



## Minutes

### Mississauga Chapter Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 18, 2013  
6:30pm to 9:30pm

Peter's On Eglinton restaurant  
1035 Eglinton Ave. E., Mississauga  
Ontario, L4W 1K3

#### Board Members Present

Art Kirnichansky, P. Eng.  
Lisa MacCumber, P.Eng.  
Colin Moore, P. Eng.  
Brett Chmiel, P. Eng.  
Galal Abdelmessih, P. Eng.  
Katherine Diep, EIT  
Jeff Hujan, EIT  
Fawad Mehmud, EIT  
Phil Maka, P. Eng.  
Matthew Wong, P.Eng.  
Khaled El-Rahi, P. Eng.

#### Guests:

N/A

#### Regrets:

Jordan , EIT  
Jana Havard, P. Eng.  
Amr Kaoud, P. Eng.  
Rishi Kumar, P. Eng.  
Pappur Shankar, P. Eng.

#### 1. Call to Order

Art called the meeting to order.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Additional events proposed by Art and Phil are added to (8) – Other Business.

Motion: To approve the agenda for the meeting as amended

Moved by: Colin Moore

Seconded by: Phil Maka

Motion passed.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting

Motion: To approve the June meeting minutes as amended.

Moved by: Phil Maka

Seconded by: Khaled El-Rahi

Motion passed.



#### 4. Chair's Report

- Art invited Paul Acchione, President and Chair – OSPE, to attend PEO-Mississauga Chapter's September board meeting, however due to other engagement Paul was not able to attend. A special informal meeting with Paul Acchione will be on September 23th; board members are encouraged to come, but it is not mandatory. The main objective of this informal gathering is to explore opportunities and to establish common grounds for future joint events between OSPE and PEO-Mississauga; one possible way of collaboration between the two organizations is OSPE to provide speakers for PEO-Mississauga organized events. Galal has expressed concern over resources that may be required for such collaboration.
- Principal of Thomas L. Kennedy Secondary School approached Art regarding a prominent high school grade 12 student seeking (unpaid) engineering experience in an engineering company. Peel board of education will sponsor cost related to work place insurance the student may incur to the company. Art encouraged board members to keep an eye out for each opportunity for the student in their workplace, and the student's resume is available for consideration.
- Regarding the motion for CPCI – PEO Mississauga join event back in August 2013, Art thanked all board members for the valuable input and really appreciated that the discussion did not “get personal” and conducted professionally. A quick 5 to 10 minutes lesson-learned type of discussion was conducted. NOTE: This motion was deflated by one vote (8-No and 7-Yes) in August; Brampton Chapter's board voted “yes” on this motion and is going ahead to plan the join event with CPCI.
  - Art opened the discussion by re-stating his support for this motion: (a) it prompts PEO Mississauga, and (b) a good networking opportunity; he would like to vote yes on this motion, however as a chair, he can only casts a tie-breaker.
  - Fawad suggested to setup a committee to handle joint event in the future.
  - Lisa expressed concern on potential costs, both material and time, related to sending members to such conference – ticket price usually high (~\$800/900) and usually take place during work hours spanning multiple days.
  - Art intended to learn from Brampton Chapter's experience and reconsider this issue in the future. Art considers this kind of join events as “side business,” which at most once or twice a year. The level of commitment to this kind of event can be as little as sending a delegate there for a few minutes to hand out brochures or business cards etc.
  - Lisa mentioned that organizations like CPCI is basically a lobbying group – which most of the board members presented agreed.
  - Galal questioned whether these kinds of join events align with the true purpose/objective of a PEO local chapter, like PEO-Mississauga, and we should be focus on the purpose/objective of the chapter.
  - Phil raised the question regarding potential liability due to insurance related issues. Art responded with Matthew Ng's comment, which organizations like CPCI is the organizer of the event and hence responsible for liabilities such as insurance.
  - Jeff raised the question why Mississauga and Brampton Chapter is “chosen” for this event. Art responded that this is purely due to geographical consideration since the event will take place in the North end of Mississauga.
  - Lisa questioned where to draw the “line” to separate which organization is related/beneficial to our profession and which is not. Art mentioned past join events such as the one with PMI-Lakeshore a few years back, and postulated that if our chapter is involved in planning/organizing the event then the event



- is a joint event, otherwise we are just promoting the event. Khaled concurred with this idea and emphasis on the level of control we should have on such joint events and make sure we are actually organizing; such events should be beneficial to our chapter and members (e.g. TD bank).
- The closing of this discussion restated that we should learn from Brampton Chapter and try to do one joint event this year.
- Art and Amr will attend the West Central Congress (WCC) on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and discuss the following issues with WCC.
    - What is the current status of the Bridge Busting Machine (Khaled)
    - Clarify with PEO on responsibility/insurance liability for joint events (Phil)
    - PEO website missing content after recent update. Difficult to find information (Lisa/Phil)
    - Budget 2014
  - Chapter Leadership Conference (CLC) / OSPE Award Gala will take place on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013. Art is giving up his “ticket” for the event since he has been there before and recognized that this is a good learning opportunities for board members who have not been CLC before. A mini lottery took place and Jeff won the ticket to CLC on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Update on Town Hall on Transportation planned for Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Art, Lisa and Phil have been working over the summer on organizing this town hall and approached Glen Murray, Minister of Transportation, for attending the town hall; however due to a series of unfortunate events over the last few weeks he will not be available until early next year. Currently we are looking for six panelists (i.e. Metrolinks Chairman) and a MC.

