

**American Chemical Society
Columbus Section
Executive Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting
January 21, 2024**

Members attending (7)

Barb Ambrose	Chair
Chris Martin	Chair-elect
Alicia Friedman	Past Chair
Angela Howard	Treasurer
Dave Speth	Treasurer-elect
Seth Barrett	Secretary
Steve Trohalaki	Alternate Councilor

Absent (5)

Joan Esson	Councilor
Clay Harris	Councilor
Kayla Kasper	Councilor
Chris Hadad	Alternate Councilor
Satish Garre	Alternate Councilor

Others (2)

Bob Kroshefsky	Section Agent and former Treasurer
Kaarina Lokko	Outreach Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

- 1.) Welcome. Looking to schedule regular meetings: second Friday of the month, second or third Sunday of the month? Some challenges with second Friday for universities (MU or Otterbein Spring Break). Give regular meeting time some thought and get back to Barb.
- 2.) Review of minutes from ExComm meeting Dec. 11, 2023. Any corrections or additions? Kaarina Lokko to Lokko. Will post meeting minutes on website. Meeting minute access can also help provide information for the annual report. Alicia volunteered to serve as the website liaison to post meeting minutes. Also this might be a way to keep immediate past chairs involved in the executive committee.
- 3.) New section bylaws have been certified by ACS National – they are now official and available on the ACS website: <https://www.acs.org/about/governance/charter/lbylaws.html>
- 4.) Addition of 2024 Treasurer Angela Howard and Treasurer-elect Dave Speth to 5/3 Bank signatory list. Need motion from committee. Bank will need a copy of the approved minutes recording the motion. Motion to add Angela and Dave to signatory list was made and seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.
- 5.) Financial report from Bob for fiscal year 2023. Our investments had great net asset value increases overall and the dividends and capital gains were well above those projected.

- 6.) 2024 Budget: Bob presented a draft budget and made recommendations for changes. In particular, considering the section's financial health, he thought that some of our awards and donations could be increased. The current Outstanding Student awards are \$350 for seniors and \$250 for juniors. Committee raised amounts to \$500 for seniors and \$300 for juniors, totaling \$8k in student awards. Increased annual donations to \$18K, as \$6k in donations were approved in the December, 2023 executive committee meeting but will come out of the 2024 budget. Elections: if under 100 votes, Survey Monkey is free. Motion to approve the 2024 budget was made and seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.
 - a. Charitable Contribution Requests for 2024
 - 1.) COSI □ \$7500 (next level of contribution). Gave \$5000 last year. Will get more visibility and recognition in programs. Recommendation: get admission passes for Silver Circle.
 - 2.) Pickerington Central High School Science Olympiad □ Requested \$858 for bus transportation to the competition. (Alicia received the request: using bus company, 15 female students for Jan-March events. HS team would be happy to include ACS logo on team shirts for sponsorship support. Recommendation: fund at \$500.
 - 3.) Motion to approve COSI contribution (\$7500) and Pickerington Central High School Science Olympiad request (\$500) was made and seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.
 - 4.) Recommendation: committee should look at requests each meeting throughout the year.
- 7.) State Science Day *cf.* Buckeye Science & Engineering Fair at CAS. Ohio Academy of Science (OAS), sponsors both events. Plan for this year for SSD is to remain an online event. OAS contact mentioned that BSEF is a higher level of competition for high school students only and is a smaller event (~100 student projects, event will be held at CAS). For comparison: 1200-1500 projects at State Science Day with about 10% entered for our chemistry awards. Recommendation from committee: maintain involvement in State Science Day, attend higher level HS competition event in March at CAS to see how the event goes and discern the nature of the projects.
- 8.) Taxes: Bob can take care of this simple task and share with Angela and Dave what is required.
- 9.) ACS yearly report due Feb. 15th. Barb participated last year (chair-elect goals). Bob will do the financial section and show Angela and Dave how it flows from our spreadsheet. Alicia will do bulk of the report: several pages of short answer questions including votes in elections, meetings held, *etc.* Barb includes chair goals. Chris includes chair-elect goals. A current councilor then has to approve reports. ACS nationals looks at report in October or November. Suggestions: track (simple Word document) local section activities on a monthly basis to make it easier to complete the yearly report. Barb and Chris can submit their chair goals now.
- 10.) Website and social media. Previously, initiated conversation about updating our social media pages. Alicia will put meeting minutes on the website. Social media accounts: need to identify admins so we can update posts/information.
- 11.) Back-up on important positions – *e.g.*, what would we do if Robert Bird retired? Example: Bob K. training Dave and Angela to understand our finances. For Robert Bird's emails: translate membership list, sending bulk emails from personal account can be difficult. Could use a local section account hosted by CAS. Send recipients as bcc to avoid someone hitting Reply All by accident.

- 12.) Leadership Institute: Chris has planned his upcoming trip at the end of January. Leadership Institute participation might open the possibility to hold joint meetings with other local sections.
- 13.) ACS spring meeting in March. Councilors attend the spring meeting. Registration is open. If a councilor can't go, an alternate councilor can go. Make sure councilors have signed up.
- 14.) Local section meetings. General notes: notification for section meetings need to go out about 3 weeks in advance. Feb meeting should be scheduled towards the end of the month. March scheduling may be challenging with university spring breaks and ACS spring meeting. Discussed potentially skipping a March local section meeting and offering April and early May meetings instead. Discussed ACS speaker list to gather ideas:
<https://communities.acs.org/t5/ACS-Speaker-Directory/bg-p/speaker-service-2022>
 - a.) OSU Agricultural Engineering Department – Jeff and Krishna. Could be for Feb meeting, no final plans yet.
 - b.) Crooked Can Brewery Tour – Barb. Another possible option.
 - c.) COSI is another possible option.
 - d.) Coffee Place – Kayla. YCC event there in the past.
 - e.) April meeting – student awards.
 - f.) October CAS meeting – Barb
- 15.) Chris: ACS used to have a tour series with dozens of speakers. His Texas section used this service when a speaker planned a series of events moving across the state. Really interesting speakers. Meeting attendance went up and it helped to plan meetings in advance. Is this tour series still around? Look into.
- 16.) Committee motioned to set up an Investment Committee with Bob K. as chair and the treasurer and treasurer-elect as members, along with any other interested local section members. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.