



CSCE Bi-Weekly Conference Call Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 5:00-5:30 PM EST

The conference call/meeting began at 5:04 p.m. The following people attended the meeting:

The following people were in attendance on the call:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| CSCE President Ben Cote | CSCE Younger Members Committee President Jodi Greene |
| CSCE President-Elect George Gerard | CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee Chair Roy Merritt |
| CSCE Vice President Brianna Maljanian | CSCE Scholarship Fund Committee Chair Jim Sime |
| CSCE Treasurer Scott Nolan | CSCE Administrative Assistant Amy Petrone (via telephone) |
| CSCE Past President Chris Beaulieu | |

The following items were discussed:

1. Approve/Review Meeting Minutes from CSCE Board Meeting/Conference Call on October 31, 2019

After a review of the minutes, Ben Cote made motion to approve them. Chris Beaulieu seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Dinner Meetings & Events in 2020

January 28 - Dinner Meeting at the Yale Graduate Club – At this dinner meeting, David Jacobs will be the presenter and Jeff Benoit is managing the meal choices. Amy Petrone will contact Jeff Benoit to see if the meal choices have been selected yet.

February 11 - Dinner Meeting at Quinnipiac University – At this dinner meeting, the speakers will be Jenny Drescher and Ellen Feldman Ornato of The Bolder Company, who will attend the dinner meeting on November 12, 2019, as guests of CSCE. The topic of their presentation is *Emotional Intelligence* and the normal rate they charge for this 75-minute presentation is approximately \$1,500. A price proposal for this presentation will be submitted to CSCE for its review and approval.

March 10 - Dinner Meeting in at Norwalk Inn – The speaker and presentation for this dinner meeting still need to be finalized. Ron Hill is coordinating the topic/speaker and potential topics are *Legal Pitfalls for Employers*, which would be free and about 60 minutes long or *Harassment Prevention*

Training, which would cost \$1,500 for up to 50 people and is a 90-120 minute certified course that meets annual harassment training requirements by the State of Connecticut. CSCE prefers the free topic option.

April 17 - Annual CSCE Spring Geotechnical Workshop at the University of New Haven. The title of the workshop is *Geo-Medley: Lightweight Fill, Big Data, and Everything in Between*. The two speakers at the workshop will be Bob Bachus (3 hours) and Vernon Schaefer (4 hours). Ben Cote requested the speakers' presentations for the Professional Development Hours (PDH) application on November 5, 2019. The pricing and timing of the workshop will be the same as in the past and the venue has already been secured.

April 21 - Dinner Meeting at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (USCGA) – The speaker and presentation for this meeting still needs to be finalized. Luis Garcia has reserved the Officers Club for the meeting, but the meal still needs to be finalized. The tentative speaker is the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) Commissioner, who was going to be invited to speak by Rabih Barakat. Amy Petrone will contact Rabih Barakat to see if he has heard anything about the invitation.

May 19 - ACE Awards - Aqua Turf Club - The Glass Room has been booked for this event. The CSCE Board will review the 2019 ACE Award application after Thanksgiving to see if any updates need to be made to it for 2020. Amy Petrone will send out the 2019 ACE Award application to the Executive Board for review and comment.

Possible Future Meeting Location:

In response to a general email about a CSCE dinner meeting from Amy Petrone, Jerry Lukowski, who is an Army Engineer in Connecticut and works out of the Hartford Armory, suggested that a future CSCE event could be hosted at the Hartford Armory. The Armory could host a lunch or dinner at its Officers Club, which is located at 360 Broad Street in Hartford, CT, next to the Legislative Office Building and the Capitol. Reservations would need to be made a few months ahead. At the Officers Club, there is a full kitchen (catered onsite), a full bar, and space for 100-125 people at tables. Topics that could be covered at such a meeting include a briefing and tour of the Armory, military engineering units in the State of Connecticut and Military Construction (MILCON) in the State of Connecticut. After a discussion of this topic, it was decided that Ben Cote would contact Jerry Lukowski to ask about parking and availability of the site for a lunchtime presentation or a continuing education workshop. CSCE will need to also coordinate with downtown legislative activities that could come up in the future.

3. Region 1 Assembly in Connecticut March 20-22, 2020

Aaron Foster is working on identifying a presentation on a local project for 1 PDH at this Assembly.

