

**AIAA St. Louis Section  
Council Meeting Minutes  
6 May 2004**

**Attendees Needed for Quorum (11 of 22 needed):**

Gary White, Karen Copper, Mike Swartwout, Bob Dowgwillo, Larry Brase [p], Christopher Alexander, Fred Roos, Peter Cheng, Mark Holly, Dale Pitt.

Gary White called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

The members in attendance did not constitute the 11 necessary for a quorum.

**OLD BUSINESS**

• **Minutes from 8 April 2004 – Michael Swartwout**

The minutes were reviewed but could not be approved (no quorum). This prompted Larry to suggest that we revise our attendance/quorum rules (during a meeting in which we have a quorum, of course); perhaps those not in attendance can send along approval of the minutes and/or give proxy voting to someone who will attend?

• **Treasurer's Report – Bob Dowgwillo**

Bob reported \$2539.88 in checking, \$2549.92 in savings, and \$1000 in an interest-bearing CD.

• **Meeting updates**

- 15 April (MODOT Public Policy). Mark Holly favorably reviewed the evening's activities. In retrospect, it was recognized that 15 April was a bad evening for both professionals (last-minute tax filers) and students (taxing, last-minute preparation for exams).
- 20 April (Congressional Visits Day). Mark recounted the events and outlined the delegation and the agenda. The logistics were less favorable than in previous years, since Region V was split into different groups (forming a less-formidable presence). Mark is preparing follow-up actions with several of those he visited. One major challenge against funding aeronautics research right now is a very tight Federal budget given the war effort and NASA's new priorities. Mark was tasked with creating a summary for the next newsletter & the complete discussion for the end-of-year report.
- 24 April (Trivia Night). Thanks to Karen's appeal to the attendees' charitable sensibilities, we will end up netting about \$100. This, Karen points out, underscores a systemic Section problem: we have to make financial commitments for meetings & activities before we have firm attendance commitments, and we have been consistently overly-optimistic in making those commitments. She asks that the Council consider this problem in an upcoming meeting.
- 10 April (Paper airplane contest). As usual, it was very well-received. This year's Contest did not include lunch, which went unnoticed by anyone except Karen (who was simply grateful to have one less arrangement to arrange). Karen warns

that we are about to lose Ken to retirement in Florida; if we can recruit sufficient volunteers, Karen is confident that we can continue.

- 20 May (Awards program, Don Richardson). The arrangements are set: the awards have arrived, publicity is in the mail, tickets are out, and the e-mail announcement will come presently. The contract with the Marriott was hard-fought, involving a big jump in pricing and repeated re-adjusting of the contract; free parking begrudgingly allowed. (Lesson to the unwary: it may have been innocent negligence, but on several occasions, contract revision *N* restored undesirable clauses from revision *N-2* that had been removed/corrected in revision *N-1*.) A draft of the Honors & Awards booklet is out, awaiting our feedback. Larry outlined the pre-banquet activities involving the speaker and Boeing management. Make your reservations early, or you might not get a seat!
- Year-End Reports due by June 30. Copies of last year's reports can be distributed to those needing a template. All forms are available – and submit-able – online. Gary will take on Programs report, supported by Chris; Gary is also coordinating the overall process.
- Next year's Council Team: Karen has had no response to her e-mail requests for nominees. These elected Council positions are open: Secretary and Vice-Chair (though she has a lead). The Committee positions are filling up. John Mohr & Larry are returning for their second year as Advisors and Dave Riley has asked to be re-elected. It was mentioned on several occasions that attendance by Council members (at both Council meetings and Section meetings) has been rather spotty. Karen needs help.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Arrangements – Chris Alexander**

See above.

### **Attendance – Open**

No report.

### **Career Enhancement – Open**

### **Education – Mike Swartwout**

Mike is forming a discussion group in the hopes of answering this question: “Why should students join AIAA?” This is intended to be a first step towards answering the same question for professionals. Mark Holly has joined the group. On a tangentially-related note, Larry Boyer of Parks has asked that the Section subsidize their student chapter's expenses for the Region V student paper conference. After some head-scratching, those in attendance could not recall a specific past example of chapter subsidies; we have usually subsidized the conference costs itself (as was done this year). There was a significant wariness expressed among the Council that such a request would obligate us to subsidize every chapter in the St. Louis area.

**Historian – Fred Roos**

Fred provided a historically-accurate review of the AIAA usage of the terms “chapter” (student “branch” of AIAA) and “section” (professional “branch” of AIAA). As for the oft-lampooned awaiting of official word from AIAA regarding the St. Louis Aviation Historical Marker, Fred announced that he was still in waiting – until Larry spoke up to say that he was present when those responsible publicly stated that this will in fact happen in October.

**Honors & Awards – Peter Cheng**

The plaques for the awards banquet have arrived. The recipients have been contacted and their award letters are in the mail; Tom is to contact the science award recipients.

**Membership – Peter Cheng**

No report.

**Newsletter – Dave Morgan**

No report.

**Pilot Education – Jeff Larrick**

No report.

**Pre-College Outreach - Karen Copper**

Karen reported on the Incarnate Word Science Olympiad, which had 200 kids & their families in attendance, and 30 booths for science-related programs. She staffed the AIAA booth, which presented the “Bernoulli challenge”; it was very well-received (although left her a bit hypoxic by the end of the day) She also reported on the Art & Poetry contest, and had a very, very strong recommendation that we stop reading these minutes and find a way to see the one-man play, “Apollo to the Moon.” Finally, the Open House is tentatively slated for September, so we have time to plan and request Cat III funds.

**Programs – Open**

No report.

**Public Policy – Mark Holly**

See above.

**Publicity (Internal) - Carrie Kniker**

No report.

**Service Projects – Tom Mroczkowski**

No report.

**Strategic Planning – Larry Brase**

Larry attended the Region V student paper conference awards banquet; next year's student paper conference will be in Wichita. The next day was the RAC V telecon with another telecon planned for 30 June.

**Tech. Specialist / Mini Symposium – Dale Pitt**

Given the warm reception, Dale plans to make the Senior Design Fair a yearly event. For next year, his committee plans to develop a recognition ceremony for newly-ensconced Senior Tech Fellows, including a technical presentation by each Fellow. Plans are still in the works to offer a Web-based teleconference for Wright Flyer next Fall. And, when completed, he suggested a dinner meeting at Parks' new wind tunnel.

**Webmaster – John Donigan**

No report.

**Young Members – Open**

No report

**Young Professional Award - Dwayne Car**

No report.

**Advisory Board – Dave Riley, Dave Peters, John Mohr, Larry Brase**

No report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- The Regional Leadership Conference is 15-16 July (right after Joint Propulsion Conference) in Ft. Lauderdale; Karen encourages any first-time attendees (outside funding available). She also requested \$150 to cover the supplies for a development plan meeting.
- **Next Meeting is 3 June 2004 at 4:30 p.m.**  
The meet-me call number is 314/232-9568.

Gary White adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Swartwout  
Section Secretary