



SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS  
The International Plastics Society  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXTRUSION DIVISION, SPE**

**Thursday, July 23, 2009**

Mystic Hilton, Mystic, CT

**9:00 AM – 1:27 PM**

**Extrusion Division Minutes**

**Present:**

Dave Anzini	Charlie Martin	Tom McHouell	Joe Golba
Paul Andersen	John Christiano	John Wagner	Michelle Curenton
Helmut Schildknecht	Steve Schick	Dan Cykana	

**Visitor:**

Tricia McKnight

**Via Telephone:**

Karen Xiao	Barry Morris	David Bigio	Greg Campbell
Mark Spalding	Mark Wetzel	Jeff Biesenberger	Mahesh Gupta
Tim Womer			

**Absent:** Gary Oliver, Eldridge Mount, Jeff Myers, Keith Larson, Mike Puhalla, Bill Karszes, Russ Gould, John Perdikoulis, Steve Derezinski

**Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 am by Charlie Martin**

**Opening Remarks: C. Martin:**

- Welcome to one of our new members, Helmut Schildknecht. Helmut introduced himself to the Board

**Review of 2009: J. Christiano, Verbal Report:**

- The economy has been an issue this year, especially with respect to travel
- It is tough to conduct Board meetings over the phone
- Two key issues for 2009
  - Need to consider a web based platform for conducting meetings, such as Webex
  - Newsletter is critical to Division's survival – need discipline to publish regularly
- Discussion – what are other Divisions doing to conduct remote meetings?
- Suggestions included Skype; Go To Meeting; Live Meeting

**Action Item: Tricia to send web based meeting information to C. Martin**

**Action Item: Any other ideas to be sent to J. Christiano for review**

- Final Comment – despite all the problems with the economy and conducting effective meetings, our Division is still functional and functioning – we're not dead yet!

**ANTEC 2009 Review: M. Wetzel, M. Spalding: Report Submitted:**

- Extrusion Division Program comments / observations
  - Good technical program; less paper submissions, more paper rejections
  - Facility was good, but the rooms were a little too large
  - Thanks to all the Moderators & Michelle for their work
  - Low attendance may have an impact on next year's paper submissions

- Tricia has asked the Board to put together their comments on ANTEC and forward them to Leslie Kyle
- ANTEC Conference in total comments / observations
  - 710 papers submitted in 2009 vs. 620 in 2008
  - Several Divisions had an increase in paper submissions
  - 22 no-shows for presentations; need to review the No-Show policy
  - Colocation with SPI in 2009 was an economic necessity which will be re-evaluated in 3 years
  - Lack of printed program a concern

**Action Item: Send comments / observations to M. Wetzel**

**Secretary's Report: D. Anzini, Minutes Submitted:**

- D. Cykana comment – absenteeism should be treated as excused or unexcused
  - If a Board member cannot attend, they need to ask to be excused by the Chair

**Motion: J. Christiano, to accept the Minutes as presented; Motion seconded by S. Schick; Motion Carried**

- Comment – M. Curenton – wrong version of the Minutes is posted to the Web Site

**Action Item: C. Martin to e-mail S. Derezinski to remove the wrong copy of the Minutes from the Web Site**

**Treasurer's Report: J. Wagner, Report Submitted:**

- Our combined net worth continues to rebound with the general economy. The Extrusion Division remains solvent and able to meet its obligations
- Ongoing issues – No Newsletter expenses; no Rebate income
- New Expense - \$30/Month(approx.) to maintain the Wiki site

**Motion: D. Cykana, to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted; Motion seconded by S. Schick; Motion Carried**

**Finance Committee: G. Campbell: Report Submitted:**

- Our investments are doing better than the Market average
- Suggest we do not spend money until the Market turns
- If we are to continue to support the academic community, it is Suggested that Division fund a college competition to encourage Gen X & Y participation
  - P. Andersen – this would be good publicity for the Division / Society; competition should involve plastic
  - M. Spalding – proposal needs to be more concrete
  - P. Andersen – should involve other Boards; define a project to get multiple disciplines at the university level working together
  - D. Bigio – need to do a good job of defining the problem for the competition

**Motion: G. Campbell, that the Extrusion Division tentatively commit \$3,000 to get a college competition going, once it is defined; Motion seconded by J. Golba; Motion Carried**

