

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers
(CSCE) Board Virtual Meeting via Teams
Friday, August 16, 2024 - 12 p.m. Noon - Meeting Minutes**



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

Rich Cohen, 2024-25 CSCE President	Tom Wamsler, YMG President
Eric Hoyt, 2024-25 CSCE Vice President	Carolyn Foston, President of the Fairfield County Branch
Byungik Chang, 2024-2025 CSCE Treasurer	Sangyul Cho, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute
Jodi Constant, 2024-25 CSCE Secretary	Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute
Aaron Foster, 2024-25 CSCE Director I	Kim Fletcher, Chair of Student Chapters Committee
Scott Nolan, 2024-25 CSCE Director II	
Geoffrey Schwartz, ASCE Region 1 Governor	
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant	

1. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Geoffrey Schwartz shared the following information:

- He inducted the following 2024-25 CSCE Executive Board Officers - Rich Cohen (President), Eric Hoyt (Vice President), Byungik Chang (Treasurer), Jodi Greene (Secretary), Aaron Foster (Director I), and Scott Nolan (Director II). He still needs to induct Tyler Parker (President-Elect) and Danelle Morin (Newsletter Editor).
- ASCE is planning its Fall Assembly in Buffalo, NY, on September 27-28, 2024 – One to two people from CSCE should try to attend the Assembly either in-person or virtually. A full day of activities is scheduled for Friday and a half day is scheduled for Saturday. Aaron Foster attended Region 1's Spring 2024 assembly virtually.
- Roll out of IMAX movie Cities of the Future – This movie is being shown in theatres in Boston and Rhode Island. Rich Cohen reached out to private theaters and the CT Science Center. The private theatres were not interested in showing it and he hasn't heard back from the Science Center yet.
- If CSCE is interested in having ASCE representatives talk with students about ASCE, he and other Region 1 representatives would be interested in speaking with them.
- ASCE recently recognized 2 CSCE members with awards for 2024 - Byungik Chang received the ASCE Region 1 Faculty Advisor Award and Randy States received the ASCE Region 1 Practitioner Advisor Award. Congratulations!

2. Review/Approve CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes from June 21, 2024

Rich Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes from the CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes on June 21, 2024. Scott Nolan seconded the motion and it passed. Aaron Foster abstained. NOTE: No CSCE Board meeting was held on July 19, 2024, due to a lack of quorum.

3. CSCE Events

3.1 Upcoming Dinner Meetings:

- September 10 at UConn – The room has been reserved and the speakers/topic have been scheduled. Registration is open.
- October 15 at Three Rivers – The room reservation still needs to be finalized and the speaker/topic have been scheduled. Registration is not open yet.
- November 19 at Quinnipiac – The room has been reserved and the speakers/geotechnical topic still need to be scheduled. Registration is not open yet.
- January 29 at UHA – The room has been reserved and the speaker/structural topic still needs to be scheduled. Sangyul Cho is reaching out to speakers for this meeting. Registration is not open yet.

- February 11 at UNH – The room reservation still needs to be finalized and the speaker/topic have been scheduled. Registration is not open yet.
- March 12 at CCSU - The room has been reserved and the speaker/topic has been scheduled. Registration will open soon.
- March 25 at Fairfield County Branch - Two Roads Brewery - The room reservation still needs to be finalized and the speaker/topic still needs to be scheduled. A suggested speaker is John Antonucci (ConnDOT Dist.3 ADE) and he could give a presentation on the Norwalk bridge fire and emergency response. Registration is not open yet.
- April 16 at USCGA – The room has been reserved and the speaker/topic still needs to be finalized. Registration is not open yet.

3.2 Webinars

- December – CSCE would like to hold a webinar this month instead of a dinner meeting. Anna Bergeron from CTDOT could give a presentation on bike/pedestrian facilities at this webinar.
- Rich Cohen will reach out to potential speakers for webinars. Topics suggested at the June CSCE Planning meeting include Sustainability, Ethics, Multi-modal Transportation, Construction - United Precast / National Precast Concrete Association of America, Utility Infrastructure, History & Heritage/Covered bridges in CT.
- CSCE's Microsoft 365 subscription – This subscription expires in November 2024 and CSCE needs to renew it for many reasons, including to host webinars. Microsoft 365 Personal for 1 Person is \$69.99/year and Microsoft 365 Family for up to 6 people is \$99.99/year. Eric Hoyt will look into renewing or setting up a new subscription to Microsoft (including Teams) for CSCE.

