

Indiana Association of City Engineers
IACT Meeting in South Bend
September 30, 2003

Members in attendance: (See attached)

Glen Morrow opened the meeting at just after 12:00 noon. He invited all those attending to help themselves to the boxed lunches and beverages provided.

Kate Weese reviewed and read the minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting held on September 15th in Carmel, as prepared by Dave Pilz, Secretary/Treasurer. Mike Fruth motioned to approve, Bob Miller seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

John Haberman of the Indiana LTAP spoke briefly about our association considering joining the Association of Street Commissioners. He also mentioned the work Tom Martin was doing on the gas tax/wheel tax, and suggested that we may want to stay aware of what's going on here, for our information.

Jerry Larson, of the Indiana LTAP presented some information on the Road Builder/Scholar Program. He described what the program is about and why IACE may be interested. He was looking for input from our group. The goal of this program is to initiate some type of (unofficial) certification or level of training to members in our profession (roads, engineering, transportation, etc.) to encourage and maintain the desire to receive training and education. The general idea is that there would be 1 hour credit for each hour of training (must attend entire event to get training) and multiple day events would garner more points (see hand out). They have established some names for the different levels of achievement, but were wanting some help with these, asking for creative suggestions for the names. Jerry encouraged any input from our members (email: larsonj@purdue.edu)

Scott Dompke stated he would want to see the word "certification" in this program. The group discussed the fact that "certification" usually involves some type of testing, which this would not. This program is based solely on attendance.

Chip Charles made the comments Re: maintaining status. It seemed that it would be hard to maintain the level you were at by the minimum number of points necessary (how much training do people usually attend annually?). He also stated that he thought the grandfathering points awarded may be too generous.

The group talked at length about possible modifications, questions, etc. and it was decided that this topic could be discussed further, and members should provide their comments and suggestions to Jerry.

Glen reviewed the summary of our Golf Outing Workshop on August 28th, and covered the total expenses/income from that event. He also shared that he had incorporated some changes on the IACE website with a feature about the outing, showing the member cities represented, the topics covered and the sponsors names.

Carl Littrel made a comment that we need to be careful about putting sponsors names on website. This could be interpreted or considered advertisement and the IRS could possibly charge IACE taxes on income that was made by the consultants from this (supposed) advertisement. Glen

asked that we check with Dave Pilz to see if he had any information on this, and that we may need to remove these names from the specific event sponsorship.

Kate covered an update on the Scholarship Committee, including reviewing the criteria for selecting the scholarship applicants and the applicant form itself. Any suggestions or comments on these forms should be provide to Kate, as we want to finalize all the forms soon. It would be desired to get these forms out this fall/winter so we can award our first two recipients at Road School in 2004. The scholarships would be for the Fall '04 college year.

Due to the absence of Eric Carleton, we skipped the discussion on the update to the brochure he is preparing for our group.

Glen gave an update to his website work. He has now included an update of the membership (not by name) of cities and companies represented by our association. He is still looking for any city/town and consultants links to their websites. He also has a "classified" link for employment opportunities.

Glen reviewed a couple of the ideas for proposed mass mailings – a letter to Mayors, town leaders, etc. (potential new ones after elections?) encouraging them to have their staff be on IACE, and also a letter to other consultants, inviting them to get involved with our group and join the association. He presented two drafts of these letters and asked for assistance in reviewing/revising.

The group discussed the possibility of hiring a separate or outside secretary for IACE. There are a variety of reasons that it is believed that this may be beneficial to have this for our group. Increased duties due to more activities, tracking membership, coordination of events and registrations, the scholarship program, mailings, etc. Discussion continued on how we could generate funds to pay for this position, or how it could be covered within our current budget. It was suggested that perhaps an extra \$10 on the membership fees to all regular members, or alternately, \$10 on regular memberships and \$20 on the associate members. Some of the members (consultants) stated they thought that the assoc. members should bear most of this cost. Overall, it was decided this was a good idea to continue the discussion and collecting ideas on how to implement.

Mike Fruth covered his proposed Mentoring Program. He discussed the pros and cons of how aligning an experienced City Engineer guide, advise and mentor one specific "new" City Engineer could be extremely beneficial to the new City Engineer, our association and overall development of relationships within the group.

Glen discussed the idea for a "Road Trip" and asked for volunteers, perhaps this fall. This is to see other cities and towns and how they accomplish a specific project or task that they are proud of or want to share the experience. It was suggested that maybe a trip north: Mark(Chesterton) & Dave(Valpo) ? and also Bob Miller (Jefferson) and Carl (South Bend) seemed interested.

Glen encouraged the members to share their list or directory of business cards. This might be a good opportunity to find new members.

Due to the meeting running late, we skipped our typical "gripe session"

Glen reminded the group of the upcoming dates and meetings to put on our calendars: Stay posted for a proposed "Road trip", Road School next year (March 9-11th), and the IACE Golf Outing/Workshop next year on June 2, 2004 at the same location.

The meeting adjourned approximately at 2:00pm.