



Minutes of Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP) Annual Meeting
Hyatt Hotel and Conference Center, Buffalo, New York
June 9, 2007, 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM
New York State Society of Professional Engineers

To: Members of Professional Engineers in Private Practice, NYSSPE
Kelly Norris, Executive Director, NYSSPE
Pat Markes, NYSSPE Staff
Marc Kriss, Esq., NYSSPE Counsel

Re: June 9, 2007, PEPP Annual Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Randolph W. Rakoczynski, PE, NSPE PEPP NE Regional Vice-Chair, Erie-Niagra Chapter, RRakoczynski@gza.com

Robert Stelianou, PE, President NYSSPE, 2007-8, Erie Niagra, RStelianou@trautmanassoc.com

John Przepiora, PE, President Elect, NYSSPE, JWP134@Twcny.RR.com

Theresa Heneveld, PE, Nassau Chapter, THeneveld@LKBINC.com

Mike Hayes, PE, MHayes@CSCOS.com

Joel A. Miele, Sr., PE, Queens Chapter, jmiele2@nyc.rr.com

Elliot J. Shapiro, PE, Kings Chapter, EJShapiro@worldnet.att.net

Andy Haimes, PE, Suffolk Chapter, ASHaimes@optonline.net

Joseph Fioraliso, PE JFioraliso@db-eng.com

William Schutt, PE, Erie/Niagra, WSchutt@WMSchutt.com

Marc A. Chiffert, PE, New York City, AECDesignLLC@MSN.com

Paul B. Wood, PE, New York Chapter, PBWood618@aol.com

Chris Petallides, PE, Queens Chapter, PetallidesPE@aol.com

Jack Naylor, PE, PEPP Vice-Chair, Suffolk Chapter, NYSSPE@compuserve.com

Tom Petracca, PE, PEPP Chair, Suffolk Chapter, TPetracca@TomPetracca.com

1. Call to Order completed by Chair.
2. Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes from last meeting, November, 2006 read.
3. Report of Funds:
 - a. Jul '06 to Mar '07:
 - i. PEPP Income from Dues: \$ 3,305.00
 - ii. PEPP Expenses: \$ 158.00
 - iii. PEPP Prior Year Balance: \$ 37,308.52
 - iv. PEPP Balance as of 3/07: \$ 40,455.52



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4. Discussion and Motions:

- a. Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Council Contribution: Motion by Joel Miele to support QBS program (NYQBS.org) over the next fiscal year with ½ of the required need, but not to exceed \$1,000. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. NYSSPE Political Action Committee (PAC) Contribution: Motion by Joel Miele that NYSSPE PEPP member donations to NYSSPE PAC will be matched by NYSSPE PEPP matches up to \$1,500. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Discussed that too few people are aware of the NSPE's Lending Library availability to all chapters of the state and the cost of only \$1 per chapter member for borrowing a LL item. Chair will request an inventory listing of all Lending Library items from Staff and:
 - i. Email all PEPP members of this availability and request them to alert Chapter Presidents and Program chairs of the list. (T Petracca emailed request to Exec Director Kelly Norris on 6/10).
 - ii. Request that Staff email all Chapter Presidents and Program Chairs of same.
- d. Joel Miele presented status of NYC's bill (A.7746/S.4603) to revise NYS law to provide the former the ability to discipline PE's/RA's for improper behavior. NYSSPE has already stated its opposition to NYC's request, since Office of Professional Development of NYS is already charged with this power. Joel indicated that NYC may have not forwarded findings of their investigations to OPD thereby limiting OPD's enforcement ability. A meeting regarding same with NYC and NYS Education to take place June 17th, 2007.
- e. Joel Miele stated that NYS has increased fines that a PE/RA can be charged from \$250 to \$10,000 as part of a disciplinary action.
- f. Discussion was held regarding the lack of requirement for a PE or RA to perform Special Inspections under Chapter 17 of the NYS IBC. The generally feeling of the committee was that these inspections should be



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performed by a PE or RA – similar to NYC’s requirements. In order to effect this change action must be taken to move on this with the International Codes Committee (ICC). The Committee feels it necessary to assert its feelings via a motion. Accordingly, the following motion was presented by Bob Stelianou, PE, and seconded by Chris Petallides, PE, as follows:

“The NYSSPE’s Professional Engineers in Private Practice Committee hereby moves to support a revision to the requirements of the New York State Code, to require that Special Inspections be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a Registered Design Professional.”

The Chair will further act to discuss the status and actions to be taken so as to further this cause.

- g. Along with the prior item above, Jack Naylor presented an example of a case whereby for a major hotel/catering facility the Owner stated that electrical and mechanical drawings would not be provided – only a statement that they be designed in accordance with the NYS Code. Further discussion and input needed as to whether the NYSSPE should promote action for the NYS IBC to be revised to require drawings for commercial buildings to show a certain level of detail and that statements only are not permitted.
- h. Randolph W. Rakoczynski stated that the Council of Principals of NSPE to meet and that new DVD seminars may become available for Continuing Education.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J Petracca, PE
Chair, NYSSPE PEPP