



American Chemical Society

Richland Section Board Meeting
Wednesday, 7/11/2018, 6:03 PM at BSEL 202 WSU Tri City Campus

7/11/18

Start: 6:03 pm

Attendance: Megan Nims, Kristin Omberg, Dave Heldebrant (online), Deepika Malhotra, Janet Bryant (online), Ram Devanathan, Sandy Fiskum, Mariefel Olarte, Shirmir Branch, Susan Asmussen, Steve Krogsrud

1. Minutes of April, May and June meetings, Mariefel – For the April minutes, Anna’s comments were incorporated in the councilor’s report section and the Treasurer’s report was added to the April minutes as directed last month. For the May meeting, the minutes were sent out and got commented. For the June minutes, only comment was the correction of the spelling of Greg Gauck’s name and didn’t cover the NORM. Reminder that the Treasurer’s report be added for transparency. The minutes for three months were approved.

2. Treasurer’s report for April, May and June, Sandy – May and June line items were previously discussed. In July, we received a \$1100 check from ACS for the SEED student. Got \$3.77 interest in the saving’s account, wrote a check to America Sevilla for \$1000 and delivered it to Donna Feaster (confirmed by Ram) on the July 3rd. We have \$18, 895.92 in the checking account and \$ 16, 324.05 in the savings account. Report for three months were approved.

3. Geezer Fest location and plans, Sandy – The venue is already reserved for Friday, November 16 at the Richland Community Center from 5pm to 8:30 pm. Ram suggested that we serve alcoholic beverages and Dave mentioned that we still have 4.5 cases of wine leftover from NORM so we have plenty already in reserve. To be able to serve them officially, one of us needs to get a liquor license. Janet noted that it is two-fold: we need the agreement of the Community Center and get a caterer that has the license. Dave noted that the Community Center has previously allowed serving of alcoholic beverages. Janet reminded that we need to double check so we can pay the appropriate fees and know the latest rules. Dave volunteered to be the Director of Libations and will follow up.

For the caterer, it was recommended that we use the same one last year, unless there are objections. It was noted that they were expensive. Janet suggested considering the Pasta place used during NORM as she thinks they are the most reasonable and easy to deal with. Sandy agreed that their food was good. Sandy will check with Pacific Pasta & Grill if they will serve alcohol if we bring the alcohol and get a quote for the food. Dave noted that they already served alcohol in one of the NORM events (Awards’ Banquet).

4. ACS Picnic, Dave – Dave was on travel but Abhi took helm of it. We still got a pretty good turnout and everyone had a good time despite the very hot weather. Steve was there a little later, and commented that there were some of the older members. Will get a hold of Abhi for the pictures for the newsletter. Dave will follow-up.

5. NORM update, Janet and Dave – Dave noted that the comments from the ACS Board and other dignitaries were very positive. They “absolutely loved NORM” and called it a huge success. They were impressed with the events and the programming, despite the two minor hiccups with schedules. It was a really wonderful event. Dave thanks the volunteers and everyone for making it an awesome event.



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Janet delved into the specifics. She was working with Sandy on the Treasurer's Report for NORM. She echoes sentiments that the meeting went very well. Sandy noted the hiccups in the NORM Treasurer's Report. Issue with printing the program with 67 requiring refunds. Janet is also working with the WebMaster to post the program on the website. Next on the plate is the final report. We owe an interim report to the NORM board 90 days after the event (around Sept. – Oct.). This requires the person in charge of an activity to give a report. The outline will be sent by Janet to everybody and it will also be posted on GoogleDocs. NORM 2016's report will also be included and they are in the running for the Chem Luminary award for Outstanding Regional Meeting. If their format is followed, we will be in good shape. Brianna, our ACS event planner is working to get our distribution of the cash. Sandy confirmed that we already got it. We got an infusion of \$25k but we have no idea of what is included in there. Janet itemized it as from the meeting revenues, not including Pres. Dorhout's donation. Allison and Janet are both already talking with him and appropriate ACS staff. Janet is also coordinating with the City of Richland on completing the \$3K Grant from the Hotels/Motels Tax. The \$25k does not include the expected additional \$9k, for a total of \$34k. We still have some outstanding bills to pay and those will be settled. Deepika did a lovely job of copying her in an e-mail to the Organic Division who is doing direct reimbursement to participants in that symposium. Reminder for those who need to be reimbursed who were covered directly by any Division, need to finalize the report and those will be included in the spreadsheet for full accounting. We are expecting that NORM will have raised at least \$20k all in all for the Richland Section (conservative estimate). There is a percentage that needs to go to the NOR Board (aka the Region's Board of Directors). We then need to close-out the requisite paperwork to close the accounting books for NORM 2018.