4. Treasurer/Financial

Scott Nolan will meet with CSCE Past President Bob Gomez regarding CSCE's audit/federal tax filing on Friday, November 15, 2019.

5. Continuing Education Survey

Brianna Maljanian reported that 101 responses were received on Survey Monkey and she will forward the survey results to Ben Cote and Amy Petrone. One of the findings of the survey is that the respondents were almost evenly divided on whether Connecticut should require that engineers earn PDH's to maintain their Professional Engineer licenses (52% Yes and 46% No).

6. Younger Members Committee

Jodi Greene provided the following information about the latest activities of the Committee:

- November 14th Mock Interview Session at the University of Connecticut - 4 Younger Members are attending and about 10 students are planning on attending.
- Resume Review at the University of Hartford 2 weeks ago - 4 Younger Members attended and approximately 12 students attended.
- The Committee will promote the Region 1 Assembly to its members.
- The 2019 CAN-STRUCTION winner was announced today and is GM2 Associates. Nine entrants submitted photos and the event raised \$500 through entrance fees and many cans of food. GM2 Associates will pick the charity that will receive the cans.

7. Geo-Institute

Ben Cote provided the following information about the latest activities of the Geo-Institute:

- Fall Geotechnical Seminar - September 20 is the tentative date and the topic will be *Coastal Resiliency, Climate Change and Geotechnical Engineering*. Two speakers have tentatively committed to the seminar. Ben Cote is looking at the following venues for the seminar: Sheraton Hartford South (Rocky Hill), Marriott Hartford/Windsor Airport (Windsor), Red Lion Hotel (Cromwell), Courtyard Hartford Cromwell (Cromwell), and the Hilton Garden Inn Wallingford/Meriden (Wallingford).
- The Geo-Institute needs to find volunteers to be Vice Chair and Secretary, or a fixed board needs to be appointed.
- Ben Cote sent the Geo-Institute bylaws to Amy Petrone, who sent them to Brianna Maljanian for incorporation into CSCE's Operations Manual and Appendices.

8. Legislative Affairs Committee

Roy Merritt provided the following information about the latest activities of the Committee:

- Based on Billy Cunningham's recent email regarding Governor Lamont's CT 2030 Plan, Roy Merritt would like to submit an op-ed piece to the Hartford Courant.
- The Legislative Affairs Committee met earlier in November.
- Chris Zukowski of DOT is interested in speaking about I-84 project at a CSCE dinner meeting. Amy Petrone will check with Rabih Barakat again about having the DOT Commissioner speak at the monthly dinner meeting on April 21, 2020. If the DOT Commissioner cannot speak at that dinner meeting, Roy Merritt will invite Chris Zukowski to give a presentation on the I-84 project. CSCE would like to decide in the next week about the speaker at the April 21st dinner meeting.

9. Golf Outing

Judson Wible will be asked to call in on a future conference call meeting to discuss the 2020 golf outing.

10. Dinner Meeting Improvements

Becoming a New York State Education Department Approved Sponsor of Continuing Education for Engineers – Brianna Maljanian provided an update on CSCE's application to become such a sponsor. As part of the application, CSCE needs to provide a physical address. Since CSCE currently only uses a P.O Box for an address, the Board decided that CSCE would use WSP's physical address for the application.

Banners – George Gerard will work on procuring 2' x 8' pull-up banners and table-top banners for use at upcoming CSCE events.

11. CSCE apparel on Lands' End

As is done at ASCE Region 1, CSCE is looking to purchase apparel with CSCE's logo from Lands' End. Amy Petrone contacted Lands' End, set up an account and uploaded CSCE's logo to the account. Lands End will contact her when the account is ready for people to order apparel.

12. CSCE Annual Report due to ASCE by November 30

Aaron Foster is working on this report on behalf of CSCE.

13. Scholarship Fund Committee

Jim Sime provided a report about CSCE's Scholarship Fund. Looking out 4 months, there are currently no indicators for a recession. So, there is no change from last month's report. In response to recent market increases, the account was rebalanced. Scott Nolan reported that he anticipates transferring the previously approved \$35,000 amount to the Schwab account soon. Jim Sime will send a report on the Fund to Amy Petrone.

The meeting/conference call ended at 5:47 p.m. The next call/meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2019, at 12 noon.