

Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers  
(CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call via Teams

Friday, October 21, 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  
Aaron Foster, CSCE President-Elect  
Rich Cohen, CSCE Vice President  
Tyler Parker, CSCE Treasurer  
Eric Hoyt, CSCE Secretary  
Sam Turek, CSCE Newsletter Editor  
George Gerard, CSCE Director II  
Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor

Byungik Chang, Chair of the CT Chapter of the  
ASCE Structural Engineering Institute  
Roy Merritt, CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee Chair  
Tom Loto, CSCE Water Resources Committee Chair  
Landon Barlow, Chair of the CT Valley Chapter of  
the ASCE Geo-Institute  
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

1. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Danielle Spicer shared the following information:

- Region 1 held its Fall Assembly in Rochester, NY in September 2022 – Unfortunately, no one from CSCE was able to attend the Assembly in-person or virtually.
- Next Assembly in Rowan University in NJ – This event will be held on March 31 and April 1, 2023 – Region 1 will have a hybrid option for those who can't travel to NJ. CSCE will try to have representatives at this Assembly. People may be able to carpool or share rides to and from the Assembly.
- January 20-21, 2023 - Multi Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) in Charlotte, NC – CSCE will try to have representation at this conference.

2. Review/Approve Minutes from CSCE Meeting on September 15, 2022

- Scott Nolan made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting/call on September 15, 2022. Rich Cohen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Monthly Dinner Meetings

October 18, 2022 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Graduate Hotel at the University of Connecticut at Storrs – This meeting went well, and the speaker gave a great presentation. CSCE should try to attract more people to attend its meetings. Unfortunately, this meeting was scheduled during a week when other organizations had conferences and meetings going on as well. CSCE tried to offer a virtual option at this meeting, but the Wi-Fi was slow and it was hard to connect with virtual attendees at the right time. In the future, people could be instructed to be in the virtual lobby by a certain time. Alternatively, CSCE could send the recorded presentation file to people who couldn't attend. CSCE could also invest in a microphone and a camera for the presenter to be able to produce a better virtual presentation for virtual attendees. CSCE Member Ben Cote has some recording equipment. CSCE could reach out to him for advice on equipment and videos.

November 16, 2022 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the Multipurpose Room, MNH-105 at Quinnipiac University – Registration is open for this dinner meeting. One promotional item sponsorship has been purchased for \$500 by GEODesign, Inc. CSCE needs to decide on a promotional item with this company's logo that can be ordered & distributed at this meeting. Amy Petrone suggested that CSCE could purchase something like a Yeti mug (Rambler 10 oz. Lowball).10 OZ LOWBALL) with the GEODesign logo and the initials, CSCE, on it. Scott Nolan and Amy Petrone will work together on choosing a promotional item for this meeting.

December 6 -12-1:30 p.m. - Virtual Lunch Meeting - Registration is open for this meeting.

January 17, 2023 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at the 1877 Club at the University of Hartford

February 15, 2023 - In-Person Dinner Meeting at CCSU

March 23, 2023 – In-Person Meeting at Norwalk Inn

April 18, 2023 – In-Person Meeting at the USCGA – CSCE is working with Led Klosky, Ph.D., P.E., Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, United States Military Academy West Point, to see if he can give a presentation at this meeting. It was decided that 1 NYS PDH will be offered at this meeting.

May 17, 2023 - Virtual Lunch Meeting

Discussion about Dinner Meeting Costs - At the meetings in September and October 2022, CSCE lost thousands of dollars for various reasons including the Omni Hotel was an expensive venue, costs associated with dinner meetings have increased because of the pandemic and the attendance at each meeting was on the low side. Corporate sponsorships can help reduce the costs of the dinner meetings. Lots of companies are hiring now. CSCE could market the sponsorships more to hiring managers at companies. Other organizations offer year-long sponsorships and individual sponsorships for dinner meetings, which could provide funding for the meetings.

#### 4. Annual/Recent Events

Recap of Golf Outing – This event raised about \$4,000 split between the CSCE and the CT ITE Scholarship Funds.

Recap of GEO-CT Conference – This event raised about \$13,000 for CSCE’s Scholarship Fund.

