

MAA Wisconsin Section

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 24, 2020

Present: Kseniya Fuhrman, Ken Price, Clare Hemenway, Irfan Ul-Haq, Jonathan Kane, Laura Schmidt, Balamurugan Pandiyan, Stephanie Bernander, Wesley Hough, Ben Collins

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by Chair, Kseniya Fuhrman. The meeting was conducted online using Meeting Via Webex. The agenda was approved.

Secretary/Treasurer, Jonathan Kane, presented the minutes of the September 2019 Executive Committee Meeting. The minutes were approved with one correction. Then Jonathan presented the Treasurers Report. The bank balance is a little higher than in past years due to the profit made on the spring meeting. The expenses for the 2019 math contest have not yet been paid, and the subvention from MAA has not yet been received. There was a discussion about providing financial support for the person running the Face-Off competition at spring meetings. On a motion of Jonathan and Balamurugan, it was decided that the section would provide up to \$250 expense reimbursement to the person running Face-Off. Jonathan will deliver the news to Stephen Szydluk who has been running Face-Off for many years.

Section representative, Clare Hemenway, presented a short report because there was little news from MAA Headquarters. She notes that MAA Connect is up and running for those who want to join and be updated about MAA activities.

Chair-elect, Ken Price, discussed progress in planning the spring meeting along with Laura Schmidt who is one of the local hosts at UW – Stout. There was considerable discussion about which of the invited speakers would provide the talk best suited as an after-dinner talk. There was also discussion about the meeting webpage, the template for math teacher awards, and whether it is appropriate for an advanced high school student to give a talk at the meeting. Invitations to the meeting will be sent to the North Central and Iowa Sections of the MAA.

Public Information Officer, Ben Collins, said that the deadline for submissions to the spring newsletter is February 7. The next two candidates for the *Know Your Wisconsin Mathematician* series have been determined, but neither interview has taken place.

Mathematics Contest Coordinator, Laura Schmidt, reported that the mean AMC 8 score for Wisconsin was up, but the number of students participating was slightly down. There were two perfect scores. It was noted that the AMC 10/12 contest will be a week earlier than usual this year, and the long-range plan is to move the AMC 10/12 back into December/January. The Wisconsin Math Contest was easier this year resulting in 18 perfect scores. This will result in slightly higher costs for award books.

Student Activities Coordinator, Balamurugan Pandiyan, said that student activities at the spring meeting would be similar to those offered last year. There will be one more poster about Poincare in addition to the posters prepared for past meetings. A flyer will be sent to section colleges and universities about the activities.

Section NExT Wisconsin Director, Wesley Hough, said that the speaker at the fall Section NExT Workshop attended by Skype. Unfortunately, there were only four participants, and Wesley does not know why the turnout was so low. As a result, they cancelled the second day of the workshop because only two of the participants were available for Sunday. Because the UW campus in Baraboo is now part of UW – Platteville, there will be new higher prices for room use at the Baraboo campus. As a result, the 2020 workshop could be moved to UW – Whitewater, UW – Madison, or UW – Oshkosh. The NExT members seemed interested in how to tackle basic mathematics courses.

Ben Collins reported that the section bylaws would be under review in 2022, so a subcommittee was formed to work over the summer to prepare a proposal for fall 2020. Ben will chair the committee and the other members will be Jonathan, Wesley, and Clare.

The MAA Representative to the Wisconsin Mathematics Council (WMC), Stephanie Bernander, reported that planning is well underway for spring meeting May 7 and 8. The WMC will be promoting equity in mathematics and is working on a definition of equity. At the board meeting next Saturday, they will consider new position statements that will be distributed to schools. The NCTM national conference is moving from spring to fall, so this year it will meet twice: Chicago in the spring and St. Louis in the fall. The Department of Public Instruction is conducting a review of mathematics standards for K-12. This may result in small adjustments, but no big changes are expected. Currently, the mathematics standards are those in the common core.

Kseniya Fuhrman noted that Jen Szydluk is interested in our section setting up a partnership with the Association of Math Teacher Educators (AMTE). We could invite a representative from AMTE to attend our Executive Committee meetings as a guest.

We have a candidate for next year's chair-elect from Milwaukee School of Engineering. We also have a nominee for the next Communications Officer. There is one application for the section distinguished teaching award, so Balamurugan and Kesenya will look at that application to determine if award is appropriate.

The Executive Committee should consider meeting in places other than Baraboo in the future to avoid additional costs. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Jonathan Kane
Secretary/Treasurer