

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call
Friday, July 23, 2021, at 12:00 P.M. EST**



The conference call/meeting began at 12:00 p.m. The following people were in attendance on the call:

Brianna Maljanian, CSCE President
Scott Nolan, CSCE President-Elect
Aaron Foster, CSCE Vice President
Richard Cohen, CSCE Secretary
George Gerard, CSCE Director I
Ben Cote, CSCE Director II
Robert Gomez, Past CSCE President
Danielle Spicer ASCE Region 1 Governor
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

Tom Loto, Water Resources Committee Chair
Ranjit Bhave, Chair of CT Chapter of the ASCE
Transportation & Development Institute
Katie Klose, Younger Members Group President
Jud Wible, Golf Outing Committee Chair
Alex Mora, Chair of CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural
Engineering Institute

1. 2021-2022 Officer Inductions

Danielle Spicer inducted Brianna Maljanian, George Gerard, Ben Cote, Scott Nolan, Aaron Foster and Rich Cohen as 2021-2022 Officers of the CSCE Executive Board. Clay Patterson and Hannah Rakowski will be inducted at a time at a later date. A couple of members of the Executive Board should attend that next induction.

2. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor

Danielle Spicer provided the following information to the Board:

- ASCE Region 1 is holding a virtual Assembly on September 24, 2021. The spring Assembly is planned to be held in-person in Connecticut.
- The President's & Governor's Forum will be held from September 29-October 1, 2021.
- The annual meeting will be virtual this year.
- In-person events hosted by sections of ASCE, like CSCE, should follow state guidelines regarding in-person events. ASCE will hopefully provide guidance related to in-person events involving multiple states to state sections in August 2021.
- ASCE has advised the Connecticut Younger Members Group (YMG) to keep planning the 2022 MRLC to be in-person. There is a deadline in September 2021 related to the hotel & venue contract for the 2022 MRLC in January 2022.

3. COVID-19 Pandemic & In-Person Events

The Board discussed holding in-person events in 2021-22. After reviewing the in-person event policies from the schools that have hosted CSCE meetings in the past, the Board decided to hold the rest of the monthly meetings this fall virtually and wait to determine how the monthly meetings in 2022 will be held. The golf outing will be held in-person this fall since it will be held outside and may offer boxed lunches instead of a buffet. Other professional organizations have held hybrid or virtual meetings recently.

4. ACE Awards at the Aqua Turf Club on September 9, 2021

The Board discussed the following topics related to the ACE Awards:

- Employers’ policies and other professional organizations plans for in-person events during the pandemic
- Masking & Outdoor Options - The policy of the Aqua Turf Club is that unvaccinated people are required to wear masks and the Club is not offering options for outdoor events at this time. The Southington Country Club has offered its outdoor pavilion as a meeting space to other groups. Amy Petrone will contact the Southington Country Club to see if it could be an outdoor option for CSCE’s ACE Awards.
- Flow of Events – Since both 2020 and 2021 awards will be presented at the same event, the Board discussed the evening’s timeline to accommodate both year’s award winners since there is a lot of ground to cover in one evening. To save time, project descriptions can be only 2-3 sentences long. Photos can be taken at the side of the room. With no keynote speaker, people in attendance could tend to be only award winners, Board members and those supporting the award winners. To spread awards out over the year, one idea offered was to distribute awards at different in-person dinner meetings in 2022. Another idea was that CSCE could only announce the 2020 award winners and hand out those awards at the end of the dinner.
- Deposit - Amy Petrone will reach out to the Aqua Turf Club to see if a deposit is needed for the ACE Awards event and if there is a fee if CSCE cancels within a month of the 9th of September.
- Survey - CSCE has conducted a membership survey related to the ACE Awards that closes on August 1st.

5. 2021-2022 CSCE Monthly Meetings

The Board discussed the schedule of monthly meetings in 2021-2022 and proposed the following dates/topics/co-sponsors and locations:

Dates	Topics	Co-Sponsors	Locations
September 22, 2021	Living Shoreline	Water Resources	VIRTUAL (UNH)
October 20, 2021	Ethics Presentation	Younger Members	VIRTUAL (Quinnipiac)
November 17, 2021		Construction Institute	VIRTUAL
December 15, 2021	TBD	Geo-Institute	VIRTUAL
January 26, 2022	CTDOT Bridge Design Manual? Other Topic?	SEI	UCONN
February 16, 2022		Legislative Affairs	CCSU
March 16, 2022	Walk Bridge Program	Fairfield County	Norwalk Inn
April 13, 2022		Government Engineers	USCGA
May 10, 2022		T&DI	VIRTUAL
May 24, 2022			Aqua Turf Club

The following items related to meeting topics & speakers were also discussed:

- A meeting topic could be an overview of revisions to DOT guidance like revisions made in 2019 to the Department of Transportation (DOT) Bridge Design Manual.