Motion: To accept the Chair’s Report as presented.  
Moved by: Colin Moore  
Seconded by: Fawad Mehmud  
Motion passed.

### **5. Treasurer’s Report**

Art went through the main items of the reports and the balance at the bank was \$19,547.

Motion: To approve the treasurer’s report as presented.  
Moved by: Brett Chmiel  
Seconded by: Galal Abdelmessih  
Motion passed.

### **6. Communication Committee Report**

- Minor website update during the summer, now included an event calendar.
- Art reported that 28 members have responded to our “save a tree” message from last newsletter, and will need to work out a plan to update their newsletter delivery preference from PEO.

### **7. Award & Nominations Committee Report**

- No report is available before the meeting.

### **8. License Presentation Ceremony**

- Brett mentioned an upcoming event, Engineers as Manager Part 2, is preliminary planned on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, which accidentally is on the same date



as CLC. No updated budget was presented. Art suggest moving the date to early January/February 2014.

- Fall License Presentation is planned on Nov 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at Credit Valley Golf and Country Club. Pappur is looking for keynote speaker and Brett is waiting for the license recipient list from PEO. Art will start to invite speakers from PEO to attend. Our new volunteer, Juwairia Obaid, has agreed to take a major role in organizing this license presentation ceremony.
- Last license presentation's **net cost to the chapter** was ~\$160.00.

#### **9. Women In Engineering Committee Report**

- About 9 people attended the Networking Event at Benares Historic House event back in June 23<sup>th</sup> 2013.
- Currently planning for a speaker event in the fall. Colin suggested Nancy Hills for speaker. Annette Bergeron, PEO Chair, was mentioned as a potential speaker also.
- Art recommended the committee to try some events that will prompt WIE.

#### **10. Education Committee Report**

- Mathletics will take place on Nov 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Tomken School, for maximum of 120 students (60 for each level).
- Faward is going to approach each school to prompt this year's event.
- Khalid suggested Faward to get in touch with Tory Pontes, Peel board directory of education, to properly prompt this event.
- Jeff mentioned a Mathematics teacher is willing to assist us to come up with new questions for this year's competition.
- Bridge Building Competition 2014 is planned on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **11. Environment Committee Report**

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour (Oakville Southwest WWTP) took place on June 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 received very position feedback.
- Planning for another tour event in October for the new recycling facility for construction materials at Jane/407 area.

#### **12. EIT Committee Report**

- 6 EIT committee volunteers have been meeting 3 to 4 times a week to come up with an event for potential employers and EITs, with focus on (a) educating EITs on what employers are looking for and what programs are available to them, and (b) what EIT is about and what value they can add to potential employers. Date is to be determined. This event will be planned and executed by volunteers alone.
- Planning for a speaker event with Mohinder Grover in October.
- Planning for a workshop with Emily from PEO with focus on helping EIT. Art will follow up with her in the coming days.

#### **13. GLP Committee Report**

- Rishi attended the GLP budget breakfast on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013. A follow up meeting took place on the same date in the afternoon at Burnhamthorpe Library.
- Khalid and Pappur attended the East and West Central Congress that is co-chaired by PEO Mississauga Chapter.
- Khalid attended a Masquerade ball on August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 hosted by Liberal MPP Dipika Damerla (Mississauga East-Cookville).
- A half date event, "Engineers as Politician", is planned for Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 2013 at the Coptic Center; Howard Brown, Jeannette Chau, Art, Amr and Khalid are organizing this event. This event will be 100% funded by PEO as a special event. Ron Starr and two other VIP are willing to attend, and we are looking for 3 more VIPs.



- ~230 people attended our Annual Picnics on July 6<sup>th</sup> 2013. Art declared it is the biggest picnic we have organized yet.
- Scholarship committee, included Pappur, Art, Amr and Khalid, screened 6 engineer high school candidates for scholarship and selected 4.

#### **14. Mentoring Committee Report**

- 80 people registered and 30 mentor/mentee pairs are formed – they worked well together and no problems reported.
- Results will be available at the appreciation dinner.

#### **15. Newsletter**

- Newsletter materials still came in last minute.
- Due to the upcoming AGM, next newsletter cannot be late.
- Information (i.e. subject, speaker names etc.) for the upcoming events this fall needed by Nov.
- Need “stronger” newsletter material for next year. Phil suggested to form a team to come up with good content, rather than recycling old event info.

#### **16. Other Business**

- Phil proposed a speaker event on Hanlan Water Project in Nov, and he has been in touch with some key project member already. Due to all other events planned for Nov already, Art suggested to move this event to early December. Khalid mentioned that Jannette may be another key speaker on this topic; Jeff also recommends the Ice Rink instead of the library for this event due lower food cost. Lisa suggested to use the existing budget from the Environment committee to organize this event. Estimated cost for this event is ~\$300 to \$500. This will be discussed further in the October board meeting.
- Art was approached by a few potential speakers from the Kitchener Startup community event he attended. Among the more interesting topics, Art recommended the “Workspace Relationship and the Reptilian Brain”. Another interesting topic is about nano technologies. Art is planning to have a speaker event on one of these topics, with estimated cost ~\$300.00. Art will send board members the list of topics he has received and the selection process will be followed.

#### **17. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Collin Moore

Next meeting scheduled to be on Wednesday Oct 16th.