



AIAA Cape Canaveral Section

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

September 9, 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 6:30PM.

Dave reviewed the minutes of the August meeting. A motion to approve was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Matt noted that a request for refund for the pizza at the July meeting has not been made yet. No new expenses were reported for the past month. In the absence of a formal report, no vote was held to receive the report.

**Rocket Initiative:**

Kevin discussed the rocket initiative that was brought up at the previous meeting, and noted that some email exchanges on the subject were made during the past month involving Kineo, Kimberly and Melissa. Additional brainstorming on the topic followed:

- It was noted that there could be various levels of activity on this topic ranging from short time scale events requiring minimal preparation to medium or long term goals requiring more lead time for integration.
- This issue of using amateur launch activities as a possible means of outreach to college or STEM K-12 students was raised.
- It was suggested to reach out to the section membership to seek experienced members to help with these initiatives.
- The thought of a competition coordinated with Spaceport Rocketry Association was raised.
- It was suggested to develop an AIAA workshop leading to high power certification(s). Rhonda suggested seeking contacts within NAR to help with this, and that NAR offers education programs. Kineo noted that he has coworkers with level 3 certification, and that he himself holds a level 1 certification. Dave and Kimberly said they were not aware of any Florida Tech faculty holding such certifications.
- Kevin noted that at the recent AIAA awards event the Wisconsin section was recognized for its high power rocketry efforts.
- Melissa noted that Estes and other organizations have run rocket competitions for K-12 students.

Following this brainstorming effort, Matt suggested that we need to define a focus for this initiative moving forward. He proposed focusing on activities targeting young professionals, with a moderate lead



time. Kevin supported this focus. Kimberly noted that K-12 activities could be run in parallel with other efforts, and that engagement with college students requires identifying a 'champion' at the relevant universities, and that once the YP oriented work gets started, there would be room for college participants to link up.

The overall consensus was to pursue a YP-focus in the rocket initiative, and that Kevin and Kineo will lead that effort.

#### **Fall Dinner:**

Matt passed the task of drafting an invitation letter for the speaker to Rhonda, who has made two versions, one assuming an in-person event (with contingency for virtual) and one for a purely virtual event. She will pass these back to Matt for review, and will also seek contact information for Janet Petro.

The possible venues include the Exploration Tower, and Radisson at the Port. Rhonda will seek quotes from these places. Note that Exploration Tower requires the use of external caterers, and that its auditorium is limited to about 80 seats.

Possible contingency speakers were briefly considered. Possibilities included Lynda Weatherman , Joe Bussenger (SpaceX), and Winston Scott.

#### **Observe the Moon Night:**

No updates.

#### **CCTS Robotics Event:**

Dave did not have any update on whether this event was to be held. [It was later reported that the planned Oct. 2 CCTS event was cancelled due to the Delta surge.]

#### **Brevard Zoo Teacher Open House:**

Melissa said that she thinks this event is not being held this year.

#### **Team Vyas Beach Cleanup:**

Kineo noted that a beach cleanup targeting several locations on the Space Coast was to be held on Sept. 18, and his organization is supporting it. He suggested advertising other section members to participate with that group. Dave indicated that he would send an announcement to the email mailing list. It should also be posted on our Facebook site.

#### **Membership Chair Appointment**

Matt offered to appoint Josh Little as communication chair. He agreed, and the appointment was made.



### **Committee Reports:**

Vice Chair (Rhonda): The World Space Week theme is 'Women in Space,' and she proposed having a Zoom networking event centered on that theme but targeting all section members as the audience. The event would not necessarily need to be held during World Space Week, but could be held in the Spring. Kineo suggested Carol Craig as a possible speaker. Melissa proposed making an educator information packet for distribution in conjunction with this event. Kimberly suggested holding a panel discussion.

Florida Tech Student Branch (Dave): Dave reported that the Florida Tech student branch recently had a general meeting, and participated in Florida Tech's organizational fair.

### **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 professionals 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): Our section, under Melissa's leadership, won first prize for our size category in STEM K-12, as recently announced at the annual awards meeting. This results in a \$500 Cat 2 award for the section. The ASCEND meeting is coming up. The James Webb Space Telescope launch is now targeted for Dec. 18. She is working with her school on events centered around that. This will include a face-to-face event as well as community outreach events. She has applied for a grant for IR cameras to support this activity. Kevin is helping with speakers.

Programs (Kevin): He is researching cubesat activities, and plans to report on this at next meeting. Melissa suggested using Kevin Simmons as a resource for that. Rhonda is also helping on this effort. Kineo noted that suborbital launches out of Wallops is another interesting possibility, with an approximately \$15K cost.

Communications (Josh): Josh asked for passwords to various social media accounts, which he will need in his new capacity.

Young Professionals (Kineo): Kineo proposed restarting social meetups at a bar. Matt noted that for such events the section pays for some appetizers, but members are responsible for their own drinks.

Advertising is made via email and Facebook. It is usually best to make some sort of reservation at places such as Rising Tide.



The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Fleming