

New England Chapter APWA
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting – January 20, 2021
Zoom Conference Call
1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by President Garro. Roll was called. Invited Guests/Committee Co-Chairs included Christine King, Dan Nason and Conrad Leger.

2. Concerns, etc. – None.

3. Consent Agenda.

Garro wished everyone a happy new year and welcomed Howard Weissberg to his first EC Board Meeting.

a. Approval of minutes – January 20, 2021 minutes were reviewed and approved.

b. Treasurer Report – Not much to report. Monthly bills were paid, and a check was received for \$11,814.12 from National for 4th Quarter dues.

c. Finance Committee – Mattscheck will be setting up a meeting but first needs to get info from Treasurer Connors. He wanted Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs to know he will be requesting budgets for potential NEC events/conferences. Could be last minute due to a few changes.

d. Delegate's Report – Benevento unavailable at the moment so Sheppard reported nothing had occurred since last month. When asked about the 2021 PWX he said no decision at this time. Benevento checked in and said National is still anticipating a PWX in St. Louis, MO due to vaccinations, etc. It will be a month-to-month determination. Chapter Leaders Training will be virtual Please try register (January 26 & 28 and February 2 & 4 from 1:00-2:30pm CT for training sessions). He and Adler of CO co-wrote a letter to the Board to increase \$500 stipend. Board decided to drop stipend and pay full amount (air/hotel/meals) for Delegate. Alternate pays for himself. He continued they had an Awards Committee and identified candidates for awards on Projects of the Year and resubmitted /Brutus Cantoreggi for Top Ten. Awards due March 3rd.

e. Education – Goober said “Chapter Connects” is posted and one is scheduled for next month and they will continue on Thursdays every month. Garo mentioned that Moylan did a great job monitoring December’s virtual as did T2 with their assistance.

f. Awards – Benevento said Wellesley submission for National Snow & Ice was submitted. He will be sending Comm. members an email next week looking for dates for next meeting. Awards due March 1, 2021.

g. Membership – Roy reported they will have a meeting within the next month. Numbers are still holding and he was happy to see the number of attendees at the Virtual. Garro said registration has been great which could help with membership. Some registrants were from, CA and CO, MI, and even Puerto Rico.

h. Sponsors – Leger said Committee had a good meeting on Monday and letters to sponsors have not been sent as yet. An email has been sent explaining 2020 fees have been carried over to 2021. They discussed potential ways to enhance membership and would not be asking for more money. Next meeting is March. Connors asked if 2021 form was available and was told not yet.

i. Newsletter – Myers said they hit a lull with information for the *Chatter* bit it was ready to go and he would give it a final read through today before sending to membership. Goober asked how final it was as he had an article re: a PWD facility being used as a Covid vaccination site. Hadley asked how specific the article was and were the PW employees receiving the shot. A discussion went back and forth as to whether PW facilities should be used if the employees were not considered first responders. Yanulis said we needed to be careful on what we publish. Lawlor said it was a perfect opportunity to hi-lite PW as a first responder. He suggested letters be written to all NE Governor’s to push PW employees to the top of the vaccination list. It was decided to wait until the next *Chatter* to print PW vaccination sites.

j. Government Affairs – Riccio had no report.

k. Summer Conference - Nason reported Committee met last week and discussed moving the event to October in it was not doable in June. Would like to continue to have an in-person conference rather virtual. Committee voted to check out dates in October, specifically the week of October 4th-8th. King said RJ told her other groups are moving events to the Fall so we have the first rite of refusal and no penalties, and all pricing will stay the same, but we need to decide asap. Benevento said the Awards Dinner is a major component of the conference for both this year and last year, so he would like to send out a "Save the Date" by late February.

l. NPWWL - Connors/Piacentini - Connors had no report. Keeping in touch with Granite Links but just waiting to see what happens with the pandemic.

