

NORTHEAST DECISION SCIENCES INSTITUTE
Minutes of Officer and Board Meeting
(DRAFT -- Not Yet Approved)
San Juan, Puerto Rico
March 31, 2006

Presiding: Larry Meile

Present:

| | | |
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| Ed Arnheiter | Michael Maggard | Dan Reid |
| Rhonda Aull-Hyde | Paul Mangiameli | Luis Riverte-Solis |
| Dick Baker | Larry Meile | Chris Roethlein |
| Snehamay Banerjee | Susan Pariseau | Ken Sousa |
| Shaw Chen | Bob Parsons | Jennifer Swanson |
| Maling Ebrahimpour | Fariborz Partovi | Minoo Tehrani |
| Neset Hikmet | Robert Pavan | Doug White |
| Darin Kass | Dave Pentico | |

1. Larry Meile called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Bob Parsons volunteered to take the minutes in the absence of Chris Kydd, Secretary for NESDI.
2. Gary Ragatz, representative from National was introduced. He indicated that in the recently conducted election, two members of Northeast were elected, Ken Kendall as President Elect and Janelle Heineke as Treasurer. He shared the information that National was in the process of having their website professionally redesigned and the location of future National meetings:

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| 2006 | San Antonio |
| 2007 | Phoenix |
| 2008 | Baltimore |
| 2009 | New Orleans |
| 2010 | San Diego |
| 2011 | Boston |
3. A motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2005 meeting in San Francisco with the name correction on item number 12 from "David West" to "Doug White" was approved.
4. The minutes of the March 31, 2005 meeting in Philadelphia presented by Larry Meile, on behalf of Janelle Heineke, were approved without changes.
5. The treasurer's report was presented by Snehamay Banerjee. Last year's surplus of \$12,566 was offset by the expected loss on the conference in San Juan

projected at \$7892. The current state of the treasury is a surplus of approximately \$58,000. A motion was made and passed to accept the report. Passed.

6. Ed Arnheiter reported on promotional activities. Due to turnover, many of the publisher contacts were out of date. An up-to-date list has been developed. Consolidation has reduced the number of publishing houses and it is anticipated that the number of publishers willing to display their wares in the future will be less than in the past. Identifying how publishers measure value received from conference participation could provide some insight into establishing an effective promotional strategy. One suggestion was to push participation through the book reps (particularly in the region where the conference is to be held). Some of the impact of reduced participation by publishing houses may be offset by increased participation by software vendors.

The concept of exploring joint meetings with other organizations to make us more attractive to publishing houses was discussed. A straw vote indicated little interest in exploring joint meetings with other groups.

8. Ken Sousa reported on conference management system alternatives. National is developing a system that would be made available to the regions. Target dates for the availability of this system are at least a conference away. Ken recommended that any consideration of adopting the national system currently under development should be postponed until a demonstration and evaluation of the effectiveness of the registration module can be performed. Until then, he recommended that Northeast continue to use Al Avery's system. Of the outside packages, Conference Manager had the best match of capabilities to needs and carried an excellent reputation. Consideration of an outside package was also viewed as being dependent on an evaluation of the system being developed by National. Ed recommended a wait-and-see attitude.
9. Jennifer Swanson reported on the 2006 meeting in Puerto Rico. The loss is anticipated to be less than the \$10,000 estimate that had been projected. Papers presented numbered 127 and as the luncheon meeting, there were 160 participants. Transition to Al Avery's new Web-based paper submission system although evolving as it was being used worked very effectively. Jennifer gave Kudos to Al for his responsiveness to problems that developed. She believes the system is beyond the bug removal stage and is confident in the performance of the system for future meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Jennifer Swanson and Doug White will develop a recommendation for recognition of Al Avery's contributions to the organization.

10. Rhonda Hyde reported on the 2007 annual meeting in Baltimore to be held at the Harborplace Renaissance Hotel, downtown Baltimore. The meeting will be held March 28-30 (Wednesday – Friday). She is exploring having the President's

Reception at the Baltimore Aquarium. This would require an outside sponsor to be financially feasible. She has some leads and believes an outside sponsor will materialize. Track Chairs are in place with the one remaining uncovered track approaching the commitment stage.

11. Snehamay Bannerjee reported on the 2008 meeting scheduled to be held in New York City (Brooklyn). The dates of the meeting are March 28 –30 and the site will be the Marriott at Brooklyn Bridge. The room rate is high but reasonable (\$199) for the New York area. He is exploring off-site venues for the President's Reception.
12. Ken Sousa will be the Program Chair for the meeting in 2009, Chris Roethlein for 2010, and Doug White for 2011. This constitutes a revision to the previously announced Chair assignments.
13. The slate was presented, moved, seconded, and approved.
14. Doug White discussed access to DSI Proceedings on Websites (internal and external).

ACTION ITEM: Doug White will explore Proquest and other adoptions for making proceedings available on the Web.

15. What are the Goals of NEDSI? What should they be? This is a carry over ACTION ITEM from the previous meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Parsons