- October is Ethics month. As such, CSCE could offer an ethics-based presentation by an attorney who specializes in construction topics. Katie Klose can provide the name of a speaker who gave a presentation on a similar topic at a recent WTS meeting.
- In April, the YMG could sponsor or co-sponsor a presentation/panel related to transitioning students to becoming full ASCE members.
- A presentation topic could be rail plans by a speaker from the DOT.
- SLR Consulting could be available to speak on its Living Shoreline project at a meeting.

The Board discussed the postcard mailing promoting 2021-2022 Meetings/Events that occurs annually in August. People still find the postcards useful. CSCE could download the list of EITs and PEs in CT and mail postcards to them as well. Mailing to EITs could be a YMG initiative that could be supported with funding from ASCE. Aaron Foster and Scott Nolan could look into this Membership Committee initiative.

Finally, Brianna Maljanian proposed that the Board have its meetings via Microsoft Teams calls on the third Friday of every month from 12:00-1:00 p.m. The dates of the meetings in 2021 are August 20, September 17, October 22, and November 19. As 2022 approaches, the Board will decide if it will hold in-person Board meetings.

6. CSCE & ASCE Annual Events

The Board discussed the following annual events:

- September 24 - ASCE Region 1 Virtual Assembly
- September 24 – CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institutes’ Geotechnical Fall Seminar - Topic: TBD – Location: Sheraton, Rocky Hill - Brianna Maljanian will speak with Clay Patterson about this event being held in-person or virtually.
- September 30 – Golf Outing
- Spring 2022 - Geotechnical Spring Workshop – Date/Topic/Location: TBD
- TBD 2022 - CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute - The 2021 series offered webinars that were well done and worthwhile, but the attendance was lower than expected. Another event could be held in 2022.

7. CSCE Executive Board Activities

The Board discussed the following items:

- CSCE Operations Manual & Appendices Update – CSCE’s Operations Manual and Appendices were updated a few years ago. Since that time, CSCE established a Connecticut Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute. Those Chapter’s Bylaws need to be incorporated into CSCE’s Operations Manual and Appendices. Amy Petrone and Rich Cohen will work together on this update.
- Purchase of New Laptop for CSCE - CSCE will look into getting a new laptop with an insurance policy. George Gerard will identify a new laptop for CSCE to purchase.
- ASCE Distinguished Members – Brianna Maljanian will look into the process for identifying Distinguished Members.
- Report from President-Elect – Brianna Maljanian and Scott Nolan have spoken about this position’s responsibilities.
- Report from Vice President – Scott Nolan and Aaron Foster will coordinate about this position’s responsibilities.

- Report from Treasurer – Aaron Foster will work with Clay Patterson to get a CSCE debit card. The Treasurer will need to track expenses related to the debit card in CSCE’s Quicken account. The Treasurer provided balances of CSCE’s accounts. Aaron Foster recommended transferring \$35,000 to the CSCE Scholarship Fund. George Gerard made a motion to transfer \$35,000 to the CSCE Scholarship Fund from the Webster Bank account. Brianna Maljanian seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. George Gerard would like to explore the possibility of giving out a larger scholarship biannually. George Gerard and Aaron Foster will work together to develop ideas for scholarships. The past intent of the CSCE Scholarship Fund was to have scholarships paid with the interest from the Fund.
- Report from Secretary – Rich Cohen will learn more about this position from Clay Patterson.
- Report from Newsletter Editor – Brianna Maljanian needs to connect with Hannah Rakowski about the responsibilities of this position. Newsletters should be more of a regular occurrence.

8. Reports from Institute Chapters/Committees/YMG

The following reports were shared with the Board:

- CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute - The Chapter would like to have one more Board member.
- Water Resources Committee – Tom Loto met with a group of volunteers to talk about transitioning the Committee to become the CT Chapter of the ASCE Environmental & Water Resources Institute. A follow-up meeting needs to be held to move the process forward.
- Infrastructure Report Card Committee - The 2022 Infrastructure Report Card for Connecticut is estimated to be released in September 2022.
- Golf Outing Committee – The Outing is scheduled for September 30, 2021. The Planning meeting is scheduled for next Thursday. People are encouraged to attend the meeting and sponsor the event.
- Younger Members Group – To date, the YMG has raised \$24,715. The YMG is looking for 1 Platinum sponsor (\$5,000), 1 Gold sponsor (\$2,500) and more Silver and Bronze sponsors. The locations of the social and the technical sessions still need to be finalized. Upcoming events for the YMG include a PE Tell-All, volunteering at the Golf Outing, and volunteering at the ACE Awards. Board members should encourage their employers to sponsor the 2022 MRLC.

9. ACE Awards Application Review

Once ACE Awards applications are received, the Board will reach out to members to review the applications. The Board can also nominate people for the individual awards if no nominations are received.

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 20, 2021, via Microsoft Teams.