We are still figuring out the E-chem in a Box debacle. There were 20+ attendees who signed up and 12 actually showed up in the room but the Facilitator from the company did not show up. Two of the attendees said they only attended NORM for this particular event and they will get reimbursed, including hotel stays. Janet working with Brianna to figure it out – maybe \$300-\$400. Janet has the boxes of remaining t-shirts from NORM. An e-mail blast will be sent to those folks who paid for the hike shirt and didn't get them. If they want it mailed, they can get the shirt that way. If left unclaimed, we will keep them. The posters given by Jim Hewlett were disposed as follows: one was given to Shirmir Branch for obtaining her Ph.D. in April and the other one is going to the Eastern Oregon University Student Member Chapter. Janet still has other prizes for Geezerfest, including a backpack from one of the NORM 2018 vendors.

Vendors were all very pleased with the front and center set-up as well as the kid glove treatment. A lot of vendors will go back next year to Portland because of their great experience here at PNNL. Janet already has received Bernie Carlson's report for the vendor expo that will go into the final NORM report.

Other things: check number to clarify with Sandy, figure out how to proceed with the Thank you and Acknowledgement letters and how to send them out (work with Sandy and Deepika) and work with PNNL to write certificates for folks who worked behind the scenes to make the facilities work well for us. A very nice letter was sent to Director Steve Ashby. He was thrilled with the attendance at the opening ceremonies on Sunday. Reminder to send Sandy receipts.

6. NORM treasurer's report, Sandy – We have \$551 in checking; we spent \$ 42K on food and Scott Butner photography. Janet noted that we have two online albums (PNNL and Scott's). We



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have over 1500 photos. Links will hopefully be up this weekend. With the infusion of new cash from ACS, all bills can be reimbursed.

7. Other items

- i. Ram asked Dave to contact his friends so we can have a winery tour in the next couple of months before the crush (harvest)
- ii. Suggest speakers for Science Café. One suggestion is with Sue Clark in joint session with ANS. Another one is with John La Femina who is very active with the diversity council. He can talk about diversity in sciences.
- iii. WCC, with current funding status, can think taking things to the next level. Conduct workshops, and other activities.
- iv. Suggestion for dinner meetings. Steve will check where other organizations go and know their experience. ANS has a Shilo meeting with a buffet set-up. No one was opposed to have dinner, paid Dutch.
- v. Geezerfest improvement. Some suggestions: continue with the Geezer Round Table to get the geezers engaged with the younger generation; have a Featured Speaker; raffling away items. Sandy noted that the venue at the Community Center is not as big as in the past. It is an Activity Room. Dave can check the capacity. Need to check whether it is for standing room only or for seating.
- vi. Committee updates. WCC: NORM luncheon and hike both went very well. We will come up with future activities.
- vii. Government affairs committee set-up by Kristin. What does it do?
 1. Past: It used to be very active but became inactive. Bonnie Carpenter is deciding on what it will look like moving forward. Before, they provided training on how to engage with legislators and facilitated meeting with legislators within the state. Interesting here because we have two states.
 2. During Allison's tenure, she got feedback that younger chemists are interested in advocacy and want to be trained. We have not seen this in a long time.
 3. We are in an interesting point. Bonnie wants to put her stamp. We can either follow the more traditional gov't affairs model or help Bonnie make a new government affairs set-up, if there is a more useful way to use folks.
 4. There is nothing that prevents us from starting a committee in the Richland Section if people is interested. We had a few of young people who attended the workshop, including some high school students. We can expose them to the resources that ACS has, including some that Allison has worked hard on, including information on the ACS fellowship in Washington DC as well as resources that provide the data and facts needed to engage legislators. Kristin and Allison working to get these information better organized on the web.



