

Minutes  
Local Section Committee  
November 9, 2008  
Grand Sierra Resort & Casino  
Reno, NV

**Workshop Session 8:00**

Agendas for the meeting were distributed (*Attachment #1*)

Sign-in Sheet circulated for all attendees (*Attachment #2*)

**Agenda Item #1** – Roll Call of Sections

Roll Call of sections was conducted. Sections responding to the Roll Call were:

Colorado  
Washington, DC  
Florida  
Chicago Section  
Michigan  
Nevada  
Carlsbad  
Trinity  
Delaware Valley  
Pittsburgh  
Savannah River  
Chattanooga  
Oak Ridge/Knoxville  
Virginia  
Austria

**Agenda Item #2** – Meeting Goals

Goals of meeting were outlined by Chair, Audeen Fentiman

- Recognize sections that are revitalizing and share best practices
- Identify ways that liaisons from the LSC can help with the revitalization process
- Understand the utility's efforts to collaborate with local sections
- Learn ways that local sections can participate in "getting the word out"

**Getting the Word Out**

ANS President Bill Burchill visited the LSC and spoke about efforts aimed at "Getting the Word Out." He expressed hope that someone will continue to monitor efforts by the Local Sections. Reed Johnson emphasized conducting workshops for teachers, clergy and other local officials. Jim Tulenko noted that a survey by the development committee found teacher workshops were the number one place people would contribute funding. (See Workshop Agenda Item #7 for Committee Discussion.)

### **Agenda Item #3 – Revitalization Reports**

Revitalizing Sections reported to the LSC on their progress.

*Wilmington, NC* - Jennifer Bowie reported on the successful kickoff for organization of the proposed new section. (Petition pending.)

*Delaware Valley* - Don VanOver (acting chair) noted that six recent graduates had made a significant contribution to revitalization efforts which are underway.

*Chattanooga* - Ashok Bhatnagar reported on early organizational efforts for the group planning revitalization and explained that the kickoff event would take place on November 14. This group is working with students, trade unions, medical professionals and others to achieve a broad participation. (Chattanooga is revitalizing without benefit of the special program with waived registration fees.)

*Austria* - Pat Lynch outlined the challenges caused by high turnover of staff at IAEA and explained that part of the section's focus is to help members with information that eases their adjustment to living in Vienna area.

### **Agenda Item #4 – How Liaisons can help with revitalization.**

It was suggested that more feedback about what is missing from report forms would be helpful. There was also a comment that some places on report forms may be protected, as a user was unable to fill in information.

Other comments:

- \* Liaisons can help sections with rules development.
- \* Improve web link from Local Sections to Bylaws and Rules Committee.
- \* Spread word to Local Sections about people or potential speakers who are traveling and may be available.
- \* Work to encourage corporate leaders to support activities (funding and time). Some section representative reported they were not getting support from utilities for activities.

There was discussion that several sections do NOT focus on technical topics for meetings; rather, they provide a broader view of the industry (topics that members may not deal with regularly).

- \* Levin noted that Washington, DC has a wealth of potential speakers. They have cosponsored a political forum with large attendance.
- \* Ehresman said that Idaho had teamed with local businesses for a meeting on social communications.
- \* Carlsbad reported sponsoring a nuclear symposium for High School Students
- \* Oak Ridge/Knoxville noted a blend of topics including power and more technical issues.

### **Agenda Item #5 – LS and Plant Branches - relationships and differences**

Chuck Vincent (staff liaison) provided an overview of differences and relationships between

Local Sections and Plant Branches, explaining the Plant Branches are an extension of the LS in a specific area (often at a distance from the meeting place for LS). Branches are often structured to take into account the unique and demanding schedules at power plants. (*See Attachment #3*)

Chuck explained that geographic areas are assigned by ZIP CODES; recommendations for changes come from the LSC and are approved by BoD. In some cases, Local Sections have “gentlemen’s agreements” about areas that they do not serve but that another section could serve. One of the projects to be completed under the 5-year plan for revitalization is a re-examination of ZIP CODE assignments; it is anticipated that changes will come as part of this.

**Agenda Item #6 – Local Sections and Utility Integration Effort**

Staff Liaison, Chuck Vincent, gave an overview of the Utility Integration effort, noting that utilities have named 54 people as liaisons between the company and ANS and its Local Sections. Letters were sent to all appointed Utility Liaisons with information about the nearby Local Section and contact information for known leadership.

**Agenda Item #7 – Getting the Word Out**

There was some brainstorming about ideas for improving Local Section participation in this effort, along with recognition of some challenges

- \*Teacher workshops
- \*Local politicians speak to meetings
- \*activity with charities - United Way, Habitat for Humanity
- \*Offering speakers to schools
- \*Arranging opportunities for student sections to visit plants (simulators)
- \*Expand workshops to include people other than teachers
- \*Some attendees noted “limitations” on what they can say publicly on some topics (e.g., Yucca Mountain) due to work assignments.

Break

**Business meeting** - resumed around 10:40

**Agenda Item #1 – Determination of Quorum**

Sign-in Sheet distributed (*Attachment #4*). Quorum was established.

**Agenda Item #2 – Minutes of June Meeting**

Minutes of the June meeting (*Attachment #5*) were approved

**Agenda Item #3 – Petition from Wilmington, NC for new Section**

Audeen Fentiman (chair) reported that e-mail response indicated strong support for the petition for a Wilmington Area Local Section. (*Attachment #6*)

A motion was made to approve the petition and recommend that the BoD give official approval. After a second, there was no discussion. Motion Carried.

**Agenda Item #4 – Voting process for future**

Moved by Tom Harmon, seconded by Tinh Tran, that

“Local Section Committee may take binding votes by e-mail subsequent to establishing an official process. Votes of the appointed committee members will be binding for business.”

An amendment was proposed to include both appointed members and LS Chairs. The amendment was approved, with the motion reading as follows:

*“Local Section Committee may take binding votes by e-mail subsequent to establishing an official process. Votes of the appointed committee members and Local Section Chairs will be binding for business.”*

The amended motion was approved by a voice vote.

**Agenda item #5** – Determining Large vs. Small in regard to Meritorious Award.

LSC discussed what “count” would be used to determine “large vs. small” in regard to Meritorious Award. It was agreed that the number of *paid members* will be used to determine the section sizes as identified in the existing Meritorious Award Guidelines.

**Agenda Item #6** – Sections in Good Standing

Staff Liaison explained that, in line with guidelines approved by the LSC (and found in the document, *Local Section Revitalization: A 5-year Plan*), the following Local Sections are in “good standing” at the time of the LSC meeting:

- \* Carlsbad
- \* Long Island
- \* Trinity
- \* Virginia
- \* Washington, DC

Members of the LSC suggested that these sections should be recognized with a letter to CNO of appropriate Local Employers.

**Agenda item #7** – Roles of LSC Members

It was noted that there had been some discussion of this topic during the workshop session.

**Other Topics**

It was suggested that Local Sections may benefit from help with or review of IRS 990 forms. Another suggestion was for a seminar on taxes and accounting. This could be part of training sessions projected under 5-year plan.

Meeting adjourned.