

ACS-GHS Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2020

1. **Welcome/Introductions:**

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. over Zoom (Online) by Crystal Young

Attendees:

| Board Members: | Position | Active Volunteers: |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Young | Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Germack – Membership Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Friesen | Chair-Elect | <input type="checkbox"/> Amiee Modic – AACT Liason |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snigdha Chennamaneni | Past Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ramirez | Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Lewis | Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Smith Callahan | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David E. Thompson | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Singleton | Councilor | General Attendees: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mamie Moy | Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> Lynn Foster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Dennis | Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Hinkle | Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Burnley | Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunny Tang | Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Javoris Hollingsworth | Alt. Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Valerie Lafitte | Alt. Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kerry Spilker | Alt. Councilor; Community Affairs Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Botto | Alt. Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Malloy | Alt. Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.C. Kuo | Alt. Councilor | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Houston | Awards Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxie Allen | Education Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Needed for Quorum: | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quorum Met | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. **Adoption of October Meeting Minutes:** Crystal Young

Quorum met; October minutes adopted per vote.

September meeting minutes still outstanding.

3. **Committee Updates:**

I. Programming Committee: Dawn Friesen

- Younger Chemists Committee (YCC): Kevin Ramirez
YCC networking/games night held on October 21st. Four attendees, including Angela Wilson (now 2021 ACS President-Elect). Kevin has created a Steam account under the YCC email and purchased several JackBox Party Pack games, they are available to other board members for events if interested.
- Women Chemists Committee (WCC): Valerie Lafitte
No update.
- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC): Javoris Hollingsworth
Potential speakers identified, organizing more seminars, still confirming dates.
- Engineering Council of Houston Liaison (ECH): Larry Dennis
No update.
Paid out ECH dues (\$200) for 2020 for Science Fair and Internships.
From Snigdha: Science and Engineering Fair of Houston has moved to entirely online format this year. Deadlines for 2021 submissions and judging are on their website.
- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley
Dawn and Carolyn to get in touch regarding survey to senior chemists about activities of interest.
- Seminars & Summer Social: Dawn Friesen
Organizing seminars for 2021, including following up with NASA request from earlier in 2020.
- Other Programming
Virtual program planning/brainstorming event coming on November 19th to discuss events of interest for 2021.

II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

- Awards ceremony held virtually on Oct 24th, 40+ attendees. Went well, had good feedback from awards committee and attendees.
- Recording of event is up on GHS YouTube channel.
- Awards Committee final review meeting is set for December and Lisa is recruiting for next year's committee.
- Start thinking about nominees for Volunteer of the Year and ACS Fellows/other national awards for next year.

III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

Roxie discussing with Tai and Jerry re: doing Scholarship exam as part of Chemistry Olympiad.

Possibly giving option of at individual schools or online, but may have issues around test security if both in person/online tests are the same. Still considering options.

- Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth

No update. Still deciding whether program will be live or virtual for 2021, may be hybrid.

- Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang
- AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic
- High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: ??
- Middle School Liaison: ??
- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen Chen
- Student Affiliates: Kiresha Johnson
- Science Fairs: Valerie Lafitte

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

No update.

- Chemists Celebrate Earth Week & National Chemistry Week (CCEW & NCW): Kiresha Johnson and Kerry Spilker

No update.

NCW illustrated poetry contest closed October 25th, local section winners should have been submitted to ACS National by November 1st. Unknown if we had any submissions this year.

- Kids & Chemistry: Bob Botto
No update.
- Education Rainbow Challenge: Eme Abu
No update.
- Industry Relations: J.C. Kuo
Energy sector, especially oil and gas, still hurting very badly despite good stock market response to vaccine development news.

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

- PR Makeover application was received and approved, currently being reviewed.
- If anybody has any events or news, please let Laura know so she can include it in the newsletter.
- December newsletter will be held until after the Chemluminary award ceremony on December 9th so we can include an update if the GHS wins awards.
- E-blast going out this week as election and program brainstorming event reminder.

VI. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

- Kerry working on Goal 3 of GHS Strategic Plan, has held recent meetings to discuss (summary in October minutes).
- ACS held first virtual strategic planning retreat via Zoom. Successful event, used Mural software (<https://www.mural.co/>) as digital flipchart/whiteboard for collaboration.

VII. Membership: David Germack

No update.

VIII. Financial Advisory: Sunny Tang

No update.

4. **Other Business:**

GHS listed as finalist for 6 Chemluminaries, ceremony will be held online on December 9th. Winners will receive \$500 towards local activities for each award.

Election Feedback

- Comment from voter: “In the new year, it would be encouraging to see some suggestions/ opportunities for involvement for retired or out of the work-force chemists (years 65+). Some of us may have been lay-offs due to force-reduction at an age, where new job opportunities are difficult to find, but still would like to stay active in the scientific field.”
- 255 members (12%) have voted. Election ends in 6 days.
- Notification to National and GHS board once we have final results, then share with membership in December newsletter.

December Board Meeting

Discussion re: replacing usual social gathering with virtual/Zoom meeting? Overall feedback positive, will plan social event in place of formal board meeting (details TBD).

SWRM 2021

Lisa: SWRM to be held in Austin, TX, October 31 – November 3, 2021. Hoping for in-person, but looking at hybrid style so possible to pivot to virtual if necessary. GHS SWRM dues for 2019 are now up to date, and 2020 dues have been reduced by 50% because there was no in-person meeting. 2020 awards will be combined and presented at the 2021 meeting.

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| Meeting Adjourned At: | 7:00 p.m. |
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