m. Fall S&I/Snowplow Rodeo - Mattscheck said based on the decision re: the Summer Conference, it would not be an issue moving the FS&I Conference to November, possibly the 10th and adding sponsor displays. Connors said November EC Board Meeting usually includes the Strategic Plan Meeting. Wouldn't be possible to do both so Garro suggested moving the Strategic Plan meeting to an earlier time slot.

n. PWX Chapter Dinner – Leger said Recon group will have a meeting next week, if there is a plan for PWX. They want to start some pre-planning. Benevento said if he hears anything, he will let them know.

o. PWAC – Piacentini said last week's meeting was rescheduled until tomorrow. Merson said he had a good phone meeting with SE. Lesser and Rep. Livingstone who are pleased to have the bill go forward. Filing bills was extended to the end of January to mid-February due to Covid. Remodified the original bill to include a broader group of folks for coverage. Language will stay the same but removed retro to 2017 and will not include anything re: Covid as it is too hard to pinpoint. Benevento brought up on the screen the PWAC Strategic Goals and said he will have Connors forward a copy to the EC Board. Gantick is working on press releases. Garro thought it was a good template for the NEC's strategic plan. Johansen spoke about the responder flags that were damaged on the Cape bridge. The Deputy Fire Chief was on the news and they have a "go fund me" set up and would the NEC want to donate. A vote will be taken to under #4 for a \$200 donation.

p. Website and Social Media – Ciancarelli reported December was slow for job postings but he is keeping up with "Chapter Connects" links, and he will be posting the *Chatter* on the website.

q. Young Professionals Report – Marinaccio reported the National YP Summit scheduled for February 2021 has been pushed to 2022. He sent out an email late December looking for new members, possibly five or six to help with tasks. Putting together a student network to send out info re: job postings for entry level jobs. Also coming up with events for this year. He mentioned YP's across the country have gone virtual and the NEC did a presentation on how other Chapters are involving YP's. Lastly, Surette from WorldTech and Nicholson from TEC are YP liaisons.

r. Professional Development and Knowledge Management – Blomquist said after the first of the Norwich will be changing to a new platform with more interaction virtually, adjust curriculum. There is one from Exeter waiting to finish. He said CO has very aggressive programs and is working with the military. Wants to know how we can integrate with NE. Public Works Institute is gearing toward middle management

s. Diversity Committee – No report.

t. Mechanics Workshop – Mattscheck will talk to Collins about an outside workshop in the spring..

u. Past Presidents Advisory Council – Daring said Committee going to move forward with Chapter Admin position and define description. Will utilize Molly from VHB for applications by using Monster.

v. Scholarship Committee – Schaeffler said in December a letter was sent to the FinCom re: their recommendations for O'Leary scholarships and an increase in funding with no change to PWX money. /to increase scholarship budget, she suggested possibly having a golf tournament in each of the five states. Could help with membership, especially the western part of MA. Leger said golf tournaments have often been a struggle to pull off.

w. Spring Conference – Roy said he had hoped for better news, but Rentschler Field is being used for flu shots and possibly Covid. Doesn't look like conference will take place. Garo asked if it was possible for a virtual conference and Roy added vendors could mail out their info and maybe have a raffle. Will talk with PWAC and Education Committees

x. Holiday Board Meeting – No report.

y. Approval of Consent Items.

Above consent items were approved on a motion by Benevento/Johansen.

4. Action on items removed from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Barrett/Johansen and approved that the EC Board override the current *Policy for Memorial and Charitable Donations* and go with the Past Presidents recommendation for a \$200 donation to The Nicholas G. Xiarhos Memorial Foundation Fund, for replacing damaged flags on the First Responders Bridge. (*Past President's Committee endorsed the \$200 donation.*)

A motion was made by Benevento/Mattscheck and approved to change the Summer Conference to October 4th to the 6th at the Red Jacket Inn.

A motion was made by Benevento/Mattscheck and approved to appoint Kevin Sheppard as the National Alternate Delegate.

5. Other Business and Correspondence

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Benevento/Schaeffler.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaqui Connors
Secretary-Treasurer