



AIAA Cape Canaveral Section

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2021, via Zoom

Attending: Matt Zuk, Rhonda Lyons, Kimberly Demoret, David Fleming, Kevin Johnson, Melissa Sleeper, Josh Little, Kineo Wallace

Matt called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

Matt began by reviewing write-in results from the past election for open positions.

- Kineo Wallace was nominated for the Young Professionals chair. Kineo made a short introduction, noting that he is lead propulsion engineer at Biospace in Cocoa. With his acceptance, Matt officially appointed Kineo as Young Professionals Chair. Matt said he would send the officer's manual to Kineo.
- Josh Little received write in votes in the treasure and open positions. Sunil Chantalapati also received votes in the Treasurer position, but upon being contacted declined the position as he is not local to the Cape Canaveral Section. Josh gave a brief introduction, noting his employment at NASA. He indicated that he would consider the positions, and let Matt know his decision.
- Other open positions include Communications, Technical Activities, Education, and Career & Workforce Development.

**Treasurer's Report (Matt):** Expense report for pizza from the previous council meeting has not been submitted yet. Region 2 used our section's PayPal account for the polo shirt fundraiser. Matt will distribute proceeds to Region 2. There were no other transactions over the past month.

**Recap of items from last month's minutes and continued event planning (Matt):**

- CCTS is working on the SpaceCon event in January, and will be supporting a First Robotics off-season competition on Oct. 2. Our section may consider supporting these events. Matt will contact Nimisha Vyas to see if they need support.
- Matt is drafting a letter to invite the new KSC Center Director, Janet Petro, to an upcoming event. He will review the invitation letter through Rhonda and Dave before sending.
- Possible STEM rocket event was again briefly discussed. Kevin Johnson noted that an amateur rocketry club is forming at KSC via the Space Coast Young Professionals group). Overall, the KSC club's goals is to work toward certifications up to level 3, but at their kickoff meeting they were interested in reaching out to high schools etc to broaden their outreach. This could tie in with our AIAA section, and section involvement with the club would be a good way to broaden our YP outreach. Rhonda suggested also tying in with universities. Kimberly seconded the notion that YP and university networking would be a good outcome of such activity. Matt asked about the possibility of rocket competitions for precollege students. Dave noted that our section has



supported such competitions in the past. Kimberly suggested keeping the focus at present on YP outreach, and letting Kevin advance this idea with a YP focus.

- The possibility of surveying the membership was noted, but no decision was reached regarding whether to proceed.
- Science fair judging is expected in the coming year. Melissa noted that it is too early to begin soliciting judges. The new leadership from the Brevard County Schools is getting up and running. It is expected, but not certain, that the fair will be held in person in the coming year.
- Observe the Moon night is scheduled for Oct. 16. Matt will ask Elizabeth Balga to contact the Brevard Astronomical Society to see if they are interested in supporting this event.
- Rhoda noted that World Space Week is Oct. 4-10, and suggested an activity that could tie in with that.
- Melissa noted her involvement with ShareSpace (Aldrin Family Foundation), which she said coordinates with World Space Week. Also, her school is a NASA site for James Webb launch-related activities and is seeking a speaker for her school on this subject (about 400 students).
- Fall Dinner: Matt suggested pushing the event to November, possibly to be held at Exploration Tower. As noted above, Janet Petro is a potential speaker.

#### **Regional Leadership Conference (RLC) Recap (Matt):**

RLC was run remotely this year, which limited networking opportunities compared to the in-person event. Materials from RLC can be distributed electronically to those who want it.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Vice Chair (Rhonda): No report

Secretary (Dave): Dave called for a vote to approve the July minutes, as submitted at the time of the meeting. A motion was made and seconded and the minutes were approved. Dave indicated that he would be willing to re-initiate a section newsletter but would need content support from the executive committee.

Membership (Kimberly):

Membership: Kimberly reported that as of the July 2021 report we have 315 professional members (of these, 2 new, 3 rejoins, four drops, and 4 about to expire), 74 educator associates (including one new member), 138 college members (including 2 new students and one about to graduate), and two high school students. She contacted the four professional students about to expire via email using the AIAA engage directory and is writing up notes for future membership chairs on how to navigate the system. There is a new category of professional member called "Young Professionals" where professionals under 35 get a discount on membership. Currently we are listed as having 26 young professionals in the chapter.



STEM K12 (Melissa):

Melissa noted that AIAA recently received a \$1M grant from Jeff Bezos, and was wondering how it would be allocated.

Other attendees were offered a chance to report, but had no further reports.

In closing, Matt asked each committee chair to make it a personal goal to take the lead on at least one event in their area per year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Fleming