



# Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc.

## Milwaukee Section – Covering Greater Wisconsin

### Minutes for the Milwaukee SPE Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday January 10, 2017 – 5:30 PM

Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove, WI

1. Call to Order and Welcome Comments..... Mr. Bennett

- a. Mr. Bennett called the meeting to order and started with cheers honoring Mike Krauski. It was acknowledged that Mike was recognized at the Councilor meeting for his years of service.

2. Roll Call..... Mr. Krauthoefer

a. Roll Call made by Mr. Krauthoefer. Attendance at this meeting is listed below:

E	Mr. Attwell	P	Mr. Menna	P	Mr. Krauthoefer
P	Mr. Manley	P	Mr. Bennett		
UE	Mr. Butterbrodt	P	Ms. Nehls		
P	Mr. Hill	P	Mr. Miller		

b. A quorum of the elected voting members was present at the start of the meeting at 5:35 p.m. and business was conducted.

P	Mr.Ciezki	P	Mr. Vedula	P	Mr. Vander Zanden
UE	Mr. Doern	UE	Mr. Kambouris		

Special Members of Committees, Ad Hoc and Visitors

3. Review of Minutes..... Mr. Krauthoefer

- a. Motion made by Ms. Nehls and second made by Mr. Hill to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2016 Board of Directors meeting. A voice vote to accept the meeting minutes was



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unanimous. Minutes that are approved will be posted on website sent to webmaster with cc: to president.

4. Treasurer’s Report.....Mr. Butterbrodt
  - a. Mr. Butterbrodt was not in attendance. In the section’s effort to achieve the Gold Pinnacle award, Mr. Bennett requested a PDF with our budget detail and some other key data from our fiscal year end. We continue to move towards only accepting Paypal payments for events.
5. Report from Councilor.....Mr. Menna
  - a. Mr. Menna reported that the last councilor meeting was held remotely on 12/7. The February meeting will also be held remotely. The current CEO ( Willem De Vos) has stepped down and the search for a new CEO is underway. Russell Broome, the current Managing Director, is being considered as well as several other external candidates. The goal is to have someone hired by May.
  - b. March 20<sup>th</sup> is the election date for President and board positions. There will be a live webcast on March 5<sup>th</sup> allowing the various candidates to campaign. SPE will provide their endorsements.
  - c. Annual dues were increased in January. The \$10 rebates paid to the local chapters will not be paid until 2018 based on the 12/31 count of members. More Topcons are planned (nine at the present time). Efforts are underway to sell advertising on the chain and to increase efforts to sell ads in the newsletter. IT expenses have been reduced as well as other administrative costs.
  - d. The organization had a \$14M profit in 2014 but suffered a loss of \$268M in 2015 which was reduced to \$145M in 2016 with some of the changes. With continued efforts at membership costs, promotional income increases and staff reductions, the plan is to once again return to profitability in the \$17M range.
  - e. The Antec will be held in Anaheim.
  - f. Mr. Bennett noted that to achieve a Silver rating, the councilor must attend every event.
6. House Report..... Ms. Nehls
  - a. Ms. Nehls reported that our next educational meeting will be held at Jackson Machinery in Port Washington. There are people attending from companies in the Northeast like Polyfab, Bemis, and Plenco.
  - b. Events held at the Sheraton in Brookfield need 20 people to attend to break even.
  - c. We continue to have some issues with payments through Constant Contact.
7. Membership Report.....Mr. Manley
  - a. Mr. Manley stated that we currently have 296 members of which 256 are professional, 19 are students and 16 are in the young professional category. That membership role can be exported into Excel.



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- b. There was discussion as to the addition of a \$10 fee to belong to the local chapter that is an additional step in signing up and hard to negotiate. The fear was that we may be losing some memberships due to this additional cost.
  - c. Corporate SPE would like to see some examples of membership letters used by the local chapters.
  - d. Our web site currently carries 1224 e-mail contacts.
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8. Program Report.....Mr. Miller
    - a. Mr. Miller reported that the spring schedule is well lined up. Our January meeting is scheduled at Jackson Machinery. Bob Jackson will go over the blow molding industry not only locally but worldwide. On 2/21, we are scheduled at Amalga Composites and on 3/21 at Midwest Composites.
    - b. Discussion continues about a social night in May. This is a component of achieving a silver rating. Initial thoughts were centered around a 3<sup>rd</sup> ward visit to a brewery. Options include Lakefront, Ale House and Third Space.
    - c. Also future tour locations were discussed including Badger Color and Big Systems.
  
  9. Webmaster Report..... Mr. Bennett
    - a. Mr. Bennett reported that per his discussions with Tara, all functions of the web site are working. The newsletter is getting out on a consistent basis which should help position us for obtaining the communication award.
    - b. Mr. Miller complemented the improvement in the web site.
  
  10. Newsletter Ad Report..... Mr. Attwell
    - a. Mr. Attwell was not present.
  
  11. Social Report .....Mr. Kambouris
    - a. Mr. Kambouris was not present.
    - b. It was noted that 4-5 newsletters have gone out so the exposure of events has improved.
    - c. E-mails are being responded to on a timely basis.
  
  12. Milwaukee SPE Office Report.....Mr. Doern
    - a. Mr. Doern was not present.



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13. Education Committee Report.....Mr. Ciezki
  - a. Mr. Ciezki reported that the future cities program will involve 63 schools. Ms. Nehls, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Murali will serve as judges. The deadline is 2/28 and we are looking to receive a record number of essays.
  - b. Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch will be the speaker on education night on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. We continue to receive a record number of applications for machines under our Foundation program. Mr. Menna suggested that we make more prominent use of the web site to promote this program. We should also use the newsletter to encourage members to talk to their local schools at all levels.
  - d. Adam Kranschuster will be the educator of the year.
  
14. SPE Education Foundation Report..... Mr. Atwell
  - a. Mr. Atwell was not present.
  - b. Mr. Hill reported that we currently have \$877,000 in assets earning a 6.2% return in 2016.
  - c. Last year we gave out \$39,000 in various equipment to 21 schools out of over 40 requests. The greatest need was for 3-D printers. There is discussion of expanding to two meetings annually due to the demand.
  - d. Platteville does have an new professor in the plastics program.
  
15. Unfinished Business.....Open Discussion
  - a. We are still trying to put together a joint meeting with the Chicago chapter.
  - b. We continue to have some issues with the sign up feature for meetings on the web site. There is a desire to take away the option to pay at the door. Mr. Bennett will check with Tara to address some of the concerns and try to streamline the process. Mr. Hill noted that he believed that the option to pay at the door was worthwhile especially on some of our tour events when there are no limitations on attendance and no potential loss of revenue. Mr. Miller noted that some people come with checks provided by their employer. The traditional mix is 80% constant contact and 20% with some payment at the event.
  - c. Cost of ads in the newsletter was discussed. A suggested rate of \$10/mo to members and \$35/mo to non-members for employment type postings.
  
16. New Business.....Open Discussion
  - a. Mr. Bennett will do the application for us to receive the communication award.
  - b. Although it is normally the duty of the President elect, Mr. Bennett will complete the Gold Pinnacle award application. One of the elements is to achieve 3% membership growth so we will need the data from our meeting in August.



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- c. We continue to discuss best membership practices with the Chicago chapter. There were thoughts of offering the first technical meeting for free as an incentive.
- d. Mr. Murali has students that are willing to work on various projects for companies. Mr. Miller said that he has submitted five different projects and they were all completed.

17. Motion to Adjourn.....Board

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion carried by all present vote and the meeting concluded. Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Respectively submitted,

Rick Krauthoefer, Secretary of the Milwaukee Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers