



Seattle Post Board Meeting February 4, 2021 | Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Thursday, February 4, 2021, 8:00 am – 9:30 am

CALL-IN MEETING ONLY: Join via GoToMeeting link in calendar invite, or

call-in 1-877-309-2073 or 1-646-749-3129; Access Code: 162-361-933

Attended (alphabetical order)

* voting member

Scott Adamek	Mark Ohlstrom*
Stacie Anderson	Wendy Oresik*
Manny Bautista*	Faith Powell
Scott Blount	Caroline Roberts*
CAPT Jed Boba*	John Souza
Gina Bryan	Ray Spees*
Ginette Chin	Larry Toimil
Jackie Corley*	Nick Vlahovich
LCDR Sam Lee	LT Bo Wowtschuk*
Terry McCann	Allen Wycoff
Tom Nichols*	Nancy Yee*

Welcome and Announcements

1. Roll call
2. Declare quorum – Quorum called
3. Approve February 4, 2021 Agenda - Agenda approved
4. Approve January 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Minutes approved
5. Announcements
 - This is awards season, list of awards on the SAME web page. Applications are due February 5th. The applications require post endorsement.
 - The Annual Report: Faith has accepted the task of pulling that together. She did let Ryan know that her schedule is a bit crazy for the next week or so. Due date is March 31 and Faith will meet the deadline.
 - SAME wants to know what our post is doing, as we put on events or want to take photos of what we are doing, send to Caroline and she will send to National for inclusion and TME. Basically, they just want to know what we are doing and what the post is up to and share it with all of SAME.
 - Every Friday national wears a red shirt, stands for remember everyone deployed. They want to highlight deployed members on social media on Friday. If there is something in our post, an acquaintance i.e. Adam Bogey (he came to Caroline's



mind). We may want to get with Dave Newkirk/Tacoma and send over a photo of Adam/someone we want to honor or of the team with red shirts on.

- Post Leaders Workshop will be held in August. First event they want to do in person or a hybrid virtual and in person. Will be down in FL for the first full week of August.
 - o We will need two people from the post to go.
 - o Normally we send the incoming president and a young member. That would be Jed + another member (Sam and Caroline have gone in the past). Ray's name was thrown out there/he may be interested or Faith.

Standing Reports

TREASURER (Ryan Peterson)

- Absent. Ryan did send out an email with the treasurer's report. Allen Wycoff and Steve Woolery have volunteered to serve as part of the Audit Committee. Ryan states that the time commitment should be minimal.
- Biggest outgoing expense: Meet the Chiefs, three way split with Tacoma and Portland.

MEMBERSHIP (Scott Blount)

- Not a whole lot to report. We have stayed pretty flat over the last few weeks.
- In February past, (all data is in the spreadsheet Scott sends out) a couple years ago we were at 680-690. Now we are down to 630-640. Had a pretty big drop right at the time COVID started.
- For the last handful of months have been hanging in there pretty flat.
- Not a whole lot of membership drive opportunities.
- One of our new members not listed on the report, Lilian Graham. She is a recent college graduate but is down in CA and looking to move up here. Her primary post is either Orange County or LA. Just a reminder – as you come across people that may be moving up here to get connected and added to the post.

PROGRAMS (Nick Vlahovich)

- Meet the Agencies on January 28th (Port of Seattle and King County): What did everyone think of format, timing, and pace?
 - o Attendance: high sixties
 - o Thumbs up from Manny
 - o Caroline thought it was better to split up rather than have all together and have everyone on the phone for hours.
 - o Went pretty quick.
- February 16th is the next Meet the Agencies (WSDOT and Sound Transit); the registration will be out today 02/04. One slight change in format: we will have two sustainer presenters between two agencies, we have put them off long enough.
- Programs look great for the year but need September and October speakers.



- Considering one of them being about the City of Seattle bridge. Nick is talking to HDR who is doing the retrofit on the West Seattle bridge.
- Are we committed to the sustainability forum in November? No, this is moved out into 2022.
- March program (Meet the Agencies Part 3): Nick wants to propose a change to the board as a result of a UW meeting.
 - Dale Clark, BD for Hill International, has been involved with SAME for years. He as a connection with the fundraising chair at the UW specifically the program to renovate the ASCW Shellhouse at UW campus. Dale wanted Nick to connect with the Shellhouse renovation fundraising team to have that team present somehow to our membership. The goal is to educate our membership and create outreach to our membership on their program, status of the renovation, the fundraising and all the engineering/design challenges.
 - Dale and Nick met with the shellhouse team, chair is Nicole Klien, to brainstorm out a plan.
 - Nick is proposing we add the shellhouse team presentation to the March 16th Meet the Agencies program (UW presenting, Lou Cariello, VP of Facilities). We have the time on the agenda since only UW is presenting. Facilities also does oversee the renovation for the shellhouse renovation.
 - Thought of a couple different of models for the March event:
 - Lou and his team have an intermission and the shellhouse team present then, have Lou incorporate shellhouse team into his presentation or have shellhouse group present after Lou and his team.
 - Board Thoughts:
 - Caroline likes it combined with the UW program opposed to it being a standalone. Likes the idea of an intermission as a natural break. Concerns: how much time does the shellhouse team want? UW can be longer so need to be clear with the shellhouse presenter the time they have to present. Thinking it would be 10-15 minutes for shellhouse presentation.
 - Sam Lee likes the idea. Agrees that this would be good paired with UW, we do not have a lot of expenses so would be a good opportunity to give back.
 - Terry likes the idea, but the intermission may not be the best spot because shellhouse may have a lot to say, the intermission may then take away from Lou's UW Presentation. He thinks we should have Lou start and then give over to the shellhouse group for the last 10-15 minutes.
 - Minimum amount of time for the presentation: as little as eight minutes.
 - The presentation will be tailored to the architect/engineering side of the shellhouse project, will also incorporate fundraising.



- Would we be considering donating our portions to the shellhouse?
 - That never came up in call with Nick and Dale. No expectations on the shellhouse's end that SAME would give anything other than the time at the event for them to talk.
- To avoid people dropping off and missing the shellhouse presentation = think it would be best to have Lou incorporate into his presentation.
- Right now, we do not have time set aside to go through the platform with the UW presenters. Also do not have a time set aside yet for the February speakers.
 - Whenever the March platform discussion meeting happens, the group will figure out where it makes sense for the shellhouse presentation to go in the schedule.
 - Need to set this meeting up earlier then.
- Overall: it is approved to have the shellhouse team join on March 16th.
- For the West Seattle bridge presentation: Nick plans to bring SDOT in – we have relationship with SDOT from MTA in the past. HDR is already committed. So HDR and City of Seattle present together.
 - Manny can help assist Nick with connecting.
- Leadership Development Discussion coming up focusing on Effective Communication on February 18th at noon. Jed and Stacie are leading these efforts.

Annual Event Updates *(in calendar order)*

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021 | MEET THE AGENCIES (MTA) (Kevin Stoll)

- Absent

APRIL 2021 | TECHNOBOWL (LT Bo Wowtschuk)

- No real update: Bo has some drop offs from the 2019 TECHNOBOWL so has all the previous information. He is going to start cold calling contacts to see if there is interest. If it is a go, will have to move to May.
- Biggest thing for us right now is we need someone who has a Zoom license.
 - Thought: Hire Chris Stuvek to run the TECHNOBOWL and Ray Spees will sponsor it and pay the \$300 for the Zoom.
- Our outreach is wider too with a virtual platform: can invite students from outside the Seattle area.

APRIL 2021 | SMALL BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM (SBS) (LCDR Sam Lee)

- Talked with Kitsap Conference Center, got a new POC (Mary Gatch) and they are on board with the idea, but Kitsap County has not gone over to Phase 2 but waiting to see what happens with that. Sam has a meeting setup with Mary to talk about logistics and putting together an in-person event.



- Sam is leaving for MS earlier now, looks like he's leaving beginning of April. Dave Newkirk is on board for helping but would need someone to step up and be the in person lead for the actual event.
- By next board meeting: we will have a definite idea of if the event will be able to be in person.

