



Minutes of Executive Meeting of
Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society
Virtual Meeting on Zoom
Chair Eric Cotton, presiding
February 15, 2021 6 p.m.

Present: Fasil Abebe, Rob Clapper, Eric Cotton, Merle Eiss, Kelly Elkins, George Farrant, Louise Hellwig, Aaliyah Khan, Jan Kolakowski, Therese Ku, Lee Lefkowitz, Pumtiwitt McCarthy, Sara Narayan, Rose Pesce-Rodriguez, Beatrice Salazar, Alexander Samokhvalov, Jim Saunders, Angela Sherman, Stephanie Watson, Therese Yu, Sarah Zimmerman

Eric called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting of Nov. 19, 2020 were approved.

Lee gave the Treasurer's Report.

It was decided that members are permitted to use Section funds appropriately for mailings (UPS, USPS, special delivery, etc.) associated with their committee work; we do not need a special motion for this.

Kelly and Sara reported the Womens Chemist Committee has organized a Zoom presentation by Dr. Birthe Kjellerup of the University of Maryland Engineering school on *Wastewater testing tracing of COVID-19* for 6 p.m. on Weds. Feb. 24. Sarah will send out a Constant Contact about this presentation.

Pumtiwitt will take care of our Social Media.

Sarah wants help with Constant Contact and our website. Eric volunteered, and Kelly will try to recruit some new colleagues.

Sara reported that she received a scam e-mail supposedly from Jim, asking for gift cards. There was discussion about whether our e-mail addresses should be removed from the Chesapeake Chemist. It was concluded that this would not help because our e-mails are available from the national ACS.

Angela, chair of our Maryland Chemist Award, would like to pass that position to someone else. Beatrice expressed interest. The difficulty in finding candidates was discussed, and it was noted that it is not necessary to have an awardee every year.

George reported on plans for the Student Award meeting, 2 p.m. on April 11. It will be a Zoom meeting, and Lee Blaney of UMBC is the speaker. George would like each awardee to give a 30 sec statement about how they got interested in chemistry or what their future plans are,

when they receive their award. Each one will be mailed a certificate, a portfolio large enough to carry a laptop, and a travel cup. Beatrice would like photos of the awardees.

Merle reported the difficulty in mailing out awards to the 50-60 year members.

Sarah reported on the Leadership Training "weekend", put on by the national ACS, which she attended. (Aaliyah also attended.) Actually it was a daylong weekend with shorter meetings scheduled throughout the year. The idea of Break Out Sessions during Zoom meetings was promoted. One local section described a Beer Tasting Event in which a selection of beers was delivered to each attendee so each person could "taste along" during the meeting.

The question was raised as to whether our By-Laws allow electronic ballots in voting. That will be investigated and the By-Laws will be amended if necessary.

Rose described her outreach events at libraries. Aaliyah needs an environmental chemist for a meeting being organized at UMBC. Kelly had some suggestions for her.

Beatrice reported that she attended the virtual Orientation Meeting for New Councilors and has set up a Councilor's Corner in the Chesapeake Chemist as a place to report on their activities. She reported on her supervision of the local events of the National Chemistry Olympiad. For CCED she would like to make a webinar of the annual tour of Montebello Water Filtration Plant for high school students. As Editor of the Chesapeake Chemist Newsletter she would like members to submit their articles by the 25th of each month for publication the following month. She is soliciting articles on books, the chemical literature, and memories of people's pandemic experiences, as well as members' own articles.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Hellwig, Secretary