

MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, June 5, 2020

Minutes approved by the Executive Committee June 22, 2020.

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PRINCIPAL APPROVED MOTIONS

Executive Committee Meeting Friday, June 5, 2020

No Pg.	Motion	
1 - 2	That the minutes from the following minutes be approved:	
	February 1,5,6, 2020	
	April 3, 2020	
	April 10, 2020	
	April 17, 2020	
	April 24, 2020	
	April 27, 2020	
	May 22, 2020	
2 - 4	That a commitment to diversity statement in response to the recent protests not be	
	issued.	

ACTION ITEMS

Executive Committee Meeting Friday, June 5, 2020

No Pg.	Responsibility	Summary of Action	Status
1 - 4	Staff	Draft a message from Mr. Boyce to Mr. Lavitt explaining ExCom's decision to not issue a commitment to diversity statement in response to the recent protests.	
2 - 5	Staff	Draft a response to Mr. Hogeling from Mr. Boyce regarding ASHRAE's decision to not sign the IEQ-GA public proclamation supporting the WHO.	



MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, June 5, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Darryl Boyce, President
Chuck Gulledge, President-Elect
Mick Schwedler, Treasurer
Bill Dean, Vice President
Dennis Knight, Vice President
Bill McQuade, Vice President
Farooq Mehboob, Vice President
Jeff Littleton, Secretary

GUESTS PRESENT:

Don Brandt Tim McGinn

STAFF PRESENT:

Candace DeVaughn, Mgr. of Board Services
Chandrias Jacobs, Coord, of Board Services
Alice Yates, Director of Government Affairs
Joyce Abrams, Director of Member Services
Vanita Gupta, Director of Marketing
Kim Mitchell, Chief Development Officer
Mark Owen, Director of Pubs & Education
Stephanie Reiniche, Director of Technology
Craig Wright, Director of Finance & Admin Services

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CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Boyce called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

CODE OF ETHICS

Mr. Boyce read the code of ethics commitment and encouraged all members to become familiar with the full code of ethics statement.

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call was conducted. Guests and visitors in attendance as noted above.

REVIEW OF MEETING AGENDA

IEQ-GA Funding for WHO was added to New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McQuade moved and Mr. Knight seconded that

1. The minutes from the following meetings be approved:

February 1,5,6, 2020

April 3, 2020

April 10, 2020

April 17, 2020

April 24, 2020

April 27, 2020

May 22, 2020

MOTION 1 PASSED (Unanimous Voice Vote, CNV).

SOCIETY'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Mr. Littleton reviewed a request from Mr. Lavitt, that the Society issue a commitment to diversity statement in response to recent protests. The draft statement prepared by staff was reviewed.

Other Board members have weighed in via email for and against the request for a statement. It can be difficult for an organization like ASHRAE to release a statement without sounding disingenuous.

Mr. Littleton continued that it would not hurt anything to issue a statement. The issue is polarizing and US-centric. It is likely that some, but not many, will say it is inappropriate for ASHRAE to issue a statement.

Mr. McGinn stated that there have been protests in Canada as well. The situation in the US is creating awareness and protests outside of the US.

It was stated that as long as the statement is genuine, heartfelt, and not inflammatory, it shows support.

Mr. Gulledge stated that the Society should exercise caution in opening the door on providing commentary and perspective on issues outside of the purview of our charge as a technical society. What happens when the next societal issue comes around?

Mr. Brandt spoke in favor of the statement. He suggested that all ExCom members sign the statement and not just Mr. Boyce. He agreed that some criticism is to be expected.

Ms. Abrams stated that staff has received requests from other parts of the world in the past to make similar statements. If a statement is released, there could be requests from other parts of the world requesting a statement in the future.

Mr. McQuade suggested the statement be edited to be more of a general statement of diversity of inclusiveness.

There was discussion on how the statement could be edited per Mr. McQuade's suggestion.

Mr. Mehboob stated that he agrees with Mr. Gulledge and Ms. Abrams. There is pointless violence happening in many parts of the world. The timing of the statement indicates that it is US-centric. The Society should not wade into these waters, we are a technical society, and the statement could be viewed negatively by our international members.

Mr. Gulledge stated that he does not like the optics of issuing a statement at this time.

Mr. Littleton posed the question; would we be acting in appropriately in our silence?

There was discussion of the timing of the statement and whether ExCom should act for the BOD in this particular situation.

Mr. Littleton stated that the BOD would not be able to discuss the statement until the end of the month. By that time, it would probably be too late to release a statement. This is the time when the issue has momentum and to wait a month will make Society seem slow. ExCom is mixed on the release of a statement and the general membership will be mixed as well.

Mr. Knight moved and Mr. Gulledge seconded that

2. A commitment to diversity statement in response to the recent protests not be issued.

MOTION 2 PASSED (Unanimous Voice Vote, CNV).

Staff will draft a message from Mr. Boyce to Mr. Lavitt explaining ExCom's decision to not issue a commitment to diversity statement in response to the recent protests.

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COVID-19 MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Mr. Littleton reported that the survey is presented for information only.

There was discussion of whether to extend free online access to the Handbook past June 30, 2020. There was consensus that this issue will be discussed further at the annual meeting. Members Council will discuss and bring forward a recommendation if appropriate.

JEPC MEETING SUMMARY

Mr. Littleton reported that a formal report will be presented at a later date.

Daily inquiries are being received from exhibitors interested in the Chicago show. Thus far, 492,000 square feet of space has been reserved. Feels better about the expo in wake of this meeting. The go/no go date will likely be sometime in September.

There will be a follow up JEPC meeting in September. Until that time, JEPC will be monitoring other shows that are scheduled in September and November at McCormick Place.

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE ON BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Schwedler presented recommended areas for travel budget reductions.

Proposed expense and revenue reductions were also reviewed. Finance plans to bring forward a motion to ask for a waiver ROB regarding the research reserve funds and Society's matching RP funds. The Planning Subcommittee of Finance also plans to bring forward a recommendation to reduce the DL program budget.

Mr. Knight led a discussion of Building EQ. The BEQ Committee plans to bring a recommendation forward to limit the committee's budget to \$14,000 in order to keep the portal open. It could be detrimental to eliminate the program entirely. Keeping the portal open would support effective building operation and analysis, assessments, and improvements. The program could then be investigated to determine if it can be changed or expanded.

A subcommittee of Pub and Ed Council is looking at ways to generate profits from BEQ. There may be recommendations brought forward at the June meeting.

Mr. Schwedler reported that the current budget is projected to be at a deficit of \$450,000. The Finance Committee will likely bring forward a recommendation that the general fund be used to make up the deficit.

Finance will be meeting on June 12, 2020 and will have a final report and recommendations for the BOD at that time.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session was called at 9:06 am.

The open session meeting reconvened at 9:29 am.

NEW BUSINESS

IEQ-GA FUNDING FOR WHO

When President Trump withdrew funding for the WHO, the IEQ-GA reacted by issuing a public proclamation supporting the WHO. IEQ-GA asked for ASHRAE's opinion as we are a partner. Society responded that we do not think it is appropriate to sign the proclamation because it is a very political statement.

Mr. Hogeling has asked that ExCom reconsider signing the proclamation supporting the WHO.

After some discussion, there was consensus that ASHRAE will not reconsider its position on the IEQ-GA proclamation supporting the WHO.

Staff will draft a response to Mr. Hogeling from Mr. Boyce regarding ASHRAE's decision to not sign IEQ-GA's public proclamation supporting the WHO.

NEXT MEETING

ExCom will be meeting again on Monday, June 22, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 am.

Jeff H. Littleton, Secretary