

Richland Section Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, 04/14/2021, 6:05 PM, Microsoft Teams Meeting

04/14/2021  
Start: 6:05 pm

Attendance: Shirmir Branch, Steve Krogsrud, Anna Cavinato, Sandra (Sandy) Fiskum, David (Dave) Heldebrant, Deepika Malhotra, Mariefel Olarte, Kristin Omberg, Cristina Padilla-Cintron

1. March 2021 meeting minutes – Shirmir introduces the March 2021 executive committee meeting minutes. Comments were received electronically and revisions were made accordingly. Dave moves to approve the March 2021 executive committee meeting minutes as amended. Steve seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Shirmir will submit the final draft of the minutes to Matt Monroe for upload to the Richland Local Section (LS) website.
2. April 2021 treasurer's report – Deepika introduces the April 2021 (01 – 31 March 2021) treasurer's report. Starting balance is \$45,048.90 in savings and \$23,299.05 in checking. Activities are reported in the attached treasurer's report. An international purchase fee of \$0.06 was charged by Banner Bank for an online purchase order with STEAM powdered Sherwook Parkab for Science Café Family Night. Deepika is currently working to resolve this fee. Ending balance is \$45,054.03 in savings and \$20,701.92 in checking. Sandy moves to approve the April 2021 treasurer's report as presented. Anna seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously. The final report is attached to the executive committee meeting minutes below.

Old Business

3. Women's History Month (WHM) event – The Richland LS Women Chemists Committee (WCC) collaborated with the Portland to recognize WHM 2021. The collaboration consisted of a series of flyers providing information highlighting women's history in STEM, International Women's Day, and recognizing local women from both LS's who have contributed to the community. The local women were given gift baskets as honorarium. A virtual happy hour was hosted on 26 March 2021 at 5:30 pm.
4. Chemistry Olympiad – Five local high school students were able to take the digital local exam for the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad, proctored by Padmaja Gunda (Columbia Basin College) online. Three proceeded to the digital national exam, part 1. The students will take the next test next Saturday. Steve suggested presenting each student that participates in the Olympiad with an award. A group of Hanford High students have requested assistance from the LS to form a chemistry club with the intention to better help them prepare for the next Chemistry Olympiad. Anna noted that the ACS is behind the effort to help promote chemistry clubs at the high school-level. Discussion indicates that the LS can help mentor the students to prepare for the exams in advance but cannot help while administering of the Olympiad exams. Mariefel will request that Padmaja discuss more with the Hanford High students.
5. Family night event – The email to RSVP for the event has been sent to the membership. Oliva, one of the event's organizers has all of the materials she needs for the event. Elsa, who had taken on the task

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to host the bingo activity, will not be able to attend. Cristina has found another volunteer who should be able to step in for Elsa. The event will be held on Friday 16 April 2021 beginning at 5:30 pm.

6. COVID-19 event (Diversity & Inclusion grant) – Cristina has coordinated delivering the rest of the kits and supplies to Isaac Stevens Middle School. There will be 380 students participating in the event. Cristina will work with Deepika to put together the budget for the event to present to ACS. The cost went over the amount allocated for the event through the grant. This was due to a combination of factors, including the increase in cost for supplies and the additional kits that were needed to be made for the additional students. Deepika proposes using the extra allocation from ACS to support this additional cost. Kristin moves to approve up to \$3500 (\$2000 from the D&I grant, \$1500 from the LS) for this event. Anna seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
7. Senior chemists committee poll and grant – A poll was sent to the membership to survey interest in hosting events that focus on senior members. Mariefel received 7 responses from the poll. One of the suggestions for the poll was cross-mentoring (pairing younger scientists with more senior chemists). Discussion indicates that this could be turned into a social event. Another suggestion included having access to a digital library (i.e. online publication portal). Discussion indicated that this would not be feasible for the LS to purchase a license for such portals. This information will be used to shape the ACS Senior Chemists Committee grant application (due 31 May 2021). The grant would award \$500 towards the accepted proposal. Anna will review the proposal to determine what kind of expenses are allowed through the grant. Sandy has the charge to begin writing the application. Input is requested for what type of event will take place. Mariefel suggested sending a follow-up email to the membership to receive input for what type of event the membership would like to see.
8. Membership letter – Tamas received a response from a new member to ask how they could volunteer; however, they were unable to attend the monthly executive meetings to learn about volunteer opportunities. Anna suggested reaching out to them in a timely manner with information about each of the committees in the LS so that they could determine how they would like to be more involved.
9. Website development (METT grant) – Steve has been in contact with three local website developers. He has requested content similar to what the St. Louis LS has since it has most of the features that the executive committee has identified that they would like to see from the Richland LS website . One developer quoted him \$800. Steve will reach out to the developer again to clarify the services provided in the quote.

