



Arab American Association of Engineers and Architects

Capital Area Chapter (MD, DC and VA)

<http://www.aaeadc.com/>

Email: aaeadc@aaeadc.com



Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday April 21, 2012

Time: 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Sterling Library, Virginia

RE: General meeting

Attendees: See attached list of attendees (Annex 1)

Next meeting: TBD

Discussion and Agreements:

1. A group of 30 people are coming from the New York tri-state AAAEA chapter to attend the Science & Technology Festival at the Washington Convention Center. Several ideas and thoughts were discussed about how to network with them. No consensus was reached. Sam Abdelfattah will send an email to members asking them what they like to do.
2. The education committee led by Sam Kubba reported on plans for presenting a Scholarship. Sam Kubba, Mazen and Yasmina will discuss and submit a plan to the EC for their feedback within 2 weeks.
3. The education committee discussed the idea of organizing an EIT class. The consensus of the group is that the effort of preparing such a course is enormous and the association is not ready to undertake. The National website has materials for EIT preparation for review. It was agreed that a professional development certification such as LEED training might be more attainable.
4. Ayman reported on Membership committee. It was agreed that a plan is needed to address the challenges of getting new members, retaining existing members and getting them to pay their membership dues. Ayman will prepare a presentation for the May meeting. A good idea was presented by Sam Kubba to get members to send nominations for membership and then send them an email explaining the benefits from joining. Eissa reported that he will send \$590 of membership dues to the national association. The Executive Committee approved the \$590 payment as we currently have 59 paid members, excluding student members.

5. Nazeeh presented his ideas about the picnic cover charge. The cost is \$10-12/person. He is budgeting \$1500 and wants to keep cost at \$1,250. We need to get corporate sponsorship. The cover charge will be \$5/member and their guests and \$10/non-member and their guests.
6. The plans for holding a Gala versus Hafla in 2012, was discussed. The Gala requires more planning and cost much more than hafla. The Gala was held successfully the last 2 years. Rabih presented the views of some members that the Gala should be kept since it has been a success. Eissa said that the Gala is a big source of revenue for the chapter. Sam A. said that the effort for preparing the Gala is high and some members think the cost to attend is high. Sae'd commented that the effort to have a gala is not much more than that for a hafla and the cost difference is minimal. This discussion was not concluded. There are advantages and disadvantages to having the Gala. Sam would like to hold a Hafla instead of Gala. Walid Halboni said that Gala is important to have. Sae'd suggested holding a conference call in the next 2 weeks to decide on this issue. Rabih suggested to look into having a hafla in addition to Gala.

Action Items:

1. Eissa will mail the \$590 Payment to the National for the National membership dues.
2. Eissa to pay the two invoices for the 2012 tax.
3. Sam will coordinate the NJ for their trip.
4. Sam will schedule a conference call to discuss the Gala vs. Hafla.

Meeting Attendees

(Saturday April 21, 2012)

No	Name
1.	Abdallah Adas
2.	Ayman Al-Jureidini
3.	Eissa Haj-Hamad
4.	Emad Yasin
5.	Khaled Masri
6.	Mazen Ayoubi
7.	Mohammad Ayyoubi
8.	Mohammad Fridy
9.	Nazeeh Freij
10.	Rabih Najib
11.	Sae'd Rahwanji
12.	Sam Abdelfattah
13.	Sam Kubba
14.	Walid Halboni
15.	Yasmina Raya