



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Southwest Chapter

## **Southwest Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

### ***Executive Committee Meeting***

***Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 4:30 pm***

***Zoom meeting***

### **Attendance**

***Present:*** Ben Craig (President), Abby Holovach (1st VP), Jimmy Walker (Treasurer), Kelsey Griffith (Secretary), Madison Lopez (VP Member Services), Andy Blackmon (Delegate), Jay Gnadt (Delegate)

***Absent:*** Dusty Cotter (Past President), Vance Lee (Delegate), Sean Blakemore (Construction Section Liaison), Avery Fox (Student Services Liaison)

**Quorum announced by Abby Holovach and Call to Order at 4:34 PM.**

### **Old Business**

- October EC Meeting Minutes – Abby Holovach
  - Kelsey Griffith motioned to accept the minutes as written. Jimmy Walker seconded. No discussion. Motion carries.
- October Monthly Financial Report – Jimmy Walker
- November Monthly Financial Report – Jimmy Walker
- December Monthly Financial Report – Jimmy Walker
- January Monthly Financial Report - Jimmy Walker
  - Not a lot of activity in finances. Mostly dues, sponsor fees, and bank interest coming in; conference payments and bank fees going out.
  - Andy Blackmon motioned to accept the October, November, December, and January financial reports as written. Abby Holovach seconded. No discussion. Motion carries.

### **New Business**

- Potential People for Chapter Positions in 2022-2023 – Abby Holovach
  - Open Positions
    - President (Abby Holovach - confirmed)
    - VP - open
    - Treasurer (Jimmy Walker - confirmed)
    - Secretary (Kelsey Griffith - confirmed)
    - VP of Communication - open
    - VP of Member Services (Madison Lopez - confirmed)
    - VP of Professional Development - open
    - Student Section (Avery Fox - unconfirmed)
    - Delegate 1 - open



- Delegate 2 - open
- Delegate 3 (Andy Blackmon - confirmed)
- Past President (Ben Craig - confirmed)
- o Interested Volunteers:
  - Jeff Hays
    - Potential VP candidate
  - Donnie Chambliss
    - Previous chapter president - may be a good candidate for VP of Professional Development
  - DeMarcus Strange (INSURICA, Risk Management Services)
  - Shameka Lewis (HelloFresh, Safety Manager)
    - Potential VP of Professional Development candidate
- o Chapter job descriptions are in the chapter Google Drive
  - For delegate positions- Jay highly recommends reading through the ASSP bylaws to see the changes in that position
- o Abby will reach out to interested volunteers to gauge interest in different positions
- o Slate of officers will need to be decided fairly quickly- by March 15
- Quarterly Speaker Ideas – Abby Holovach
  - o May 2021
  - o Contact at Cintas; may want to be a sponsor or speaker
  - o May gauge interest at PDC in April
- Delegate Reports – Jay Gnadt/Andy Blackmon
  - o House of Delegates meeting changes
  - o Jay and Andy attended the town hall meeting for ASSP nationally and regionally. Nationally, there are two ballot items before the House of Delegates:
    - Sell the ASSP HQ office building to a high bidder (there is an offer that is more than what the building is worth)
      - In Jay's (and Andy's) opinion, they are in favor of this motion. With the pandemic, it doesn't make sense to have an office building for the ASSP HQ administrative duties.
    - Change the House of Delegates from a legislative body to an advising entity.
      - Apparently in an effort to be in compliance with Illinois state law and non-profit bodies between a Board of Directors and fiduciary responsibilities. Jay and Andy don't feel that this motion was explained very well.
      - Currently, financial decisions (like the sale of the ASSP HQ office building) have to go before the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates for voting, which slows down the process
        - o Doesn't seem to have been an issue in the past, but could be in the future



- Essentially, delegates are being asked to eliminate their own positions; seems to be some bad blood on the regional level due to this perception.
- Jay is in favor of voting in favor of both motions, mostly because the second motion feels like it will be forced upon ASSP. Andy is in favor of the first motion, and is tenuous on the second motion. One of the arguments for the second motion is to remain competitive with our peer groups (i.e., National Safety Council, Board of Certified Safety Professionals), especially when providing professional development conferences/CEUs.
- o Vote for these motions occurs soon; voting due by April 15.
- o Discussion:
  - First motion
    - Ben Craig: in favor; it's a no brainer.
  - Second motion
    - Ben Craig: still not clear on what they are asking; would this be good or bad?
    - Andy Blackmon: delegates would serve more an advisory role
    - Jay Gnad: chapters would need to update bylaws to reflect changes to delegate position
    - Jimmy Walker: would this mean we lose the ability to participate in the direction of ASSP? How do we communicate what the chapters need/what's acceptable to the chapters without participation and voting of the chapters?
    - Jay Gnad: for major issues (logo change, name change) would likely be put to a vote of the membership; other items (real estate transactions, etc.) would be put to a vote to the Board of Directors, who are held to a higher standard as fiduciaries of the membership
    - Kelsey Griffith: To piggyback on Jimmy's comment, it sounds like a lot of the communication will be rolling downhill- how will chapters offer feedback to HQ?
    - Jay Gnad: Advisory committee would replace the House of Delegates to offer feedback from the chapters to HQ. This change will likely occur due to compliance issues with Illinois state law.
- PDC Status – Abby Holovach
  - o Phone call tomorrow (March 3) at 4 pm with Greg May - most information will be saved for then
  - o One speaker has backed out, another is not getting back to Abby
  - o Trying to work on CEU application
- SPY Awards – Ben Craig
  - o Were not able to give out an award last year; want to give one out this year at the PDC
  - o Any nominations can be sent to Ben or Abby



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- o Criteria for SPY (Safety Professional of the Year) awards available on ASSP website- someone who has made a difference in the safety field
  - Ben will send out wording on the criteria
- o Chapter SPY winners are nominated for regional SPY awards; regional SPY awards are nominated for national SPY awards
- Other Discussion
  - o Ben Craig: discussed with some members about creating a Hispanic Safety Professionals Community (NOT a section)
    - Nicholas Cantu
    - Vanessa Galvan (president of Common Interest Group of Hispanic Safety Professionals and member in Bakersfield chapter)
    - Brenda (last name?)
  - Goal would be to have future line item/budget within the chapter for specialized events/speakers to network among Hispanic safety professionals and how to connect with Hispanic/Spanish-speaking workers
  - Interested in getting an event set up soon; potentially make an announcement at the PDC
  - Have HSP Liaison position serve on EC (may not be able to be a voting member based on bylaws)
- o Jimmy: submit any budget needs for next year

**Motion to Adjourn by Jay Gnadt. Seconded by Jimmy Walker. Meeting adjourned at 5:24 PM.**

*Respectfully Submitted:* Kelsey Griffith, Chapter Secretary