- P. Andersen – need a small group to build a “strawman” – volunteers?
- J. Wagner – need to establish measurable (smart) goals
- Committee – G. Campbell, D. Bigio, J. Golba, K. Xiao, M. Spalding, J. Biesenberger, D. Anzini, P. Andersen

**Action Item: Committee to provide feedback to the Board by the next meeting**

**Action Item: C. Martin to review proposed competition budget off line**

**New Projects – Extrusion Solutions Wiki: M. Curenton: Report Submitted:**

- Wiki presentation made at ANTEC
- More Best Papers from M. Spalding are to be loaded on the Wiki
- Need to get sponsors added to the Wiki
- A lot of non-SPE or non-EXTDiv members were present at the MiniTech and ANTEC Wiki presentations
- Many requests to become a content provider
  - Question – how do we judge who can contribute?
  - Currently 6 or 7 requests to become contributors
- M. Wetzel – suggests that contributor status should be limited to Society members
- M. Wetzel – can we turn the ANTEC Wiki presentation into a Webinar

**Action Item: M. Curenton to distribute Wiki presentation from Minitech to the BOD**

**Web Site Report: C. Martin for S. Derezinski: Report Submitted:**

- The web site has been upgraded with several new features

**Awards: C. Martin for G. Oliver: Verbal Report:**

- Helmut Potente was not at ANTEC, so his award is yet to be distributed

**Lew Erwin Scholarship: P. Andersen: Verbal Report:**

- Comment – this year’s winner Laurie Holmes is a great story

**Wine and Cheese Reception: B. Morris: Report Submitted:**

- Reception was well attended
- Action Item: B. Morris to send Wine & Cheese information to M. Curenton**

**By-Laws: D. Anzini: Report Submitted:**

- By-Laws draft submitted to Board for Approval
  - Changes to duties of Secretary to prepare Minutes for web site publication
- D. Cykana – need to adjust Section 6.5.7.14 to reflect current media used in formal presentations

**Motion: D. Cykana, that the By-Laws be accepted as amended in the draft revision; Motion seconded by M. Curenton; Motion Carried**

**Action Item: D. Anzini to amend By-Laws and distribute approved revision to Board**

- Elections – J. Myers had a followup meeting with National to discuss revamping of election procedures
  - Jeff has multiple action items pending to move the process forward
- T. McKnight – it is possible to have a hook to the ballot on our web site, with the ability to print and mail copy
- M. Curenton – there is a need for multiple ways to process ballots
- Action Item: D. Anzini to work with J. Myers to revamp the ByLaws section on Elections**
- Question - Lew Erwin Scholarship – ByLaws call for an annual budget item of \$2000 to be moved into the scholarship fund. Should this be changed?
- Discussion:
  - J. Wagner – The fund should be bigger, supporting a larger scholarship
  - G. Campbell – There have been few applications; should leave as is or just add to maintain
  - P. Andersen – Agrees, it has been difficult to get applicants for the scholarship
  - M. Gupta – Agrees, not enough applications; why is no one applying for Lew Erwin?
  - Question – Is a \$2500 scholarship reflective of the economy? Should we increase the funds available for scholarships in general?

**Motion: G. Campbell, that the Board raise the Lew Erwin Scholarship from \$2500 to \$3000 for one year only; J. Wagner seconded**

- Discussion:
  - J. Golba – what drives students to apply?
  - D. Bigio – Use this one time larger scholarship to get noticed and see what it does to increase interest. Should the amount be larger than \$3000?
  - G. Campbell – OK to amend to \$4000
  - P. Andersen – Will changing the award to \$3000 / student; \$1000 / professor advisor increase interest?
  - P. Andersen – Decision must be made prior to the publication of the SPE Foundation pamphlet

**Amended Motion: G. Campbell, that for ONE YEAR ONLY, the Lew Erwin Scholarship award will be \$4000, to be awarded as \$3000 to the student and \$1000 to the faculty advisor; award to be contingent upon the \$1000 being legal to award to a university faculty member; if the faculty portion of the award is deemed unacceptable, the total award is to be \$3000, awarded entirely to the student; J. Wagner second; Motion Carried with 2 dissenting votes noted**

- Secretary’s Note – As a one time trial, the approved changes to the Lew Erwin Scholarship will NOT be reflected in the By-Laws

