

CSCE Bi-Weekly Conference Call Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 17, 2019

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

CSCE President Ben Cote	CSCE Fairfield County Branch President Ron Hill
CSCE President-Elect George Gerard	ASCE Region 1 Governor Danielle Spicer
CSCE Treasurer Scott Nolan	CSCE Younger Members Committee Chair Jodi Greene
CSCE Secretary Aaron Foster	CSCE Administrative Assistant Amy Petrone
CSCE Past President Dave Chapman	
CSCE Past President Chris Beaulieu	

The following items were discussed:

1. Approve/review Conference Call Meeting Minutes from CSCE Board Meeting from October 3, 2019

Ben Cote made a motion to approve the minutes. Dave Chapman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Upcoming Dinner Meetings

October 22 Dinner Meeting at UConn – The preparations for this meeting have been finalized.

November 12 Dinner Meeting at the University of Hartford – The meal choices still need to be finalized for this meeting. The room has been booked and the student chapter is prepared to assist at the registration table, provide student resumes and present an overview of recent activities. A board meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. in a separate room in the 1877 Club and Ben Cote will provide a zoom conference call login for those who cannot attend in person.

January 28 Dinner Meeting at the Yale Graduate Club – The meal choices, topic and speaker need to be finalized for this meeting.

February 11 Dinner Meeting at Quinnipiac University - The meal choices, topic and speaker need to be finalized for this meeting.

March 10 Dinner Meeting at Norwalk Inn – The room has been booked and the meal choices, topic, and speaker need to be finalized for this meeting. Ron Hill discussed different options for a topic including a presentation entitled, *How to Avoid Common Legal Pitfalls for Employers*, that would provide an overview of trends in employment law, harassment, and paid family leave in Connecticut and/or an ethics presentation that could provide 1 Professional Development Hour (PDH) to attendees. A speaker who gives these types of presentations proposes to charge \$1,500 for the presentation on trends, which would be good for managers and business owners, and not charge for the ethics presentation.

3. Possible Improvements to Dinner Meetings

- Offer half day or full day seminars instead of dinner meetings as has been done by the Boston Society of Civil Engineers Section (BSCES).
- Offer people the option of purchasing meals at all the dinner meetings for the year upfront. This could help increase attendance at dinner meetings and allow the usual dinner discount to be applied upfront. This item should be discussed at the Annual Planning Meeting.
- Offer webinars at lunchtime that provide PDHs to attendees.
- Ben Cote is meeting with Ellen Ornato from The Bolder Company on October 22, 2019, to discuss a future dinner presentation or networking input.
- George Gerard will coordinate purchasing 2' x 8' pull-up banners for CSCE

4. Region 1 Assembly in Connecticut

The dates of this event have changed to March 20-22, 2020. Aaron Foster will coordinate a presentation related to a local project that would provide attendees with 1 PDH.

5. Social Media/Outreach

Amy Petrone will reach out and connect with CSCE members via LinkedIn to promote CSCE events.

Frequency of emails sent to membership per week – The Board discussed the number of emails that CSCE sends out to members each week. It was determined that sending 1-2 emails per week is satisfactory.

Management of Younger Members Committee Facebook page – The Board discussed promoting CSCE dinner meetings and events like CAN-STRUCTION on this page. Three Younger Members Committee members manage the page. They should feel free to promote upcoming CSCE meetings and events on the page.

6. Younger Members Committee

Jodi Greene provided an update on the CAN-STRUCTION Competition. Other upcoming activities include providing a resume critique at the University of Hartford tentatively scheduled for October 30, 2019, and a mock interview session at the University of Connecticut tentatively scheduled for November 14, 2019.

No Practitioner advisor at USCGA – Amy Petrone will ask the ASCE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor Luis Garcia for suggestions for a practitioner advisor and a student contact at the USCGA.

Site Visit - The Committee would be interested in coordinating a site visit to a pre-cast fabricator.

Dream Big Relaunch – Amy Petrone will check to see if CSCE received a copy of the Dream Big DVD.

7. Geo-Institute

The Geo-Institute held a meeting/conference call October 11, 2019, to plan the April 2020 workshop. The Geo-Institute needs to assign other committee members to fixed activities (or appoint a fixed board). For the April 2020 workshop, Bob Bachus of Geosyntec has committed to speaking for 3 hours on various topics and Vern Schaefer of Iowa State can provide a half day seminar on lightweight fill. So, the workshop may be a “geo-mix” of topics.

The Geo-Institute is beginning to coordinate a “Geo-New England” conference with Brad Keelor of the Geo-Institute of ASCE and other Geo-Institute Chapters in New England.

To incorporate the Connecticut Valley Geo-Institute Bylaws with the CSCE Operations Manual and Appendices, Ben Cote will forward those Bylaws to Amy Petrone.

8. 2019 Golf Tournament

CSCE raised \$1,000 dollars for its scholarship fund with 42 golfers at the golf tournament on July 19, 2019. The total net profit was \$2,750 split among the three organizations that co-sponsored the tournament. The tournament involved about the same number of golfers as in past years. The intent for the 25th annual tournament (next year) is to increase attendance considerably. A suggestion for future tournaments was to have people play 9 holes of golf in the morning followed by a presentation that offered attendees 2-4 PDHs and call the event, *Fore-and-Four*.

9. CSCE apparel on Lands’ End

Region 1 has a business account on Lands’ End from which people can order clothing with the Region 1 logo on it. CSCE would like to offer the same option. Amy Petrone will look into setting up that option for CSCE.

The meeting adjourned.

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for noon on Thursday, October 31, 2019.