion was held concerning our election process. The Region 4 folks are not very happy with the way our elections have been conducted. They would like to see at least two candidates for each position. They would also like us to provide a mailing about the candidates before any vote is conducted. It is an ongoing challenge to find willing candidates and mailing costs would be a large portion of our budget. This is an open issue.

In new business, Jim will begin planning his next EMC seminar this fall and asked if any other chapter would be interested in joining him and holding a joint chapter meeting/seminar. Any interested chapters should talk to Jim.

The next order of new business was the GOLD chapter. Rikki Green attended this meeting to find out more about the GOLD chapter and how to re-activate the chapter here in Milwaukee. She would possibly be interested in chairing the GOLD chapter. The group explained GOLD and what would be involved. GOLD stands for **G**raduates **O**f the **L**ast **D**ecade. The chapter is intended for graduates

in their first ten years of employment to help retain members, help them start their careers and create networking contacts, etc. Milwaukee has had a chapter in the past, but it is inactive presently. How to get started, funding sources, and chapter requirements were also discussed. Rikki had suggested holding Casino Night as a social activity for the section. The group turned that suggestion around and said that it would be a good activity for the GOLD group to sponsor and perhaps invite the whole Milwaukee IEEE section.

Eric informed the group that he will be arranging to get a check card (debit card) for the purpose of paying for meetings, etc. Many places no longer accept checks and the check card will be more convenient. The group agreed.

The next meeting will be immediately before the Student Night meeting. (Student Night is tentatively set for Tuesday, April 24 at 6PM, with the Executive Committee Meeting at 5:30PM.)

Eric motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried. **The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.**