



Minutes

Northern California Chapter of EERI Board of Directors Meeting

March 22, 2007



Attending

President	Ivan Wong
President Elect	Arrietta Chakos
Secretary/Treasurer	Kate Stillwell
Outgoing Director	Ed Matsuda
Incoming Director	Stu Nishenko
Director	Catherine Westphall
Director	Alan Kropp
Director	Chris Rojahn
Director	John Osteraas

Absent

Director	Joan MacQuarrie
----------	-----------------

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 4:59 pm.

2. Review of the Agenda

Additions were provided by Catherine and incorporated.

3. Consent Items

3a. Minutes from the January Meeting

Comments were provided and incorporated.

Motion to approve February minutes: Proposed by Ed, seconded by Catherine, Motion approved.

Action: Kate to finalize minutes and post to website

4. Short Reports:

4a. Upcoming Events:

Next Chapter Meeting (April):

Date: Propose week of April 23, tentative Wednesday 4/25

Other potential ideas for meetings:

- Laurie Johnson on New Orleans and Katrina;
- Jack Moehle on Non-Ductile Concrete moment frames or Performance-Based design of tall residential buildings;
- Lucy Jones or Ken Hudnut on magnitude 7.9 scenario study in southern California;
- Marguerite Bello and Ray Lui on the outcome of the SF soft story inventory (good future talk).
- Jon Heintz on ATC issues such as vertical evacuation guidelines for tsunamis or system-specific R-factors, or ATC-58 (next generation of performance-based guidelines)
- Henry Gardner, exec. Director of ABAG: disaster readiness for communities, interacting with mayors and city managers. Strong public speaker

Action: Ivan to follow-up with Lucy and Lori for April and May, respectively.
Motion to fund Lori's travel expenses: Proposed by Ivan, motion approved

Discussion: perhaps hold a joint meeting with SEAONC? On the outcome of the SF soft story inventory?

Potential venues in SF:

- Bechtel (once a year with food),
- URS conference room,
- SF public library (once a year, no alcohol)
- Federal Building basement
- USGS in Menlo Park
- Exponent in Menlo Park

Action: Kate to discuss with SEAONC program chair (Hamid Fatedi) for a joint meeting

Action: Ivan to contact David Bonowitz regarding Federal Building as a venue.

4b.1. Budget News:

Our 2007 income to date is \$5400 from 217 members, compared to \$6400 for 234 members for 2006. Our 2007 expenses to date is \$655, which has been for meeting expenses and SEAONC support ("hats"). Our current "money in the bank" is \$12,500 which we can allocate to worthy special projects.

New Madrid chapter received \$5,000 from National's special projects fund to help create a scenario.

Action: Kate to continue monitor budget including updated membership dues.

Action: Ivan to investigate membership option for subscribing members.

4b.2: Membership:

Ivan passed out a list of members of EERI-national who are not NC chapter members. A few errors were identified. Because the list had numerous errors, we will review an updated list at the next meeting, and then make calls for membership renewal.

Ivan passed out a list of 2007 EERI-NC members.

Discussion with Susan Tubessing: Is it possible to put a chapter checkbox to the form for subscribing members? Yes.

Is it possible to lump the dues together for national and chapters? Maybe. The national board would have to review this topic. EERI-national has also experienced a decline in membership, primarily due to retirement, although there has been an increase in the number of young professionals.

Action: Ivan to follow-up on whether subscribing members are included on the NC member list.

Action: Ivan to verify with EERI headquarters that the chapter dues are being allocated correctly.

Action: Ivan to follow-up with how to include the chapter on the dues form for subscribing members.

Action: Ivan to follow-up with Susan on whether to continue with two separate fees.

4c. 2007 Award for Innovation and Exemplary Practice

Who would like to be on the committee to evaluate this year's nominations? Arrietta = chair, also Stu, Kate, and possibly Woody Savage. This year's award will be presented in the fall, near the time of elections.

Action: Arrietta to contact Woody Savage to confirm his participation.

4d. Newsletter

Ivan requested a little more response from board members when he requests newsletter articles. Should we should have a board member as an editor? Article length should be one long paragraph.

Action: Ivan to follow-up on the letter in support of the Fremont ordinance

Action: Catherine to publicize our support of the Fremont ordinance.

Action: Chris to contribute two paragraphs, one on the Seismic Safety Commission and one on ATC's activities.

4e. Website

Website effort will be an overhaul, and then ongoing maintenance.

Action: Alan will take a stab at this effort.

4f. Request for Soft Story Support from National

National has requested a document that chronicles our process for the soft-story inventory.

Marguerite is writing this and won't take any money. We will request money for graphics and printing.

Would the board like to continue pursuing a request for PDA's?

Technology becomes outdated quickly. Board agreed to drop the issue.

4g. Status of Oakland Soft Story

Oakland is having problems because the staff member who had been working on this left. There has not been enough. We need to wait another month. They will go forward with single-family retrofit standards in April, with a rebate.

4h. Publicity / Events –

We got no publicity for our soft-story effort in San Francisco due to potential liability issues. Other cities don't know the scope and benefit of what we did.

Let's make direct invitations to the political executives such as city managers, for attendance at the dinner meeting when Ray and Marguerite speak.

4i. Follow-up with SEAONC –

Kate reported that the SEAONC subcommittee developing a Buildings Ratings System met on March 6 to discuss objectives and audience. The discussion focused on providing objective information that can be tailored to the needs of those seeking it, rather than expert opinions or engineering judgements. The threshold of compliance would be adjustable depending on the perspective of the user. In Phase 1 over the next 3 months, the committee will continue developing its vision. Phase 2, detailing the ratings system, will occur over 2007-2008.

Ed reported that communicating risk is a major issue. A rating system that contains words such as "collapse hazard" induces public fear.

Credit ratings and credit scores are very intrusive and contain a great deal of information but are pervasive.

Action: Kate to continue updating the board.

Action: All board members to inform Kate of any other ideas or "big ticket" items that they think the committee should consider.

4j. Other Action Items from February Meeting –

4k. Other Reports –

Catherine passed out nomination forms for ASCE awards for Excellence in Journalism.

5. Discussion Items:

5a. Hayward Fault Scenario Discussion:

Last week the committee had a working session on the scenario to map out the effort. Rather than developing a static, standalone item, we listed activities that we would like to emerge from the effort.

We developed a "map," or organization chart, of an advisory board consisting of elected officials and prominent industry participants, as well as working groups on various topics.

We intend to launch the effort with a targeted event to draw media attention and publicize the defined outcomes for our effort.

- Social consequences of event
- Hazard consequences of event

Deliverable: 12 months into the project we will publicly present the outcomes to the advisory group.

Desired outcomes:

1. An active coordination group from lifelines representatives
2. Develop a set of legislative initiatives
3. Financial sector involved in recovery planning

Fritz institute is focused on community-wide, disaster recovery efforts in the Bay Area and would be a potential partner for our effort.

Public Entity Risk Institutes Board: They have efforts like this project and may be able to fund us. Developing connections to the business sector could be essential for our efforts

Lucy Jones is doing a similar multi-hazard scenario project for southern California and will be asking for funding from USGS. Available funds from USGS and CGS is not clear.

Action: The steering committee will meet again next Wednesday at 5pm at the EERI office.

6. Next Board Meeting

Monday, April 23, 4:30pm at EERI office.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Stillwell
Secretary

Approved

Ivan Wong
President