New business

10. High school list – Steve has a very detailed list of the local high schools and wanted to ensure that other executive committee members had the list as well. Mariefel suggested sending the list to Anna to initiate contact regarding helping them start a chemistry club. Dave suggested reaching out to Tammy Knickerbocker (Yakima Valley College) to initiate contact with the local high schools in that area.

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11. D&I event with Dow – A representative from Dow chemical reached to the LS executive committee and a representative from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to partner hosting a diversity panel in which a person from Dow would speak. This would line up with the LS goal of hosting a series of diversity panels. Discussion indicated that it would be more feasible for the LS to host this panel in order to reach a larger audience. The representative from Dow needs a proposal for this panel and has requested a date that the LS would like to host this panel. The concept of this panel will be regarding intersectionality of innovation and diversity and inclusion from the perspective of gender identity and sexual orientation. A representative for the LGBTQ+ community has already reached out to Cristina about being on the panel. Shirmir suggested hosting the event in June during Pride Month. Anna added that hosting this panel before mid-June would better suit student schedules as well. Mariefel has taken on the action to notify the Dow representative that the LS is interested and to provide the recommended date. She will also ask for information regarding how many speakers will be speaking from Dow.
12. Kid's zone activity (Earth day event) – The ACS is hosting a virtual Earth Day activity. Anna will send an email to the membership encouraging them to register for the event. The event will be held 22 April 2021, from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Eastern time.

Other business

13. 2022 dues – ACS has asked how much the LS wants to have member dues cost. Discussion indicates keeping the cost at \$5. Response is due by 30 April 2021.

Committee reports

14. Programs – The speaker for the beer virtual event and tasting has been chosen. The event will be held on 21 May 2021.
15. Membership – Updates reported above.
16. Nominations – No updates to report.
17. Awards – No updates to report.
18. Public Relations – Updates reported above.
19. Education – Updates reported above.
20. Diversity and Inclusion – Updates reported above.
21. Government Affairs (GAC) – ACS has updated their website and resources for advocacy. The ACS has asked LS's to provide a list of members who have participated in or are interested in participating in the GAC training.



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22. Women Chemists (WCC) – The WCC was contacted by PNNL Spark to host a screening event for the documentary *Picture a Scientist*. Details will be provided at the next executive committee meeting.

Sandy moves to adjourn the April 2021 executive committee meeting. Cristina seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Adjourn at 7:24 pm

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**ACS Richland Section  
Treasurer's Report**

03/01/2021-03/31/2021

**Activities**

**Starting Balance**

Savings	\$45,048.90
Checking	\$23,399.05

**Receipts**

From	Amount	Budget Category	Date	Directed to:
Interest Deposit	\$5.13	8	2021-03-31	Savings

Total receipts this period	\$5.13
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**Expenses**

To	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
Visual Verve Design & Print	\$540.00	16a	2021-02-27	ACS Feb 2021 Newsletter; check #1350
MSCF Association	\$350.00	21e	2021-03-05	Science Fair; check #1351
STEAM powdered Sherwood Parkab	\$6.50	17d	2021-03-12	Science Café Family night; Debit card
Int Fee STEAM powdered Sherwood Parkab	\$0.06	16d	2021-03-12	Fee; Debit card
Nicole Samaan	\$50.00	21e	2021-03-12	MCSF Science Fair Award; check # 1353
Cristina Padilla Cintron	\$1,750.57	21b	2021-03-18	DI&R Grant; check # 1354

Total spent this period	\$2,697.13
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**Ending Balance**

Savings	\$45,054.03
Checking	\$20,701.92