



American Chemical Society

Richland Section Board Meeting
Wednesday, 8/8/2018, 6:00 PM at BSEL 202 WSU Tri City Campus

8/08/18

Start: 6:00 pm

Attendance: Ram Devanathan, Sandy Fiskum, Mariefel Olarte (online), Megan Nims, Shirmir Branch, and Janet Bryant (online). [Ram called the roll and determined that we were not in quorum and so cannot approve the minutes or officially vote and approve items.]

1. Minutes of July meeting, Mariefel – Sandy and Janet had comments in the minutes and were incorporated and sent by Ram to Mariefel.
2. Treasurer's report for July, Sandy – Paid Abhi Karkamkar for food at the Annual Summer Picnic. Wrote a check of \$1000 to America Sevilla for the Project Seed second payment (completed commitment). Ram said that she completed the report which was sent to Sandy. Once Headquarters approves the report, America will get another \$500. In total, we have \$18,895.92 in our savings account and \$15,099.85 in our checking account. There will be more money once the NORM books are closed. We expect receivables for the NORM account: monies from the ACS President Dorhout for \$5K, \$1K from ACS Corporation Associates (CA) and the \$3K from the City of Richland grant.
3. Update on NORM closeout, Janet – Janet gave update on progress to close out the books, which will take some time. Sandy and Janet working with Brianne Blevins, who is our ACS meeting planner. There are limited ACS staff available for support and they are all gearing up for the Fall ACS National Meeting as well as supporting the upcoming Fall Regional meetings. We are dependent on the ACS accounting office to close out some NORM items. Janet and Sandy already went through in detail to determine what is owed to us and Janet is following up. In the interim, every individual involved in the section and local organizing committee involved in any part of NORM owes a report, which can be a simple one-pager. For example, Shirmir, Megan and Susan will need to give a WCC report as well as the YCC Hike report. Ram and Vanda need to write a programming report. Janet promised to post that report format online in the Google Docs post-meeting folder so we can get that going. She will also post an example report from Alaska, which was two years ago. They did a beautiful final report and are up for the Best Regional Meeting ChemLuminary this cycle. Note that Regional Meeting cycles run longer than Annual report cycles, usually take 18 months before we become eligible. Brianne also withheld \$2-3k back at Headquarters to pay any final bills and obligations. We will also repay the 67 folks at \$10 each for their purchase of program books which will not be printed because of circumstances. We have received a \$25k payment from HQ, needed to pay bills and receipts as they come in. We are in good shape and will be in great shape once the dust settles. Follow-up on the cancelled E-Chem in a Box activity: There were 29 who registered but only about a dozen showed up. Headquarters would not release e-mails contacts so Janet needs to go through HQ to smooth relationships with colleagues who did show up. Have not determined yet how the communications broke down. There is a lot of tension at ACS Headquarters regarding this. Ram suggested that a draft be available from everyone who needs to submit by the next meeting. Biggest thing is that if there are outstanding bills, they need to provide the receipts and an expense report to Sandy to be recorded in the standard ACS excel spreadsheet. Janet and Sandy working with some students from Eastern Oregon University. Reimbursable expenses directly from the NORM coffers need to be submitted as soon as possible. There are direct bills to Technical Divisions including the one which Janet is working on with Megan regarding the Geochemistry Division. There are still some items to work on but Janet commented that let's continue working towards getting the reports in and



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closing out financials. Ram noted that it would be great if these can all be done before the Geezer Fest so that it will be a time not only for Geezers but also a celebration for the NORM meeting. Sandy noted that we need to get a communication out for the whole Board 2018 involved since there are only few of those involved currently in attendance in the meeting. Janet will send out the communication. Ram suggested that the initial draft be submitted by Sept. 8. Final DRAFT report is due to the Region Board by the end of the calendar year.

3. Geezer Fest update, Ram – There were two members we were going to celebrate with. One is Ms. Gayle Broom, Waitsburg for her 50th year ACS membership. The other one Mr. Joseph Soldat, who would have completed his 70th year as an ACS member but he passed away last Fall. So he got to 69th and we will celebrate this accomplishment. Ram will find out if there are family members who will be willing to attend on his behalf. (Meg and Kelvin Soldat are in Richland). We have his address, he lived in Richland. Ram will check if he can give them the certificate and invite them as well as communicate with Ms. Gayle Broom.

4. Project Seed, Ram – Ram is hosting a Project Seed Student. She is a first generation college go-er and a member of an underrepresented group and minority from a low income family. She is now saying that she wants to be a chemistry major. For a Project Seed follow up, she can get a scholarship as a chemistry major. She can also get support next summer as Project Seed 2. Ram reports that she has done a great job.

5. Coming Elections, Ram - It is up to the past chair to recruit candidates for office, Ram has been extraordinarily successful in recruiting people. Deepika has agreed to run for Treasurer. Shirmir will run for Secretary. Two candidates for Chair-Elect. A face-off between Sandy Fiskum and Mariefel Olarte and any write-in candidates. We should send out an e-mail to advertise members, to seek nominations. We also had a competition last year for Chair-Elect between Kristin Omberg and Al Kreuger. We need to have the bios in the Fall newsletter. We can have a separate September newsletter that is heavy with NORM content and photographs and WCC items, including the hike pictures. We can then introduce the election and call for nominations for the elections in the Fall newsletter. Anna Cavinato is preparing a poster for the Chem Luminary Award for the National Meeting in Boston. Ram will be in Boston but will not make it for the Chem Luminary Award. Janet, Anna, Dave Heldebrant and others will represent us and celebrate being a finalists for three awards for the section.