JUNE 2021 | MEET THE CHIEFS (Allen Wycoff)

- MTC is evolving a little bit: Allen contacted Portland post President.
- Curtis the Portland post VP (newer to SAME) would like Seattle to lead it and Rob to be a co-chair on the committee.
- It will be a regional joint event.
- Alan needs to contact Mount Tahoma post on that and will get a kickoff meeting set up with the post presidents to clarify on communications/expectations and commitment of involvement during the planning meetings.
 - o Last year, due to communication issues, the other posts were not represented in the way they thought or wanted to be. Want to make sure we give them every opportunity to be involved how they want to be.
- How are we going to split the finances this time? Thirds? Or the way we used to do it: registrations for event funds go to the post the registrants belong to.
 - o At the Portland board meeting, Rob talked about splitting thirds.
 - o Decision: the board thinks that it would be fine to split thirds. (Seattle Post is the "oldest sibling" and since the other posts are smaller, it would be fairer to treat as peers. Also thought – what about registrants from outside the area? Where would their funds go?) But make sure that the planning and level of effort is put in evenly.
 - Next year Portland will take the lead for 2022.
- Annual Sponsors: how are we doing that for this meeting? As far as annual sponsorship goes, it is hard to do due to COVID. We do have sponsors, so we would need to give time to meet sponsorship level needs. We also have people who want to be sponsors.
 - o We kept our annual sponsorships because it was so large.
 - o Larry, Nick, Nancy, Manny and Caroline will meet to discuss sponsorships at another time.

AUGUST 2021 | GOLF TOURNAMENT (Mark Corcoran)

- Absent. No Update.

Fall 2021 | PROJECTS OF EXCELLENCE (John Hickey/Ralph Field)

- Absent.



- Caroline will get with John and Ralph (maybe Julie as well) to see if this is going to happen. We need to figure out if we want to move forward with this or combine with the Centennial Celebration.

Committee Updates

COMMUNICATIONS (Melissa Grasso)

- Absent.
- Melissa sent an email with the links to leadership series and second MTA.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (Scott Adamek)

- Three areas looking through what has happened with the post in the past and with national: First area is in Scott's comfort zone: Advocacy and liaison with professional organizations.
 - o Scott will help foster collaboration and information exchange, can be aware of other organization activities and they will be aware of ours. Thinking that the West Seattle bridge presentation would be a great event/presentation that the American Society of Civil Engineers will be interested in.
 - o Scott is in the process of setting up a meeting with one of the former presidents of the local ASCE chapter to collaborate.
- Caroline thinks we had the president/young member from ASCE present at the young leadership call.
- One more area that Caroline would like to focus on: all the typical Seattle corporations' veterans' programs or veteran hiring practices (Amazon, Boeing, Expedia, Salesforce).
- Scott can try to reach out to veteran's outreach contact. He can start engaging with those contacts.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (Chair TBD)

- Reminder: we still need a chair for this.

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY (Wendy Oresik)

- March is not a good time to have the sustainability forum in 2022. We have always competed with Alliance NW, there is also the Salish Sea Conference.
- Wendy looked at calendar and potential other months and is proposing May 2022. Works out with UW academic calendar.
- JETC is generally in May so would need to work around that.
- Not set on May just wants to throughout months that the group would be interested in having this forum. Looking for thoughts and feedback.
- Caroline thinks February or May.
- Mark agrees with second week in February.



ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CAMPS (Terry McCann)

- Notice last week from SAME national and camps are being proposed. Applications are due mid-March.
- Terry is putting together a flyer to send to Melissa. She will distribute with her typical mail.

FIELD TRIPS (Chair TBD)

- Reminder: we still need a chair for this.

KITSAP CHAPTER (LCDR Sam Lee, Manny Bautista)

- Only thing Sam is tracking right now is the Small Business Conference.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Stacie Anderson, CAPT Jed Boba)

- Had our first meeting last month, had 15 people and a bunch from San Diego calling in.
- Julie Erickson will lead the next event which is February 18th. Jed hopes to have return people coming. Julie will lead the Effective Communication discussion.
- Feedback: Caroline thought first leadership series was great. Could be for any age, lots of key takeaways. Went over why you don't ask the question "why" – takes you down rabbit holes.
 - o It is good to have more seasoned people on the call to get their reflection and how everyone has their own stories. Jed encourages everyone to show up.
 - o If anyone wants to give a talk to facilitate a discussion, let Jed & Stacie know. It is not all on you as the presenter.
- August for Senior Leadership – Jed is retiring this summer from the Coast Guard but may or may not have a lot of time.

