



ACS Columbus Section Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes

March 25, 2020

Attending (via Zoom):

Christopher Hadad	Chair
Clay Harris	Chair-elect
Emil Stoyanov	Treasurer
Bob Kroshefsky	Treasurer-elect
Barbara Ambrose	Secretary
Joan Esson	Councilor
Krishna Bobba	Alternative Councilor
Robert Woodman	Alternate Councilor

Absent:

Ed King	Councilor
Virginia Songstad	Councilor
Don Songstad	Alternate Councilor

Guests:

Jim Wasil	CERM Committee Co-Chair
Jeff Trent	CERM Committee Co-Chair
Kayla Kasper	Younger Chemists Committee
Kaarina Lokke	Community Outreach

Meeting started at 5:35 p.m.

- 1.) Christopher reported that the 2019 Columbus section annual report was submitted and approved as of February 21, 2020. ACS National has not yet provided any feedback on the annual report.
- 2.) Cancellation of Spring 2020 National ACS Meeting in Philadelphia – Although local section members are still waiting on reimbursements of their registration fees from ACS National, there are no outstanding expenses for the local section.
- 3.) Chemical Record – still holding. Bob suggested taking this off the agenda, because the earliest the Chemical Record could be produced would be fall.
- 4.) Awards in 2020 – the Patterson-Crane Award which we administer together with the Dayton local section and which has dedicated funds with the Columbus Foundation was to be given at CERM 2020. However, the Patterson-Crane Award could be given at another local section event, such as the October meeting with the ACS president-elect.
- 5.) Liability Insurance for local section's Directors and Officers – no updates on this.
-ACTION: Bob will have an update for this by the next executive committee meeting.

6.) Budget status and update – The Columbus local section received its annual allotment from ACS National and the last half 2019 section dues for a total of about \$15,000. The receipt of the annual allotment means that ACS National acknowledged the local section's report for last year, even though it missed the mid-February submission deadline. Including the allotment and the dues, the local section has \$18,900 in its 5/3 Bank account. Bob did not want to look at the section Vanguard account after the turmoil in Wall Street due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the section is not short of money.

7.) Local section website – Bob had nothing to report on the website. He sent an e-mail to the website developers to ask if they would transfer control of the website to the local section, but he has not received a response. If he gets a response, he will let Christopher and Clay know.

-ACTION: Bob to have a situation summary for the April executive committee meeting.

8.) Meeting dates and speaker plan for 2020 – Christopher presented the schedule discussed at the February meeting. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted these plans. During the April meeting, the section planned to give its awards for junior and senior chemistry students. However, colleges have either cancelled classes or switched to online classes in order to send students home, making the students unable to attend the meeting. Bob reported that 5 of 9 schools have sent awards nominations. Denison, Muskingum, Ohio Wesleyan, and OSU have not yet sent in their nominations. The committee discussed having virtual awards or mailing awards to the winners. Joan said that the students are no longer at Otterbein, so no in-person awards, but online awards might be possible.

-ACTION: Bob will contact the 5 schools which did submit nominations, to find out how they would like to handle the awards.

-ACTION: Joan will follow up with Ohio Wesleyan as she is a friend of their new Chemistry Department Chair.

Furthermore, the governor has estimated that the COVID-19 epidemic will peak in May in Ohio, which suggests that social distancing regulations forbidding any sort of meeting will still be in effect at the end of April. The possibility of an online meeting was raised. However, Christopher said that the presenter does not use PowerPoint, so an online meeting would not be a good venue for him.

Motion: To cancel the April 29th ACS Columbus Local Section meeting and replace it with a virtual executive committee meeting – motion by Joan, seconded by Bob, passed unanimously.

Given that holding CERM in May now looks unlikely, the committee discussed holding a meeting in May. Suggestions for the May meeting included an after-work networking event with a dinner or a meeting in a microbrewery such as Hofbrauhaus. Any meeting planned for May would have to be easily cancelled, should the COVID-19 crisis continue through May. Christopher might be able to hold a virtual PowerPoint presentation for a cancelled in-person meeting.

