

Richland Section Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 06/09/2021, 6:05 PM, Microsoft Teams Meeting

06/09/2021
Start: 6:05 pm

Attendance: Sandra (Sandy) Fiskum, Steve Krogsrud, Deepika Malhotra, Megan Nims, Mariefel Olarte, Cristina Padilla-Cintron, Tamas Varga

1. May 2021 meeting minutes – A draft of the May 2021 executive committee meeting minutes was sent by Shirmir Branch to the executive committee. Comments were received electronically. Due to lack of quorum, voting on the executive committee minutes will take place via email.
2. June 2021 treasurer’s report – Deepika introduces the June 2021 (06 – 31 May 2021) treasurer’s report. Starting balance is \$45,054.03 in savings and \$34,789.86 in checking. Activities, receipts, and expenses are detailed in the treasurer’s report below. Ending balance is \$45,054.03 in savings and \$34,704.29 in checking. Due to lack of quorum, voting on the treasurer’s report will take place via email.

Old Business

3. Chemistry of beer – The virtual beer tasting event was held virtually on Friday, 21 May 2021, 5:30 – 6:30 pm. The tasting was led by Dan Howe. The event was well received by attendees. Discussion indicates that the attendance was likely impacted by businesses re-opening after lessening of COVID-19 guidelines. It was suggested that given the re-openings locally, it might be possible to host an in-person event in the near future.
4. Picture a Scientist – The *Picture a Scientist* event was held virtually on Thursday, 20 May 2021, 4:00 – 5:00 pm. This event was hosted in collaboration with SPARK, a women’s advocacy group at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Attendees were asked to watch the documentary *Picture a Scientist* at their own leisure prior to the event. The event consisted of a “book club” style discussion about the documentary and how it reflects on the workplace in the sciences. Discussion indicates that the event has the potential to be expanded into a more in-depth panel. Megan noted that SPARK indicated that they were interested in partnering with the WCC in the future.
5. MCSF winner thank you card – One of the awardees from the Mid-Columbia Science Fair sent a thank you card to the Local Section (LS) for their award. Mariefel has taken on the action of copying the card for inclusion in the executive committee meeting minutes.
6. Chemistry Olympiad certificate – The LS executive committee decided to present the five local high school students that were able to take the Chemistry Olympiad exam with a certificate of participation acknowledging their efforts. Padmaja Gunda sent a draft of the certificate to Mariefel for signature and distribution to the students.
7. DOW diversity speaker – Mariefel had been in correspondence with a representative from Dow Chemical regarding the LS hosting a diversity panel. The executive committee decided that a panel in June 2021 would be preferred. Mariefel relayed this information to the Dow; however Dow has yet to

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respond to this request. Based on the timing, hosting this event in June 2021 will most likely not take place. Sandy suggested reaching out to other LS's for help organizing a panel.

8. METT grant upgrade – Steve received website design proposals from three developers: Sharon Betterton, Focus Media, and Better Dog Design. Steve recommended going with Sharon Betterton given her experience organizing the NORM 2018 website for the LS. Discussion indicates that Sharon is the preferred choice. Due to lack of quorum, voting will not be able to take place to formally select Sharon at this meeting.
9. Fund investment – Deepika received a document from Anna listing guidelines for investing an organization's funds, which could be applied to the LS. One of the key takeaways from this document is the formation of a financial committee and hiring a financial advisor. Based on this document, Deepika will continue researching methods and institutions for investing a portion of the LS's funds. Discussion indicates that the LS Bylaws would also need to be changed for this effort. It is also mentioned whether it would be worth forming a committee, given the large commitment needed to get started.

New business

10. Annual social – The LS needs guidance from ACS to determine if member events can transition to in-person meetings. Mariefel has taken the action to request this information from ACS. The Richland community center also needs to be asked about their guidelines for hosting events. Deepika has taken the action to request this information from the community center.
11. NOR board update – Ram Devanathan sent notes from the May 2021 NOR Board meeting to Mariefel. These notes are attached below. Ram was officially named the Richland LS NOR Board representative. The NORM 2021 virtual meeting was a success. NORM 2022 will be hosted 22 – 25 May 2022 at Montana State University, Bozeman. Future NORM meetings will likely be held by the Inland Northwest, Washington-Idaho Border, and Snake River Local Sections. The Richland LS will likely host a meeting as early as 2028. Mariefel has taken the action to send this report to Shirmir for inclusion in the executive committee meeting minutes.
12. StarChapter – Several LS executive committee member received an email from a service company named StarChapter, that claims to help chapters with event and general organization. Discussion indicates that these emails are likely spam and will be ignored.

Other business

Committee reports

13. Programs – Updated reported above.
14. Membership – The welcome letters went out to all members in April 2021.



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15. Nominations – No updates to report.
16. Awards – No updates to report.
17. Public Relations – Steve reports that a newsletter will be released in the fall. Please email Steve to submit content.
18. Education – No updates to report.
19. Diversity and Inclusion – Updates reported above.
20. Government Affairs – No updates to report.
21. Women Chemists (WCC) – Updates reported above.

Marieffel adjourns the June 2021 executive committee meeting at 7:00 pm



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**ACS Richland Section
 Treasurer's Report**
 05/06/2021-05/31/2021

Activities

Starting Balance

Savings	\$45,054.03
Checking	\$34,789.86

Receipts

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

Expenses

To	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
Cristina Padilla Cintron	\$85.57	21b	2021-05-14	DI&R Grant; check # 1359
Total spent this period		\$85.57		

Ending Balance

Savings	\$45,054.03
Checking	\$34,704.29



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From: [Olate, Mariefel V](#)
To: [Branch, Shirmir D](#)
Cc: [Padilla-Cintrón, Cristina](#); [Fiskum, Sandra K](#)
Subject: FW: NOR Board update
Date: 9 June, 2021 19:02:21

Hi Shirmir,

Please include the following points from Ram regarding the NorBoard update.

Thanks,
Mariefel

NOR Board meeting notes from Richland LS's representative Ram Devanathan, May 11, 2021

NOR Board members wished Janet Bryant a speedy recovery. A card and flowers had been delivered over the weekend to Janet's home on behalf of the NOR Board.

We are still awaiting a final report from Jim Tung (General Chair) for NORM 2019.

NORM 2021 was a resounding success. The organizers received kudos from the NOR Board.

NORM2022 will be held at MSU in Bozeman, MT, Sunday May 22 – Wednesday May 25, 2022.

Future meetings are likely to be organized by the Inland NW, the WA/ID Border, and the Snake River local sections. Richland LS may get a turn around 2028.

There was a discussion of the ACS Harassment-free meeting guidance, options for investing NORM funds, and changes to be made to bylaws.

The NOR Board plans to acknowledge many years of service to the board by Gerry Meier who turned 100 recently.

Regards,
Ram

Ram Devanathan, Ph.D.

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