



Richland Section Board Meeting
Wednesday, 09/09/2020, 6:04 PM, Microsoft Teams Meeting

09/09/2020
Start: 6:04 pm

Attendance: Shirmir Branch, Anna Cavinato, Sandy Fiskum, Colby Heideman, Dave Heldebrant, Deepika Malhotra, Megan Nims, Mariefel Olarte, Kristin Omberg, Steve Krogsrud

1. Approval of minutes – Shirmir introduces the August 2020 executive committee minutes. Comments/revisions were received electronically. Anna moves to approve the August 2020 minutes as revised; Sandy seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Final minutes are to be uploaded to the Richland Section website.
2. Approval of treasurer’s report – Deepika introduces the September 2020 (01 – 31 August 2020) treasurer’s report. Starting balance is \$45,027.79 in savings and \$19,615.85 in checking. Activities, income, and expenses are detailed in the attached treasurer’s report. Ending balance is \$45,027.79 in savings and \$19,396.05 in checking. Sandy moves to approve the September 2020 treasurer report as received; Kristin seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

3. COVID-19 talk – The COVID-19 talk featured PNNL’s Dr. Amy Sims. There were 25 people in attendance. A couple of lessons learned were to 1) have a moderator available to answer questions in the chat so that the speaker can focus on their talk and 2) to ask the attendees to keep their video off and to mute their microphones when not speaking.
4. Diversity panel – The Diversity Panel was based on the panel discussion on system racism that was hosted by the Senior Chemist Committee on 09 July 2020. The Local Section (LS) is considering hosting a series of diversity panels with the first discussion focusing on race. Mariefel, Sandy, and Anna reached out to the Committee on Minority Affairs (CMA) and received feedback from Dr. Shanadeen C. Begay. One of the topics discussed was finding a suitable moderator and having panelists who could speak to their successes and lessons learned on implementing diversity. This panel discussion is planned for October 2020. Discussion also indicated that the panel should reflect the most prevalent minority groups for the area. Suggested time frame for the event is 1 hour. Mariefel has also reached out to John Cox, who is willing to contribute as a panelist. Shanadeen also recommended reaching out to Eastern Oregon University’s (EOU) Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion for a moderator. Mariefel and team are planning another meeting with Shanadeen to discuss more details. Anna noted that the ACS Local Section Activities Committee will be accepting proposals for a Diversity, Inclusion, and Respect Grant soon for an event to take place in 2021. The application deadline will be in mid-November 2020.
5. Volunteer databank – Shirmir has taken the action to send a test link of the databank survey to the executive committee. Discussion included how to request information for volunteering for virtual events since in-person events are not likely to happen in the near future.

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6. Women Chemists Committee (WCC) panel – The National Award Winner seminar hosted by the Puget Sound and Richland Sections WCC has been scheduled for 03 Dec 2020 at 4 – 5 pm. This event will recognize female ACS National Award winners (including Janet Bryant and Sue Clark) from the state of Washington. Each speaker will have 10 minutes to speak followed by a question and answer session. Megan has taken the action to pass the announcement for this event to Steve for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.
7. Candidates – Kristin is soliciting candidates for 2021 LS executive committee officers. Kristin will draft an email asking for nominations. Anna will send the email to the LS membership. The list/profiles of candidates need to go to the membership by mid-October to meet the 01 Dec 2020 deadline to report the officers to the ACS. The executive committee needs to approve the list of candidates before it goes out to the membership.
8. Newsletter – The next newsletter is to go out to the membership by mid-October. Content is to include: LS executive committee candidates, COVID-19 talk, WCC panel, Diversity panel, and Annual Social. Colby announced that William Samuels passed away from COVID-19 last week. William was an active member and past Chair of the LS. Colby suggested that a recognition of those we lost loved this year be included in the next newsletter.
9. Website update – Steve talked with the current LS website manager. They determined that using the current component website in the ACS communities site (<https://communities.acs.org/community/society/component-websites/places>) is the best path to follow. Steve suggested taking a look at other LS websites and provide feedback to him. Anna remarked that ACS had begun pulling support for LS websites. She questioned if the new website would be on the ACS server or on its own. Steve has taken the action to determine this. Steve is working with Anna to draft an application for the Members Engaging Through Technology (METT) Grant.

New Business

10. Annual Social – The Annual Social is scheduled for Friday, 13 October 2020. Sandy will create a Zoom meeting for the event. She has requested help for putting together trivia questions for a prize giveaway during the event. Anna suggested sending a pre-registration so that it is easier to gauge how many people will attend the event. Other highlights will include recognizing 60 and 70-year members, announcing the 2021 executive committee officers. Since the meeting will go virtual, Deepika suggested getting the deposit for the space at the Richland Community Center refunded. The executive committee will discuss this action at next month's meeting.
11. National Chemistry Week (NCW) – NCW is 18 – 24 October 2020. The Celebration of Science event planned at the REACH has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Anna suggested virtual content (demos, booklets, etc.) to local teachers to distribute to their students. Colby will reach out to some of the student members at EOU to conduct some virtual demos. Sandy also suggested reaching out to Nelmi at Washington State University Tri-Cities (WSU) to see if some of his students would be interested in hosting a virtual demo.



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12. Janet asked Sandy to remind the membership to vote in the ACS elections this fall.

Committee reports

13. Programs – No updates to report.

14. WCC – The Expanding Your Horizons planning committee has reached out to the WCC to gauge their interest in hosting a virtual event. WCC is waiting for more information from EYH.

15. Awards – No updates to report.

16. Public relations – No updates to report.

17. GAC – No updates to report.

18. Education – No updates to report.

Sandy moves to adjourn the September 2020 executive committee meeting; Janet seconds the motions. Motion carries unanimously.

Adjourn at 7:19 pm

