



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Gulf Coast Chapter

## EXCOM Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 02/03/2022

**Members in Attendance:** Jeron Quincy; James Charo; Jason P. Kuntz

**Virtual Attendance:** Luke Albrecht, Jay Spivak, Danielle Maassen

**Visitors / Guests in Attendance:** Ron Sokol; Leslie McGaha; Mark Hernandez

**Absent:** Rex Anderson; Krystle Hodge; Chynell Hollis; Carrie Atkins;

**Meeting Called to Order: 9:05 AM**

## ACTIONS

### Secretary

- Review and approval of previous meeting minutes. Jason to send minutes to all EXCOM to review and approve. Secretary sent meeting minutes for November and December.
- Motion to approve previous Meeting Minutes for – all in favor, motion approved.
- Jeron – Rex has a secretary candidate over at TC Energy.
  - Jason to reach out to discuss roles / responsibilities.

### Section Updates

- EC Section – Still working on membership initiatives. Tash was out due to an audit in UK.
  - Report provided by Jeron.
  - EC Section continues to work on their membership initiatives.
  - EC asked when the next social would be; Jeron stated (@ GC Chapter) after the PDC.
  - Jeron encouraged the EC to get another social on the books and advertise it so people can get it on their calendars.
  - EC is working to move leadership (section) positions into committee leadership positions so as to conform to bi-laws.
- North Section
  - Report provided by Leslie
  - Did not have a January meeting; too many people out with covid to have Jan meeting.
  - Stated she did not feel the Christmas social was a big success.
  - For our February meeting we have partnered with Sam Houston University; attempting to start up a student section. We will meet at their Woodlands Campus. Lunch will be provided. We are trying to help them start up a student section.
    - Jim Shelton will present on Trenching and Excavation Fatalities and National Trench Safety will speak on Trenching and Excavation safety basics.
    - Currently they have less than 20 students in their section and expect around 5 students to make the trip.
- Gulf Coast Chapter
  - Report provided by Jeron
  - Holiday Social went over very well.
  - Everyone stated that they enjoyed the games and prizes.

## Common Interest Group Updates

- BISE – Jeron Reporting
  - Had a virtual event last month. That went very well.
- WISE – Jeron Reporting
  - Still looking for a chair.
- HSP – Mark Hernandez reporting
  - Working on finalizing speakers for the Spanish speaking track for PDC.
  - We have confirmed Michael Flynn from CDC, Jorge Gomez from OSHA and 2 more persons as well as a panel to discuss how to remove falls from OSHA's top 10.
  - Has reached out to CPWR, and they are working on translations as well as a fall stand down kit or packet in both English and Spanish. Kit: Presentation, Speakers Notes, Sign in Sheets, etc.
- Ron mentioned a website (Stop Construction Falls.com) there is a whole planning kit to use for each day of the week, with kits ready for use.
- Ron suggested putting in a link on our website as they have more resources available there, than on the OSHA website.

## Treasurer

- Account(s) Balance
  - All Section Accounts are above \$500.00 USD
  - All other accounts (Old Account, Main Checking, Savings and Pay Pal) are in good standing.
- Current Bank Situation
  - No issues to report
- Section budgets and access to funds.
  - No Issues to report
  - Sections are encouraged to solicit the EXCOM for Chapter funds if they have agendas or issues, they need funds for.
- SWAG items have been purchased for presenters at the PDC.
- Question: How do we go about securing items for guest speakers at our section's events?
  - There is an Online Store we can purchase from, but it will just say "ASSP" not ASSP Gulf Coast Chapter.
  - If someone needs something engraved or customized, please contact James, he has vendors established.

## Discussion Opportunity for Next Meeting

Jeron requested that the following be placed on the treasurer report minutes.

- We used to sponsor the Region 3 PDC because they were unable to support it. This is no longer the case.
  - Going forward we would like to look at discussing sponsorships for those who cannot make it to the PDC, etc..
  - Jeron and Luke have discussed and stated we will look to continue to spend on sponsorship / scholarships for those who may have issues with attending the event.
  - Possible sponsorship would include supplement of Travel Costs, Hotel, Meals, etc.  
Discussion: Maybe full travel sponsorships for some and perhaps just free admission for others.

## Communications

Krystal not on. Jeron asked Danielle for an update.

Danielle reporting ...

Krystal requested information for the newsletter, so if anyone has anything, please get it to me ASAP.

- Looking at doing something different with the newsletter this year, so if anyone has anything to add, please let her know. Danielle is looking to make it better and generate a buzz around it.
- Jeron suggested looking to HSP and Ron for inputs as well as information on member highlights.
- Ron had a suggestion to just begin repackaging the "relevant" information that we get from all the

different sources, like Cliff Notes.

