Executive Committee Meeting
Mozart’s Café
March 21, 2017

Attending
Jim Wasil Chair
Jeff Trent Past-chair
Dave Speth Secretary
Ed King Councilor
Terri Huston Member
Krishna Bobba Treasurer
Joan Esson Councilor
Kelly Moran Treasurer-elect
Robert Woodman Alternate Councilor
Lewis Hogarth Member
Paula Tan Member Website Guru

Absent
Puran De Chair-elect
Bob Kroshefsky Alternate Councilor
Virginia Songstad Councilor
Don Songstad Alternate Councilor

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

The minutes were approved with the correction that Don Songstad is serving as alternate councilor.

The treasurer reported that our payments are up to date. The checking account balance is $45,247.72. Chemical Abstracts noted that we were overcharged for the October meeting (CAS support was not taken off the bill). This has been corrected with a deposit into the Local Section account of approximately $700. Krishna noted that CAS would like more public acknowledgement of their support for the October meeting. The committee discussed a more prominent announcement on the website and perhaps a banner to make the support more clear to the members.

Subsequent to the meeting Bob Kroshefsky transferred $10,000 to each of the Local Section’s Vanguard fund accounts so we can generate more ongoing income. He notes that the value of the accounts before the deposits are up $8,000 since January 1, 2017. We expect our annual allotment of approximately $12,000 to be paid to the Local Section in April which should keep the Local Section liquid.

Kelly Moran noted that there was confusion at the February meeting over what was and was not included in the bill. As a result, she added an extra tip onto the total that already included a service charge. She requested that the treasurer or designated substitute be informed of the details (cost per person, service charge, room charge, etc) in detail before the meeting to avoid these issues in the future. This will be the responsibility of the person organizing the meeting. A motion to do this was made and approved.

The committee discussed the meeting charges. At present the charges are:
Students $5  
Retired members $5  
Members $20  
Guests $20

For some venues this is sufficient support but for venues like Mozart’s (meal cost approximately $25, service charge 20%, room charge $300) this means the Local Section is subsidizing each attendee between $15 (members and guests) and $30 (students and retired members). A discussion of this issue ensued. Charge for members was previously $25 until the Section was told to spend more by ACS National. Dropping the per meeting fee to $20 has not seemed to increase attendance. Students in attendance noted that increasing the charge for them from $5 to $10 would deter new attendees. Bob Kroshefsky had previously noted that increasing the charge for retirees from $5 to $10 should not be a problem. It was also noted that members and guests are charged the same rate which means there is no advantage to being a member. This issue will be studied further. The Committee would like information on how many of each category, on average, attend our monthly meetings. A decision will be made later this spring and a change would take effect in September.

Jim Wasil reported on efforts to organize CERM 2020 for Columbus. He has arranged for Pat Woodward and Josh Goldberger to be technical program co-chairs. Both are Ohio State chemistry professors.

Upcoming activities:
- Poster session (graduate and undergraduate) Ohio State, Saturday, March 25, 2017
- April meeting April 19 at Spaghetti Warehouse. Program will include awards for best junior and senior students at surrounding colleges and universities.
- Columbus March for Science, April 22, 2017. ACS National is sponsoring the National event in Washington, DC.
- Chemists Celebrate Earth Day, April 22, 2017. Kaarina Lokko has offered through ACS National to organize a poetry contest for the event and be Local Section coordinator. The Executive Committee approved her participation. Jeff Trent may also organize an activity to support CCED.
- National Chemistry Week Celebration, October 28 at the Main Library. After undergoing renovation for a year the space is again available. Space has been reserved and COSI on Wheels has been scheduled. Kelly Moran will check with GFS Chemical to see if they will continue to sponsor this event.

New business

Councilor Joan Esson suggested we try to identify activities that would appeal to younger professional local section members (past college or graduate school). She suggested a meet and greet discussion sometime during the summer. Joan has contact with Otterbein graduates in the area to use as a start. Puran De and Natalie Chilicki would also be contacts for this age group. The secretary will assist with identification of young professionals to participate in this effort.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.