4. Collaborations with Affiliated Organizations

- PWC– Tom Wamser met with representatives from Professional Women in Construction (PWC) this past week. They want to work with CSCE to reach out to all-girls schools and elementary schools to offer a field day featuring civil engineering activities geared towards kids.
- PWC would like to team up with CSCE on a credentialing virtual tell-all panel. Both groups would like to have more people who recently became Professional Engineers (PE) participate on the panel.
- COMTO teamed up with CSCE for a recent webinar – CSCE will check back with COMTO about future joint events.
- Construction Field Day – Scott Nolan made good connections at this event with representatives from Call Before You Dig (CBYD) and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) for future collaborations. He will coordinate with Tom Loto on a future event with CT AWWA. There wasn't a huge crowd at the Field Day because it was a very hot day, but he made connections with organizations at other booths and made a connection with a group that works with all the technical high schools in CT, which could be useful for future career day presentations/activity days at schools. Scott Nolan will reach out to that group soon.

5. Reports from CSCE Executive Board Members

President – Rich Cohen attended the Fairfield County Social on August 15, 2024.

Director I – Aaron Foster encouraged CSCE to have a representative attend the Fall Region 1 Assembly in Buffalo.

Treasurer – Eric Hoyt shared that CSCE's taxes are all set. He will work with Tyler Parker to update accounts and update/manage access to Webster Bank account. He will also meet with Byungik Chang in the next 2-4 weeks to share the Treasurer files with him.

Secretary – Jodi Constant is planning on going to the Yard Goats game on August 27 and has been encouraging others to attend. She will work with Rich Cohen on the reporting to ASCE that is due in November.

6. Reports from /Institute/Committee Chairs/Fairfield County Branch

- ASCE Structural Engineering Institute - CT Chapter - Sangyul Cho shared that all the speakers are scheduled and the abstracts have been submitted for the seminar on October 10, 2024. Six (6) PDHs will be offered. Registration will open soon. The Chapter is looking to offer scholarships in 2025 based on funding raised at seminar. Five Board members in SEI-CT will be volunteering at the seminar and would like a full waiver of the registration fees for them because Amy Petrone will be away for the seminar and the week leading up to it. CSCE currently offers a 20% discount on the registration fee for volunteer organizers (1 person) and 10% discount on the registration fee for registration table volunteers (2 people) at professional development events like the seminar. Sangyul Cho will send a waiver proposal to Amy Petrone and Rich Cohen and the CSCE Board will review it and vote on it at its next meeting on September 20, 2024.
- ASCE Transportation & Development Institute – CT Chapter – Ranjit Bhawe attended a Transportation & Development Institute conference in Atlanta in June 2024, where he met many new people. The Chapter is co-sponsoring the dinner meeting at UConn on September 10, 2024.
- Fairfield County Branch - Carolyn Foston shared that there was a good turnout with new faces for the Branch’s social on August 15. Some attendees expressed interest in the Branch-sponsored dinner meeting scheduled for March 25.
- History & Heritage Committee - Randy States will return as the chair of this committee for 2024-25.
- Membership Committee - Jodi Constant is encouraging co-workers to attend events. People can attend upcoming career fair days on behalf of their companies and promote CSCE membership and participation in its activities.
- Student Chapters Committee – Kim Fletcher shared that there will be a Committee meeting next week and that Student Chapters are still looking for Practitioner Advisors.
- Younger Member Group - President – Tom Wamser shared the following information about its upcoming activities:
 - 8/27 – Trip to a Yard Goats game – There are 40 tickets available. If you have trouble signing up, reach out to Mike Ciacciarella or Amy Petrone. People were encouraged to spread the word about the trip.
 - 9/3 – Resume Review at UNH
 - 9/11 - Tentative technical field trip to Aquarion – This will be free to attend and will feature a social afterwards. If this date doesn’t work out, the trip could also be held in late September.
 - 9/13-15 - Younger Member Leadership Symposium (YMLS) Alumni Summit in Houston, TX – Tom Wamser, Katie Hedberg-Klose and Ariana Antonucci will attend this event.
 - 9/21 – Tentative CT Forest and Parks Association Trail Workday in Middlefield – This would be a joint event tentatively with Engineers without Borders (EWB).
 - 10/29 – Tentative Date for Industry 101 at UConn – The YMG is all set for volunteers for this event.
 - Budget – The YMG Is looking for final approval of its budget totaling \$16,600 for 2024-25.

With no more business to discuss, Rich Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:09 p.m. It was seconded by Jodi Constant and it passed unanimously.