MENTORING (Ginette Chin)

- Any opportunity for younger folks in this next leadership series?
 - o Ask them if they would like a mentor and we can help facilitate.
- Want to get a survey out to see who is interested in mentoring.
- Got together a draft and sent to Faith to get feedback from her. Will get a form from HDR to fill out and start getting people interested/matched up with a mentor.
- Manny suggestion:
 - o Get the fellows involved in the mentoring. As fellows, that is what they are there for. Owe national a report of what fellows are doing, so Manny would support having all fellows added to the report as possible mentors.
 - o Larry can help support Ginette and get the fellows involved.

MEMBERSHIP – RETENTION AND NEW (Scott Blount)

- No Update.



MEMBERSHIP – SUSTAINER FIRMS (Jim Shellooe)

- No Update.

MEMBERSHIP - YOUNG MEMBERS (TBD)

- No Update.

NOMINATIONS (Larry Toimil)

- Nominations will be open for the upcoming board and Larry would like to see ideas of who would be good to nominate.
 - o Two directors
 - o Second VP
 - o Young Member Chair
- Have some slots to fill and Larry will be reaching out to individual board members to get nominations.
- All three spots are going to end up with new boards and could possibly do the induction at Joint Meet the Chiefs. Orange County and LA just did that last week, had Mark Hanley read their charge and did it virtually. Tacoma Post does theirs on the calendar year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Wendy Oresik)

- Because we are having professional development activities online, how to go about distributing certificates?
- Once we have list of attendees, get the list and send out.
- Because it is online, should be able to get a list of those people who actually attended opposed to sending it to people who are registered.
- Caroline will call national to figure out how to get the certificates distributed.
- Wendy would then email over a blank certificate.

SCHOLARSHIPS (John Souza)

- We will get the scholarship opportunities out next week. In the process of getting documentation together for the website for next week. Also are working to update online applications.
- We are offering more scholarships this year. Will have \$32,000 of funding between high school and post member sponsored scholarships and another \$5,000 for PSE and SSF funded scholarships.
- The sponsors and individual who wanted to fund scholarship opportunities gave another \$20,000-\$25,000 of opportunities for college student applicants working towards engineering or science degree.
- John will get all detail out next week.



- Overall, we will have close to \$60,000 worth of scholarships for 2021 scholarship campaign. We will run an application period for 9-10 weeks that will wrap up mid-April. Then we will run interviews in May for selection.
- We are getting good support even though it is COVID times.
- All scholarships regardless of funds are all in play to the post, it is just a matter of some getting funded differently. Are open to all Seattle Post family/friends, etc. Some of the sponsored scholarships: May have to meet certain requirements for some of the scholarships. Company is funding it, so we let them have their say on how they want to structure them.
- Typically run online application period 8-10 weeks. Finalization date of getting all applications in: end of April.
- Suggestion: at each of our events coming up, make an announcement about scholarships.

SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE (SBS) (LCDR Sam Lee)

- No Update.

STEM / UW STUDENT CHAPTER (LT Bohdon Wowtschuk)

- College outreach interest sent out for \$500 first place award for a design innovation. If you have a senior design project already, you can apply for this competition.
- ASCE UW student chapter are interested in coordinating with us. Waiting for the concrete events that they have going on. Bo will reach back out again.
- Centennial coins: idea to give to some of the student chapter members. Portland voted for this at their board meeting.

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND STREAMER AWARDS (Terry McCann)

- Streamer submittal went in last week and SAME National acknowledged receipt. Good until next year.

VETERAN ASSISTANCE (Karl Himes)

- Absent. No Update.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Centennial Book: It is a done deal, on Nationals webpage. Looks at SAME last 100 years.
- Tom Nichols now located in FL.