

Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers
(CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call via Teams
Friday, September 15, 2022, 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:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Scott Nolan, CSCE President | Byungik Chang, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute |
| Aaron Foster, CSCE President-Elect | Roy Merritt, CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee Chair |
| Rich Cohen, CSCE Vice President | Tom Loto, CSCE Water Resources Committee Chair |
| Tyler Parker, CSCE Treasurer | Landon Barlow, Chair of the CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute |
| Eric Hoyt, CSCE Secretary | Nathan Rossi, Golf Outing Committee Chair |
| Sam Turek, CSCE Newsletter Editor | Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant |
| Brianna Ritacco, CSCE Director I | |
| George Gerard, CSCE Director II | |

1. Report from ASCE Region 1 – The following information was discussed:

- ASCE Region 1 Fall Assembly - 9/23-9/24 in Rochester, NY – CSCE members can sign up for the Assembly using Eventbrite and reserve room on the hotel website. If one person from CSCE could attend in person, that would be great. More can attend virtually. An agenda will be sent out about a week before the Assembly. Scott Nolan will make a motion for CSCE to pay for someone to attend this event.
- President’s & Governors Forum in Reston, VA - 9/11-12/22 – On July, 20, 2022, Scott Nolan made the following motion via email: Approve travel and lodging costs for CSCE Board members and Past Presidents that wish to attend the 2022 Presidents and Governors Forum. Rich Cohen seconded the motion and Scott Nolan, Rich Cohen, Aaron Foster, Tyler Parker, and Brianna Ritacco voted in favor of the motion. So, the motion passed.

2. Review/Approve Minutes from CSCE Meeting on August 19, 2022

- Scott Nolan made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting/call on August 19, 2022. Rich Cohen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Monthly Dinner/Virtual Meetings - The Board discussed the following topics:

September 21, 2022 – In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Omni New Haven Hotel at Yale featuring a presentation by SLR Consulting on Restoring Rivers in New England through Dam Removal. The meeting co-sponsors are the CSCE Water Resources Committee and ASCE Student Chapter at UNH - This presentation was originally scheduled for October. People should spread the word about this meeting. Byungik Chang will ask the ASCE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor if more students could register and help at the registration table.

October 18, 2022 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Graduate Hotel at the University of Connecticut at Storrs. The meeting co-sponsors are the CT Chapter of Construction Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at the University of Connecticut at Storrs. The presentation and speaker have not been chosen yet. One possible speaker could be Arash Zaghi, who is a civil engineering professor at the University of Connecticut at Storrs. Billy Cunningham will look into finding a topic/speaker for this meeting. Brianna could also reach out to past presidents for potential speakers/topics.

November 16, 2022 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at Quinnipiac University featuring a presentation by Michael Culmo, P.E., from CHA Consulting on the Straddle Bent for the Charter Oak Bridge Approach Ramp. The meeting co-sponsors are the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at Quinnipiac University. Dinner choices are needed before registration can be opened.

December 6 - Virtual Lunch Meeting from 12-1:30 p.m. featuring a presentation by Matthew Rakowski, P.E., of RACE Coastal Engineering on the 700-Ton Marine Travel Lift Infrastructure in Bridgeport, CT. This meeting is sponsored by the CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute. Registration can open within the next couple of weeks using information from the 2022 ACE Award application to promote the meeting.

January 2023 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the 1877 Club at the University of Hartford featuring an update on the Infrastructure Report Card by the Report Card Authors and Roy Merritt, P.E., of H.W. Lochner. The meeting co-sponsors are the CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee and ASCE Student Chapter at University of Hartford. The date still needs to be finalized before registration can open.

February 15, 2023 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Constitution Room in Memorial Hall at CCSU featuring a presentation on the TPC Highlands by Emily Pysh, PMP, Connecticut Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Planning Sustainability and Resiliency Unit. The meeting co-sponsors are the CSCE Younger Members Group and ASCE Student Chapter at CCSU. Registration can open soon.