Infrastructure Report Card – The press conference for the Report Card went well.

YMG Resume Reviews – These events have been going well. In the past, \$15,000 was available per semester to clubs like the ASCE Student Chapter at UConn. CSCE could see if the Student Chapters can contribute funding to these types of events to cover the costs for food. Amy Petrone can ask the Student Chapters if the universities give funding to the Student Chapters.

#### 5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1 President’s Report - Scott Nolan provided the following information:

- He still needs to meet with Brianna Ritacco to get the old CSCE laptop.
- He will reach out to Ben Cote about video equipment to provide virtual options at CSCE meetings.
- Amy Petrone will check with ASCE about uploading permissions in ASCE Collaborate for Board members.
- He will check if CSCE gives out PDHs to speakers for their presentations at CSCE seminars and dinner meetings.

5.2 Report from Vice President - Rich Cohen provided the following information:

- He will be getting caught up on PDH information from the dinner meeting on October 18, 2022.

- Scott Nolan’s site visit that was going to be recorded for CSCE’s use has been postponed. He will be in touch with Rich Cohen when it is ready.

5.3 Report from Treasurer – Tyler Parker provided the following information:

- He sent a check for \$35,000 to the CSCE Scholarship fund.
- There is approximately \$7,000 in the checking account and \$5,000 in the savings account at Webster Bank. He moved \$10,000 from CSCE’s PayPal account to CSCE’s Webster account.
- Since his scholarship check hasn’t been cashed yet, Amy Petrone will call Jay Mendez about his scholarship check.
- ASCE has online access to QuickBooks that is available for state sections. Amy Petrone will ask ASCE about this online access.

5.4 Report from Secretary – Eric Hoyt provided the following information:

- He updated CSCE’s annual report. Four items still need to be answered, but it is substantially complete. He can have a meeting/call next week with Scott Nolan to review the outstanding items.

5.5 Report from Newsletter Editor – Sam Turek provided the following information:

- He aims to distribute the next CSCE newsletter by October 26, 2022. It will include the Infrastructure Report Card press conference, job listings, recent YMG resume reviews, and a CSCE President’s statement. The Newsletter Editor could also put together a message for the newsletter.

5.6 Report from Director I – Brianna Ritacco shared the following information with Scott Nolan prior to the meeting:

- CTDOT Partner Program – Lunch & Learn at CT DOT – This event was postponed until December 2022.
- Student Competition for MBTA Blue Line Extension Boston – She shared information about this competition with the Board via email prior to this meeting.

5.7 Report from Director II – George Gerard

- Banner Designs – The designs are finished. The estimated cost for banner designs is about \$100 for each set of banners. The cost to produce each 24” x 96” banner is about \$200 and the cost for 2 such banners including the \$100 design costs is about \$500. The cost for 2 tabletop banners is about \$160 plus \$100 in design costs. After a discussion about ordering the banners, Scott Nolan made a motion to approve \$800 to order two 24” x 96” banners and two tabletop banners. George Gerard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Over the upcoming winter, he will review CSCE’s expenses.

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

6.1 CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute – Landon Barlow shared the following information:

- The recent GEO-CT Conference was a success and sold out. The Chapter is planning on having an event in April 2023. Venue ideas for this event are the Aqua Turf Club and the Glastonbury Boathouse. Amy Petrone will ask the Aqua Turf Club if it has any rooms available on April 14 and April 21, 2023 for this event.
- The Chapter is hosting the virtual meeting in December. He will need to coordinate the details of the meeting with Amy Petrone and Scott Nolan.

6.2 CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute - Byungik Chang shared the following information:

- The Chapter is trying to work with other universities in CT to establish SEI-CT Student Chapters. The University of Connecticut already has one. The Chapter is waiting for responses from other universities.

6.3 Water Resources Committee - Tom Loto shared the following information:

- To increase attendance at events sponsored by this Committee, CSCE could reach out to other local groups focused on water and wastewater issues including the AWWA and NEWEA chapters in Connecticut about future collaborations. Amy Petrone will contact the AWWA and NEWEA chapters in Connecticut to gauge their interest in co-sponsoring or coordinating future events between the organizations.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.