-ACTION: Bob will review meeting demographics and give the executive committee a report on who might attend a May meeting.

Tentative Meeting Schedule for 2020:

- April 2020- virtual EC meeting with the possibility that Christopher could give a PowerPoint presentation.

- May 2020 – possible brewery meeting – Hofbrauhaus?

- June 2020 – possible executive committee meeting.

- August 2020

- September 2020 – meeting at location to be announced, with Gary Booth, former VP for Research, Procter and Gamble as the speaker.

- October 2020 – At CAS with ACS President-elect H. M. Chang and awards for 50-, 60-, and 70-year members.

-November – at Owens-Corning with a building tour and Clay Harris as the speaker.

- Future meeting suggestions (carried over from February's minutes):

a.) Enhancing and Demonstrating Diversity for our speakers;

b.) Andre Palmer (Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, OSU) Artificial blood research;

c.) David Lenz (US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense – History of chemical weapons and the development of approved therapeutics.

d.) Mike suggested microbreweries as potential meeting sites – he will find out if any of them have viable presentation locations. Robert reminded the committee to check for wheelchair accessibility of meeting sites.

e.) Coronavirus – OSU College of Medicine has an immunologist that might be a potential speaker.

- 9.) CERM 2020 – Jim and Jeff reported on the meeting of the CERM 2020 co-chairs and the local section chair and chair-elect with the Central Regional Board. The Central Regional Board and the CERM 2020 and section chairs decided to terminate the contract with the Greater Columbus Convention Center and the Hilton. Jim would like to consult ACS National about the language of the termination request. However, he has received no information from National, except that we have the responsibility to do this.

-ACTION: Jim will send a copy of his termination request to Jeff, Bob, and Christopher.

Christopher suggested getting a lawyer to look over the CERM contract and the termination request. Bob said that he could ask his lawyer to look it over. Jeff said that he had received a letter from ACS National with legal guidance and that Starleeta had told him she would consult with ACS lawyers. Joan said that as an Otterbein trustee she could consult with as well as the two lawyers retained by Otterbein. The discussion on lawyers was tabled until the next CERM 2020 committee meeting.

- Huron Valley has the CERM 2021 meeting and they are not interested in doing a joint meeting or rescheduling their meeting to assist CERM 2020. The committee brainstormed on ideas for CERM 2020 version 2:

a.) hold the meeting in September at the Greater Columbus Convention Center;

b.) contact the Instrument Society of America to hold a joint expo and meeting;

c.) hold the meeting at OSU. Advantages to holding it at OSU include no need to rent space.

OSU has available space large enough to hold a smaller CERM including an expo and is in close proximity to CAS for any CAS-sponsored events. Potential issues/problems include: catering, which would probably have to be handled by OSU subcontractors; parking, which might be an issue but no more so than parking downtown; timing: the space would only be available when no classes are being held which would be August before the fall semester starts and the Fall break on October 15th and 16th.

- 10.)Kaarina Lokke requested funds to provide prizes for the Earth Day illustrated poetry contest. The ACS sponsors the event and although the students cannot meet this year, the ACS has set up a website for them to submit their entries. In the past, Kaarina has ordered the prizes from the ACS website and the section has reimbursed her.

Motion: To authorize funds for prizes up to \$100 made by Christopher, seconded by Joan, passed unanimously.

11.) Last month the executive committee approved \$750 for a booth at the COSI festival on May 9th. This festival has been canceled.

-ACTION: Jeff will contact COSI and pull the local section out of this event.

12.) State Science Day – the live event has been canceled due to COVID-19 and the organizers are attempting to set up an online event. The local section financial commitment to State Science Day remains in our budget.

13.) Approve the minutes for the February 27, 2020 executive committee meeting.

Motion: To approve by Joan, seconded by Clay?, passed unanimously.

14.) Adjourn the executive committee meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Motion: by Bob, seconded by Joan, passed unanimously.