

**MINUTES**  
*OF*  
**PROCEEDINGS**  
*OF THE*  
**COUNCIL**



**PHOENIX SECTION**

**BEGUN AND HELD**  
**Via Teleconference**

**June 2, 2021**

**PHOENIX SECTION COUNCIL**  
*OF THE*  
**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS**

The regular monthly assembly of the Council for the Phoenix section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) was held on June 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Conformably to the Bylaws of Phoenix AIAA, via teleconference (Zoom).

**All Those Present:**

Mike Mackowski, Outgoing Chair  
Scott Fouse, Chair  
Aiden Bramer, Vice Chair  
Garrick Williams, Treasurer  
Rick Kale, Secretary  
Brent Ruttle, At-Large Member

June 2, 2021, Mike Mackowski, Chair of the Council took his seat.  
On motion by the chair, the start of the regular meeting of the Council was 7:00 PM.

### **Review/Acceptance of last month's minutes**

Motion to accept: Passed unanimously

### **Reports:**

- **Annual Report**

- Majority of the report has been filled out.
- Scott will add details about CVD to the Public Policy tab.
- No signatures are needed before submission to AIAA HQ.

- **Events Brief**

- Had a good mix of events this year.
- Even though the means of events changed (i.e. virtual), there was good turnout for most.
- Had good quality content.
- Last presentation was May 25
  - Dr. Jekan Thanga
  - SPACETrex labs at University of Arizona
  - Virtual; 17 attendees

- **Look Ahead Discussion**

- Programming
  - By fall, we may be able to do in-person and/or hybrid events
  - November is setup for a Zoom meeting with an ASU researcher
  - What type of events should we do?
    - Traditional dinner meetings ... are they too expensive for some people
    - Tours?
      - Dr. Thanga invited us down to visit his lab. Could be an opportunity to do a joint event with the Tucson section.
      - Day trip or overnight trip to Tucson
        - Labs / Pima Museum
    - Visit the students at ERAU in Prescott
      - Good interaction with Ron Madler and him passing the info out to his students
    - Joint meetings with ASU
    - Could do a local get together, but a Zoom speaker.
  - Wings of Flight Foundation
    - Has a little museum at Falcon Field
    - 80th Anniversary of Falcon Field
    - Garrick can try to reach out to see if they have some topic
  - Locations
    - Still need to think of good locations to have meetings
  - Usually the first in-person events would be in September
    - Tried to focus on a good speaker
    - Tried to pick a good venue
  - Scott thought it might be interesting to reach out to the Tucson section and see what type of events they have done. If they have had to adjust their meetings (dinners, etc.)

- Out aerospace companies are spread out across the Valley ... some are 50 miles apart. Also, a wide spread of technical interests. Maybe need to focus on more general topics?
- Get Together for Council
  - Maybe a late-July/early-August get together for the Council members. Some of us have never met each other in person. Could do a BBQ on a Saturday or Sunday. Maybe August 6, 7, or 8 in the evening.
- Student Groups
  - Will need to learn who is the new leadership at ASU in the fall.
  - Should have an early career planning event with just the ERAU students.
- As we are getting stronger as a Section again, we should focus on...
  - K-12 STEM education
    - High school students are now able to join AIAA
    - Connect with teachers if they need/want speakers?
    - We have plenty of budget at the moment to help support some project or event.
  - Welcome letter for new members
  - More of an AIAA HQ message to develop, but there isn't a clear reason to be an AIAA member. Can we somehow figure out a message to help our section? What are the benefits of being a member?
  - A while ago, we wanted to have a point of contact at each major employer. That person could help distribute meeting information. Help engage management at the company level for AIAA. Could help build membership and retention.
  - Mike to create a list of local companies (mainly to help Scott learn the Valley)
- Technical Committees
  - Need to find the list of technical committee members in the section.
  - At the beginning of a meeting, give them a few minutes to discuss what they do on the technical committee, etc.
    - We have tried doing this, but it didn't get to far.
  - Other sections have done mini-technical conferences. Never been able to organize one here ... seems like a lack of interest and the broad.
- Scott -- need to get a handle on what the Section wants
  - Another survey? We have done surveys in the past, but results were mixed in any actionable intelligence.
  - Each section has its own personality. Depends on the local companies, etc.
- Other small business-like machine shops that do work for the larger companies.

### **New Business:**

- **Mike passed the torch to Scott and Aiden.**

### **Review of Action Items:**

- **Next Council Meeting**
  - TBD