6. National Meeting Activities, Janet – Lots going on. Janet will attend the Regional Meetings roundtable and also the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC). Anna is on the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC). Richard is still on the Senior Chemists Committee (SCC). Ram is on the Committee on Public Relations and Communications (CPRC). Lots of us representing/participating in the 33 national committees. There will also be the ACS Fellows celebration on Monday afternoon. There are 51 new ACS Fellows. Janet is being asked to run as chair elect for the Division of Professional Relations. Judy Jordan and Janet will be co-chairs for the Fall 2020 Thematic Programming at the Fall National Meeting. The theme is Bench to Commercialization, focusing on an innovation theme across the entire value chain from bench R&D through job creation. President-Elect candidates will be active at the meeting and a Towne Hall will be hosted for candidates for election.

7. By-Laws, Ram – Discussion on standing up the Government Committee will be done next meeting. Ram also asked Janet to look at the By-Laws to include WCC as a standing committee. Janet said that the process for converting WCC into a standing committee should be started. She also mentioned that she will be working with Kristin to write the value proposition for the Government (Relations/Actions) Committee. She will go through the same process as the WCC. Even if the By-Laws are not done in time,



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whether a standing committee or appointed by Chair by January, we will have that latitude in the By-Laws structure. Is there an interest in the Younger Chemists Committee (YCC)? Same process. Do we have enough power and longevity to support all of these? Who has the energy to champion it? Point taken that those who can be in the YCC are probably active in the WCC already. There might be much value added. Designate specific YCC activities in 2019 and see if it takes flight. That will help decide to see if standing committee is the right direction. We should also plan more robust WCC programming, especially now that we have funding and engage more people to be part of the committee. Especially with Geezerfest celebrating a woman. The WCC might have a meeting to have her share her perspectives. One of the WCC can reach out to Ms. Broom. Pretty cool to have a 50-yr woman chemist to weather the storm and it is a marvelous idea to have the WCC to reach out to her and congratulate her. As part of the diversity committee at PNNL, Ram suggested that WCC can have a diversity event that highlights diversity and inclusion issues that women chemists have faced in the past and what could be changing as well as what can be done better.

8. Committee Updates – WCC, Megan, Shirmir: Megan noted that they have been brainstorming events. Shirmir has reached out to Cal, who Sandy pointed out gave a good history on Hanford. They are developing a Science Café format. Another idea is to feature Michele Gerber (retired Hanford Historian), another person who was well-received at NORM. We can have it at the Richland Community Center or the Richland Library. Just need to reach out to Lisa to book an evening and have refreshments. Previous activity with Al Kreuger (talk on glassmaking) turned out a pretty good attendance and discussions. We can also hold it at the REACH. Megan facilitated in one of their previous events and it seemed they are good in community recruiting. Janet noted that there will be a discussion in the National Meeting on how to streamline and codify the Science Café grant proposals. ACS is moving into a unified grant process. Once we close out our other grants, we can apply for this since we have good fodder/ideas for this type of event. Janet will work with WC to submit a draft proposal. If successful, this can be a candidate for a Chem Luminary. Shirmir also mentioned that she and Megan have been brainstorming for new ideas, an event called Geek to Drink. This is an event at a restaurant or bar and they do themes, like Trivia Night. Make the format fit for WCC. Not sure how long it will take to set that up. Another idea is to host a night discussing what the opportunities in this area are for trailing spouses (aka dual career couples) who are chemists. One potential speaker is Jann Frye, who worked in the Hanford Area. Maybe consider finding people in other organizations as well who are chemists and ask them how they got to their position.

9. Others – Sandy gave an update on Pacific Pasta Grill as vendor for Geezer Fest. Is there a speaker for Geezer Fest? There are two possible speakers. Sue Clark and John LaFemina. John LaFemina is a ranking manager at PNNL and a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Sue Clark is the Chief Science and Technology Officer of EED at PNNL, an ACS Fellow, and can be a good resource. November 16 is the date, around 7pm. It would be good if we can also get Allison to attend.

Wrap-up. Get the drafts of your NORM activities in to Janet. Reminder to contact Kristin for the Potato Tour and Dave for the Wine Tour.

Meeting adjourned: 6:38 pm

**ACS Richland Section
Treasurer's Report**

August 8, 2018

Activities

Starting Balance

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

Receipts

From	Amount	Budget Category	Date	Directed to:
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Total receipts this period	\$0.00
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Expenses

To (date billed)	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
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Abhi Karkamkar	\$224.20	17b	7/22/2018	Food for annual summer picnic; 1266
America Sevilla	\$1,000.00	21k	7/31/2018	Project SEED, second payment; 1267

Total spent this period	\$1,224.20
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Ending Balance

Savings	\$18,895.92
Checking	\$15,099.85