

Minutes – Teleconference – October 3, 2006

Participants: Dan Arnold, Jim Bacher, Henry Benitez, Jack Burns, Ted Freeman, Richard Georgerian, Murlin Marks, Rich Pescatore, and Ken Thomas. This meeting was conducted via telephone and Microsoft Live Meeting set up by Daniece. Thanks, Daniece! Documentation and notes were visible on any connected computer screen. All agreed that this enhanced our meeting.

1. 2006 Conference Update – Richard G. reported that as of now we have 14 vendors and 115 attendees, including two comps for speakers. Our Keynote Speaker #1 is Grant Schmidbauer of Nemko USA, Inc. Keynote Speaker #2 is Jack B. ReVelle, Ph.D., A Consulting Statistical, ReVelle Solutions, LLC.

We would like to have at least twenty vendors, but may have to be satisfied with what we presently have. Everything is moving along okay.

Having CEUs depends on when Richard G. submits forms to IEEE HQ. The CEUs are dependent on the technical program which has now been finalized. For future reference, the technical program should very well structured and we just fill in the program with the appropriate presentations.

Richard is starting to set up the 2007 conference in the Denver area.

Our BoD meeting will start at 8:30am on Sunday, October 22.

Richard said that we are well organized for conferences, but he is disappointed with the number of attendees.

2. Vulnerable society meeting to be held October 19 – The BoD discussed our various options:

Options

Stay with IEEE

Become financially stable as a separate Society

Merge with another Society or Societies

Become a council

Disband the PSES and go to a technical committee under some society

Leave IEEE

Organize as separate entity

Merge with NPSS as a separate entity

Affiliate with other organization(s)

Dan Arnold briefly went over our current budget situation, per the report submitted via email (and shown on the Microsoft Live Meeting.) Dan is concerned about our long-term viability without a big-ticket income. It's vital that we build up a reserve of at least one-half our budgeted expenses.

Points/Issues for Vulnerable Society Meeting

1. Change algorithm for small societies
2. Promote small societies (President of IEEE has voiced support for this).
3. Vote for candidate favorable to small societies
4. Shared society conferences (Agenda Item for October BoD: 2008 Options)
1 day workshop at other conference – for \$\$
5. More conferences, colloquium, workshops, training sessions, etc.
6. Inter-society publications
Articles about other societies in our newsletter, article about PSES in theirs
7. Investigate sponsorships from other societies Provide alliance benefits without being a council (Agenda Item for October BoD/Action Item: Get affiliations with other Society TCs.)
Action Item: Review other Society Field of Interests, see where PSES has mutual interests or areas where we can help, and then seek financial support w/ these other societies.
8. Product sales
Need products
Need Safety Monkey
9. Move more into the product compliance arena – especially conferences, workshops, etc.
- 10 Marketing professional – (Agenda Item for October BoD: Put together proposal to get one)
What are objectives for a professional?

11. Investigate other associations like ASQ, IEE

3. Next Meeting: 8:30am, October 22. See you in Irvine, CA!

Action Items

- (8/15/2004) Jack to coordinate contacting universities and trade schools – open
- (6/11/2005) Mark & Elya to come up with policies for trade groups/standards organizations/not-for-profit organizations conference participation – open
- (6/11/2005) John Freudenberg to contact trade groups/standards organizations/not-for-profit organizations about conference participation – open
- (2/16/2006) Ken will contact UL Research about getting Newsletter material – open
- (2/16/2006) Rich Pescatore will set up an email blast asking about member technical areas of interest (e.g. fuel cells, batteries, etc.) – open
- (09/05/2006) Encourage chapters to promote PSES Symposium – Daniece
- (09/05/2006) Set up a forum on lithium battery issues at the 2006 conference – Jack
- (09/05/2006) Determine whether the Boston area is viable for a 2008 conference – Henry
- (09/05/2006) Get Elections Committee up and running; find suitable nominees – Mark
- (10/03/2006) Action Item: Get affiliations with other Society TCs – BoD members w/contacts
- (10/03/2006) Action Item: Seek financial support w/ other societies – BoD members w/contacts
- (10/03/2006) Action Item: Bring a model "Safety Monkey" to October 22 Board Meeting – Dan Arnold
- (10/03/2006) Action Item: Attend Vulnerable Societies Meeting October 16 and report at PSES Board meeting October 22 – Henry Benitez