**Councilor’s Report: G. Campbell: Report Submitted:**

- With the continued decline in membership, Council is looking to alter its size
  - Currently have same size Council as when Society was at its peak membership
- No concrete action plan as of yet
- Council will reorganize how Divisions and Sections are represented on the Council
- SPE has sold their building and moved into a rented facility
- J. Wagner – We all know we need to attract new members – do we promote the Society to individuals, or do we target top Management?
- G. Campbell – Suggest we consider putting together an Executive presentation targeting extrusion companies, selling the idea of membership in SPE

**Student Chapter: M. Gupta: Report Submitted:**

- Summer is the slow period at universities
- Letters will go out in August
  - Comment - good to have the Lew Erwin scholarship raised this year

### **Seminars: D. Cykana: Verbal Report:**

- Seminar attendance was down from historical at ANTEC, with 66 attendees for the 6 topics presented
  - Even the e-live webinar attendance is down
- D. Cykana working with Leslie Kyle to solicit new presenters / topics. Suggestions:
  - H. Schildknecht – non-thermoplastic extrusion
  - J. Wagner – Design of Experiments
  - K. Xiao – any input?
  - M. Spalding suggests talking to G. Campbell about troubleshooting
  - Plastics Engineers as Business People

### **International(NOW – Global Outreach): D. Cykana: Verbal Report:**

- The committee is now headed up by Donna Davis
- Targeted areas for growth have been identified
  - Need for committed people on the ground to promote growth
  - Need a business plan to make this happen

**Action Item: D. Cykana to have notes available next meeting**

### **Honored Service: Dan Cykana: Verbal Report:**

- Jim Nangeroni paperwork is in process
- Bill Kramer's paperwork being worked on by T. Womer & M. Spalding; D. Cykana sponsoring

### **2010 ANTEC: B. Morris: Report Submitted:**

- Next ANTEC will be May 16-20 in Orlando, FL
- Due Dates:
  - September 4 – Abstracts
  - November 13 – Paper Deadline
- T. McKnight – can send an e-mail blast soliciting papers; this will not count as our one per month
- M. Spalding – the web site is open for paper submission
- Paper review will be on or about December 4; this will be a separate meeting
- Volunteers are needed for the paper review committee; contact Barry if interested

**Action Item: Board members solicit papers; submit papers; submit ideas on special sessions**

### **Education(MiniTech): C. Martin: Verbal Report:**

- Penn College is interested in a Micro sized MiniTech – a shortened version plus some demo's in the Penn College Lab
- C. Martin – it will be a nice, low key event
- Timing would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in October
- General agreement – let's do it!
- Speaker volunteers – D. Bigio, M. Curenton, P. Andersen, J. Wagner

**Action Item: C. Martin to canvas rest of Board for more speakers**

### **Fellows: E.Mount: No Report:**

### **Pride / Pinnacle: M. Wetzel: No Report:**

- No changes to last year's procedures

**Action Item: M. Wetzel to get together with C. Martin to review procedures, etc.**

### **Long Range Member Services: No Report:**

### **History: M. Puhalla: Report Submitted**

### **TOPCON: D. Bigio: Report Submitted:**

- Two possibilities presented for next TOPCON
  - Compounding TOPCON in Charlotte
  - Coextrusion TOPCON in Cincinnati
- Discussion:
  - C. Martin – why redo coex in Cincinnati?
  - Coex would start to take on the feel of the Polyolefins Conference
  - Essentially need 13 months to plan a TOPCON; same timeframe as the K Show
  - Should we look at doing it at the K Show? Would be difficult marketing & logistics
  - Can we plan more than one TOPCON at a time?

- Charlotte Polymer Center for Excellence would be a good venue for compounding
  - T. McHouell – there are three compounding lines in NC at the Center
- T. Womer – what about BioPolymers?
- D. Bigio recommends that we pursue a Compounding TOPCON in Charlotte; look at a Coextrusion TOPCON the following year

**Action Item: D. Bigio to work on a November 2010 Compounding TOPCON in Charlotte**

**Elections: J. Myers: No Report:**

**New Business: All:**

- D. Cykana suggests that the Board work on training and mentoring of the newest Board members
  - Action Item: K. Larson to get copies of information to the new Directors**
- M. Curenton – could use help on the Wiki; if you are interested, please speak up!
- T. McKnight – please take time to review the next SPE Leadership Note when it comes out

**Next Meeting:**

**Place: Penn College of Technology, Williamsport, PA**

**Date: Friday, October 23, 2009**

**Time: 8:30 am – 1:00 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned – 1:27 pm EDT**

Respectfully Submitted

**David Anzini**