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We can start with having special sessions in learning how to advocate.

Organize visits to the state offices and talk to them as chemists. ACS has a statement that deals with K-12 education and energy. Need to decide which ones are most applicable to our membership. For example, disproportionately impacting civilian research vs. defense research.

Advocating for balance is worthwhile. Note that legislators are very rarely approached by scientists, especially advocating to have a research base in this nation. This has impact and may sometimes move into multi-year events if the legislator stays for a multi-year term.

5. Janet observed that as the WCC submitted a value proposition and committee construct to the Local Section, these needs to be done also for the suggested Gov't Affairs Committee so that it can be approved. This is a check box in our ACS annual report.
6. Kirsten will send an e-mail to Ram to write the proposed value proposition and gauge interest among the group.
7. Steve can also cover this through e-mail and newsletter or have a kick-off meeting in Fall. People who will attend may be the pool for the committee too.
8. Demographics of the local section: mostly professional, about 550 total members (225 PNNL staffers) with young ones in EOU; we also have a substantial number of retirees. Kristin will try to find how to make this resonate to the demographics, for example, the government taxing student stipends. Another is allowing a maternity leave/sabbatical from NSF or NIH grants to adjust the time frame. For the retirees, energy and where we want to go as a country may resonate with them.
- viii. Janet noted that we have leftover NORM bags. We have 612 paid registrations but still have a lot of leftover. We can bring bags to Geezerfest and others may want to get additional ones. Janet will do an inventory and account for them.
- ix. Sandy noted that someone needs to think about the upcoming slate for 2019 elections. Someone need to give some thought since bios may need to be uploaded in October. Sandy confirmed that she is retiring as treasurer, to disconcerted responses from the group. Vanda will put together a slate (the immediate past-Chair's responsibility). Sandy suggested that others in the board may be interested or know those who might be interested. Serving on the local section board will be looked on with favor during SDRs and promotions.
- x. Janet noted that the nomination for ACS Fellows do not have any from Richland section in it and we might need to consider that.
- xi. Janet also brought up the upcoming National Meeting in Boston. Anna said that we are a finalist for three ChemLuminary awards and Anna will do a poster for us. Need to decide on who will go on stage should we win any of the three awards.



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- xii. Two available positions on this year's election ballot: We are looking for Chair Elect and Treasurer. Anybody in the room interested? We can send out an e-mail to the membership on who might be interested. Sandy may run for Chair Elect.
- xiii. Follow up on the Con-Agra Tour. They do allow a tour and if we are interested, Kristin's HR manager can get us into contact with their personnel so we can have a potato plant tour.
- xiv. Regarding NORM attendance, Ram confirmed that he has the numbers for each symposium in a spreadsheet. The program was very well attended. Some rooms were overflowing.

Ram noted that the section is doing very well. We need to think about other activities that we can do.

- xv. The next newsletter is usually around September before November/Geezerfest.

Meeting adjourned: 6:56 pm

**ACS Richland Section
Treasurer's Report**

July 11, 2018

Activities

I reserved the Activity Room at the Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park Dr. for Friday November 16, 2018 to hold our annual social. Time We need to clean up the room after our activity is over--volunteers needed.

Starting Balance

Savings	\$18,892.15
Checking	\$16,224.05

Receipts

From	Amount	Budget Category	Date	Directed to:
ACS/SEED	\$1,100.00	5	6/20/2018	Checking
Banner Bank	\$3.77	8	6/30/2018	Savings
<hr/>				
Total receipts this period	\$1,103.77			

Expenses

To (date billed)	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
America Sevilla	\$1,000.00	21k	7/3/2018	SEED payment; 1265
<hr/>				
Total spent this period	\$1,000.00			

Ending Balance

Savings	\$18,895.92
Checking	\$16,324.05