March 23, 2023 – In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Norwalk Inn, Norwalk, CT, featuring a presentation on the construction of 22M Gallon Tanks in Baltimore County by Dan McCarthy of Preload. The meeting sponsor is the Fairfield County Branch of CSCE. Thinking ahead, CSCE needs to bring an HDMI cable and projector to this venue.

April 18, 2023 – In-Person Dinner Meeting at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). The meeting co-sponsors are the CSCE Government Engineers Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the USCGA. The presentation and speaker have not been chosen yet, but a suggested topic is civil engineering in the military. Once a topic is selected, then registration could open.

May 17, 2023 - Virtual Lunch Meeting from 12-1:30 p.m. featuring a presentation by Patricia (McMohan) Houser, Ph.D., AICP, CCSU, on Saving the World, One Protected Bike Lane at a Time. The meeting sponsor is the CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute. This meeting registration could open once promotional material is received.

4. Annual Events - The Board discussed the following topics:

September 16 - CSCE/CT ITE Golf Outing - Eric Hoyt will volunteer at the outing tomorrow. More volunteers would be great, but enough volunteers have offered to help out at this point.

September 23 - First Annual Geo-Connecticut Geotechnical Conference - Amy Petrone will send PDH information for the conference to Rich Cohen for CSCE's PDH records.

September 27 - Report Card Release / Press Conference - 10:00 a.m. at Metro North, 333 Meadow St, Waterbury, CT – Roy Merritt has sent the bills related to the Report Card to the CSCE Board for payment approval. Senator Blumenthal and CT DOT Deputy Commissioner Mark Rolfe and Mayor O'Leary from Waterbury, CT, will be keynote speakers at the press conference. Scott Nolan will be MC for it. Scott Nolan, Roy Merritt and Aaron Foster will attend an ASCE media training next week. Billboards promoting the Report Card were approved by the CSCE Board.

5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1 President's Report (Scott Nolan)

- Status of CSCE Laptop from Brianna Ritacco to Scott Nolan- They will schedule a meeting soon.

- PDH Records Update - Scott Nolan will send information to Rich Cohen. Scott Nolan, Brianna Ritacco, Aaron Foster, and Rich Cohen can meet at another time to review the status of PDHs records for past events.

5.2 President-Elect's Report (Aaron Foster)

- ASCE Distinguished Members – Nominations for ASCE Distinguished Members are due on October 1, 2022. CSCE will not submit any nomination this year, but some past Benjamin Wright Award winners would be eligible for this honor.
- Aaron Foster went to ASCE President's & Governor's Forum this past weekend. It is a great achievement that Brianna Ritacco and Katie Hedberg-Klose helped to establish the CT DOT/ASCE Partner program. It could be a good recruiting tool for people/companies to join ASCE/CSCE since the Partner program employees can save money on ASCE memberships. He recommends others attend the ASCE President's & Governor's Forum in the future.
- ASCE has online QuickBooks available for sections. Aaron Foster will send information about accessing it to Tyler Parker for use with CSCE's financial records. ASCE will help sections with the paperwork needed for QuickBooks.

5.3 Report from Vice President (Rich Cohen) – Scott Nolan will contact Rich Cohen about site visits for EngiMentor videos.

5.4 Report from Treasurer (Tyler Parker)

- Balances from CSCE's accounts – There is approximately \$60,000 in its checking account and approximately \$34,000 in its money market account. Recent payments include \$35,000 to Jim Sime to deposit into CSCE's Scholarship Fund and an expense check to Amy Petrone. Other bills will be paid soon.
- New checks have been ordered recently for about \$40.
- ERYMC Reimbursements - ERYMC receipts have been provided for ERYMC payments.
- 2022 Scholarship Checks - Only 1 scholarship check hasn't been cashed yet. Amy Petrone will email the student.
- Names on Webster accounts – Tyler Parker will be updating the names on the accounts, so a person who is currently on the board is referenced on the accounts.
- For the year ending in September 2021, there was ~ \$30,000 surplus in CSCE's accounts.