Social Media – Jeron reported upon. We are still on hold here. Jason has been tied up, as well as Krystal. We are looking to get her some help here. We will be adding several folks to the committee to help share the workload. As we can all see, one person working on this is extremely difficult.

### **Member Services**

- Carrie could not attend. Jay reported.
- Jay stated that we were able to put our deposit down and we got the rooms we wanted.
- Jay spoke about PDC. Spanish Track is still a work in progress. The other tracks are fairly-full. Jeron stated that AIHA had their selections ready, per the last PDC meeting.
- Jeron – for the PDC committee – we need to get the speaker list established and communicated. We need people excited about the event. We only have 3 more months to generate a buzz around this.
- Jeron – we have submitted a request to have Brad Giles attend. We are still going thru the red tape to get this up and going. Having to work thru a bunch of red tape, so we can make this happen and then communicate this to the PDC attendees. We are pressuring society to make this happen so we can announce, but if not we need to line up a couple more heavy hitters.
- Jeron stated that Grey May stated he was working on getting the lady our in AZ who speaks about Generational Gaps.
- Jeron stated that the PDC budget has been approved and he also has a couple more sponsors for the event. He will provide an update at the next PDC team meeting on this.
  - If anyone needs details or would like to apply to be a speaker (we have about 26 people) we need them to go to the ASSP site, and sign up through the Professional Development link.
    - Jeron asked that those who expressed interest last year, but were not chosen, should be contacted about their interest for this year.

### **Programs**

- Jeron reporting for Rex.
- Jeron stated that Rex does have programs set up and he has pressured him to get that information (agendas) to communications so we can get them on the website and in the newsletters.
- We have speakers for the rest of the year.
- We are trying to keep these topics technical this year.

### **Student Liaison Update**

- Chynell was unable to make the meeting.
- Jeron reporting for Chynell – We have Sam Houston coming on ... as such .. we need to make sure that each chapter has faculty advisors, as well as back ups, so we have support for the students at these student chapters; i.e, Cindy leaving to go to Arkansas.

### **Government Affairs**

- Ron Sokol reporting
- Per our last meeting we were waiting on the SC to rule, and then they ruled right after our meeting was over. Things to pay attention to is that OSHA .. concerning Covid .. is actively enforcing the General Duty Clause; concerning COVID death(s) that have occurred in the workplace.
- John Cerna is the attorney challenging OSHA for attempting to fine an employer for covid related death, citing a recent John Hopkins Study ... which states that “Lock downs are completely in effective to protect people’s safety and health.”
  - Jeron – would OSHA issue citations for companies that hand out N95s without fit testing?
  - Ron – Big Picture. Continue to do what you are doing. Stay diligent and record those who are vacinated and who are not. OSHA has abandoned the emergency standard on Covid. Covid rates are trending down (positive).

### **President**

- **Section Leadership Structure – ASSP GC Bylaws**
  - Jeron appointed Ron Sokol to chair review committee, with advice / recommendations due for April Leadership Meeting. Voting on bi law changes in May.
    - Luke has offered to be on the committee with Ron and Jeron.
    - Jeron requested a vote to be taken. Vote was taken. Ron was approved.
      - Will have a follow up on progress at the next meeting.
      - Bi Law changes may only be voted on by the General Membership.
- **Section Support at General Chapter**
  - Last month Jeron explained the Bylaw requirements for sections and chapters.
  - Structure of sections are non-conforming with Bylaws, but we have an opportunity to take those leadership positions and move them into committee chairs.
  - We need to get back to the duties of sections per the Bylaws, which are to support the GC Chapter activities; as a whole.
- **House of Delegates and Governance**
  - We haven't heard anything new, or at least now what we have heard before. Be on the lookout for the upcoming caucus. Brad should be on the call.
  - What this really comes down to is a Legal issue with Illinois law. Have made changes for the advisory group committee to elect an advisor group leadership committee.
  - Long discussions around duties and responsibilities of the board vs. the advisory group / committee vs the operating committee.
    - Jeron – suggests everyone read the proposals again.

**Other**

- **Purpose and Expectations of Socials.**
  - Past Presidents Social - we are going to move the Gala effort we discussed back to 2023.
    - Too much to do and plan with all the flux of Covid.
  - We will move awards and honors to the PDC
  - We will do a social at the end of the PDC
  - We really need for the sections to send in names for awards and honors. Its wide open right now. We need to get in our selection for professional of the year.
- ExCom recommended that due to covid, we provide awards and recognition for the past 2 years.
- Jeron supports this and would like each Section and CIG's to nominate a Professional of the Year, Chapter Professional of the Year, Chairs Awards, Rookie of the Year, etc.
- Additionally, Jeron stated he would like to find those, who may not be participating in local events, but making big moves in the HSE field, and recognize them so we can bring them in back into being active with the Chapter and Sections / CIGs.

Motion to adjourn at 10:05 AM. Meeting adjourned.