

**New England Chapter APWA  
Minutes of the July 19, 2023  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Cushman Road, Wareham, MA – 1:00 PM**

1. **Call to order EC Board Meeting:** Meeting was called to order by President Bechard. Roll was called by Connors. Guests/Committee Chairs included Eric Ohanian and Patrick Yeo.
2. **Concerns, etc.:** None
3. **Consent Agenda:** *These items will be acted together at their conclusion by a single vote.*
  - a. **Approval of Minutes:** June 23, 2023, minutes were reviewed.
  - b. **Treasurer Report:** Connors reported she and Otero will be working on the end of the year financials.
  - c. **Finance Committee:** Roy reported that they are meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>. They will discuss the budget for the upcoming year, review the year end closeout for the past fiscal year, and discuss sponsor funding.
  - d. **Delegate's Report:** Benevento reported that APWA hit a milestone with 32,000 members. He also reported that there are some frustrations with the new website after it went live. He assured everyone that the bugs are being worked out with the new APWA and Chapter websites. Connors mentioned that people can't get into the website at all and that we have 2 events (Woo Sox and PWX Chapter Dinner) we can't list on the website. Ciancarelli noted that he has already responded to National's reach out which asked for details on what people are dealing with. Benevento asked that everyone email Ciancarelli their thoughts and problems and he will compile them and get in touch with the team at National. Benevento also reported that Region II will be joining us for our PWX Chapter Dinner in San Diego. He mentioned the San Diego Chapter put together their "Get Acquainted" party and suggested that we go to that event.
  - e. **Education:** No report.
  - f. **Awards:** Benevento reported that we won our 23<sup>rd</sup> PACE award. He requested that anyone going to PWX should attend the awards ceremony and awards reception. Connors requested that Benevento give her the contact at the venue so she can set up the EC Board meeting.
  - g. **Membership:** No report
  - h. **PWAC:** No report
  - i. **Sponsors:** No report
  - j. **Scholarship/Charity:** No report
  - k. **Newsletter:** No report
  - l. **Website and Social Media:** No report
  - m. **Young Professionals:** Eric Ohanian reported that the word went out about the Woo Sox event, and he brought flyers so that we could post them in our offices to encourage people to attend. Otero will send another reminder for people to register via Constant Contact.
  - n. **Professional Development & Knowledge MGMT:** No report
  - o. **Past President Advisory Council:** No report
  - p. **Summer Conference:** No report
  - q. **NPWW/MOTY Awards Luncheon:** Deposit has been made for 2024 at Granite Links.
  - r. **PWX Chapter Dinner:** No report
  - s. **Northwest Committee:** Roy reported that the Northwest Lunch and Learn that was planned for July 31<sup>st</sup> is cancelled due to the heavy rains and damage in Vermont.
  - t. **July 19<sup>th</sup> Bombara EC Board Meeting:** No report
  - u. **Holiday Event:** No report
  - v. **Director of Region 1:** No report
4. **Approval of Consent Items**

Above Consent Items were approved on a motion by Connors/Pinsonneault.
6. **Action on Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**
7. **Other Business and Correspondence**

**Pinsonneault** spoke about the Admin Professional event and how historically they were able to get the venue for free but going forward might not be the case. He would like to have a budget for this important event. Roy stated that it should be funded like all the other events and asked Pinsonneault to send him an email request with what they are looking for. Bechard stated it would be helpful if Pinsonneault could include the numbers from the past to help with the planning. Benevento stated that the Vermont events should have a budget too.

**Roy and Benevento** spoke about special rates for events, perhaps offering an associate rate for events. There will be more conversations about this in the near future.

**Merson** spoke about the New England Stormwater Collaborative's Stormy Awards and how the New England Water Environmental Association (NEWEA) will be recognized at their National event, WEFTEC this September. They will be sharing information about the award and will have a brief presentation or short videos from the winners.

**Yanulis** initiated a discussion concerning the chairs of our committees and their historical requirement to be Board members. Although we've discussed this before, it hasn't led to any resolution. Maintaining the status quo appears to be restrictive. One suggestion was to appoint a liaison, a Board member to help. Benevento pointed out the Young Professionals Committee as an example, where the chairs are not Board members.

Connors mentioned the issue of non-Board members not being able to sign contracts, which Yanulis agreed with. Bechard brought up the fact that the President is responsible for signing contracts, and Roy added that the incoming President has the authority to review the Committees and make adjustments for the Chapter's benefit.

Yanulis urged for progress, advocating the continuation of allowing non-Board members to chair and co-chair committees, with the condition of having a liaison. However, it was emphasized that being a member remains a prerequisite for chairing a committee. Bechard supports this effort. A motion is not needed but was made, and approved, by Pinsonneault/Field.

#### **8. Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Otero  
Chapter Administrator