5.5 Report from Secretary (Eric Hoyt)

- Annual Report Status – Eric Hoyt will have a draft annual report ready for the next Board meeting. Scott Nolan offered to review it.
- Activities related to Membership Committee – Eric Hoyt could try promoting the CT DOT/ASCE Partner program to companies with at least 4 employees.

5.6 Report from Newsletter Editor (Sam Turek)

- Next Newsletter Date – Sam Turek will get the newsletter out soon after this meeting and will include information about the Infrastructure Report Card. The newsletter could also include the billboard image that shows the Report Card release date.

5.7 Report from Director I (Brianna Ritacco)

- Past Presidents Dinner on 9/7/22 – Nineteen (19) Past Presidents were there and 16 were CSCE Presidents in the past 20 years. Two were presidents in the 1980s and the oldest was president in 1973. The evening's ice breaker turned into a longer conversation. People would like to get more involved with the students (could start in middle school) and could initiate an engineering competition for students with prizes. Past President Bob Gomez has reached out to people who have asked for career advice. People were interested in getting a representative on the state licensing commission. Past President Randy States managed the CSCE History & Heritage Committee in the past and he has information at his house that people could help review. The group thought people could brainstorm more historic landmarks in CT for ASCE to recognize and some were interested in meeting with the Board to talk about scholarships.

- CTDOT Partner Program - Katie Hedberg-Klose and Brianna Ritacco are coordinating a lunch and learn on 10/12/22 at CT DOT. They may also speak at the event in addition to Mark Rolfe and Rabih Barakat.

5.8 Report from Director II (George Gerard)

- Audit Committee - Status of looking at the expenses and scholarships that have been given out in the past – George Gerard talked about this with other past presidents at the meeting on 9/7/22.
- Status of ordering vertical banners - He showed an image of a 24"x80" banner at this meeting. A tabletop banner could be made as well.
- Payment for CSCE Teams license needs to be transferred to CSCE - He and Tyler Parker resolved this payment issue.

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

- Career Guidance Committee - Rich Cohen would be interested in hearing more about Past President Bob Gomez's interest in helping with this committee.
- CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute – Landon Barlow provided the following update:
 - We are 8 days away from the conference and people can still join the event.
 - Proceeds from the conference will go towards the scholarship fund.
 - The count is at about 100.
 - The Chapter may be interested in providing a geotechnical engineering-focused scholarship and getting more involved with the Scholarship Fund Committee.
 - The Chapter also coordinated the speaker for the virtual lunch meeting on December 6, 2022, and that will be Matthew Rakowski from RACE Coastal Engineering.
- History & Heritage Committee – Some historic landmarks in CT are Rocky River in New Milford, the Benjamin Wright Birthplace, and canals in Farmington.
- Structural Engineering Institute - CT Chapter - Byungik Chang and the CT Chapter will plan a seminar in October 2023. To increase student participation, the Chapter is trying to work with other universities in CT to initiate SEI-CT Student Chapters. Also, the terms of Board members are only 1 year.
- Water Resources Committee - Tom Loto is working on the Report Card and will sponsor the September dinner meeting.
- Website Committee – Director I – Brianna Ritacco met with Amy Petrone to review how to manage updates to the website. She will be going through the Operations Manual with another past president to identify areas to update.
- Younger Members Group – Volunteers are needed for the UConn Resume Review on 9/19/22 from 6-9 PM and there is a STEM Career Fair at UConn on Tuesday and Wednesday (after the resume review).

7. Open Discussion / Follow-up on Outstanding Items

PDH Renewal Info - CSCE needs to renew its PDH sponsor application with New York State in the coming months. CSCE was recently asked if it issues a PDH certificate for speakers in addition to meeting attendees? Scott Nolan will look into this.

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m. The next meeting will be via Microsoft Teams at 12:00 p.m. Noon on Friday, October 21, 2022.