

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Wednesday, 18 March 2015
Hilton Netherland Plaza
Cincinnati, OH

Presiding co-chairpersons:

Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting LLC; P
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P

Recording secretaries:

Erin Grabe; PLASA NA; exf
Karl G. Ruling; PLASA NA; exf

Members in attendance:

Matthew Antonucci; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; USITT; P
Mitch Heffer; P
Fred Kosiewski; Walt Disney Company; P
Jules Lauve ; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
David E. Miller; Walt Disney Company; A
Kimberly Corbett Oates; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A
Eddie Raymond; IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman); P
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Crafts Advancement Program; P
Lori Rubinstein; PLASA NA; exf
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Larry Schoeneman; DesignLab Chicago, Inc.; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P
Ken Vannice; Ken Vannice LLC; P

Visitors present:

Todd Spencer; PSAV
Bill Greeley; InCord
Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728
Michael Lay; Philips
Kent Jorgensen; IATSE

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 9:03. He thanked everyone for taking time out of their busy schedules. He personally thanked the companies involved for their support, too. If you are the company, thank you, reiterated Mike Garl. If you work for a company, please thank who ever it is that makes your participation possible, he instructed.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A bright salmon sign-in sheet was passed around the room while self-introductions took place counter-clockwise.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Mike Garl thanked the visitors in the room for their interest and presence.

2.3 Introductions

2.4 Call for quorum

Mike Garl announced that a quorum is present.

2.5 Consensus body

The consensus body of this group at the time of this meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Representing	Voting status
Jules Lauve	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eugene Leitermann	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
Total votes possible:		14
Key to Voting Status: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter		

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin02-2015.pdf*

Steve Terry moved to approve the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands, with two abstentions.

4 Call for patents, to be read aloud to the assembly

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Garl:

PLASA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. PLASA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. PLASA does not conduct patent or copyright searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify the Technical Standards Council of the existence of a patent or copyright or other intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by a working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify the Technical Standards Council of its existence.

Nothing was reported.

5 Anti-trust statement, to be read aloud to the assembly

The following statement is to be read aloud to the assembly:

PLASA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all PLASA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at a PLASA meeting, please bring your concern to PLASA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the PLASA staff.

Karl Ruling and Erin Grabe held up copies of the pamphlets. Nothing was revealed.

6 Approval of agenda

Mitch Hefter moved to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion was seconded and approved by a unanimous show of hands.

7 Old business and standing reports

7.1 Financial reports

7.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

Lori Rubinstein began by saying that there were some ups and downs in pledges. She mentioned that it is early in the year; there is not much to report from the first quarter.

Lori Rubinstein reported that there had been some success with fund-raising from the task group, especially by Larry Schoeneman, who reported a \$5000 pledge from Altman and a promise from Lex Products and Rosco for pledges to come. Schoeneman reported that Pathway said it can make a multi-year commitment, and has committed to \$5,000 this year.

It was suggested that a request to Texas Scenic for \$2,000 would likely result in a donation. Jules Lauve reported Stephen Surratt's suggestion that PLASA would have more money if it did not spend resources on other things, such as PLASA Focus.

It was reported that Doug Fleenor was concerned about the lack of recognition for the contributions from smaller companies for whom a small amount is a large amount. Lori Rubinstein explained that the way the Investors in Innovation had previously been listed was by company size, but that that model was dropped when employee totals were no longer collected for membership. The idea was put forth of asking for companies making donations to self-report their company size. The consensus of the group was to look at restructuring the Investors list again.

Bill Sapsis asked how companies were identified for solicitation calls, as he was not personally called. There was further discussion of how to reach out, which ended with Mike Garl asking for a pitch to be made at all meetings. An invoice can be produced, if needed.

Mike Garl reported that Mountain Productions had committed to one year at \$3,000. Others, he said, have given some statements of support, but, as of yet, no money.

Lastly, Lori Rubinstein reported that more effort is needed to get members and companies to ask for quotes from ProSight Specialty Insurance. Mike Garl urged members to give ProSight a shot when your policies are up for review. Bill Sapsis added that ProSight is great to work with.

7.1.2 Accounting of TSP documents sold

See Sales Report for TSC_03-2014.pdf.

Mike Garl reported on the information from the sales report, including the fact that there have been over 30,000 downloads since we partnered with ProSight.

Karl Ruling announced that PLASA has a new partnership with IHS, a one-stop-shop for standards. They have agreed to list and sell our standards, much the same as ANSI does for the program.

7.2 CEN committee update

Lori Rubinstein reported that four new working groups are scheduled to meet over the next several years. Ron Bonner is convening one of the working groups and that work is just getting underway.

7.3 Old Business

7.3.1 ATSM's report

See PrjctsSmmry2015-03.pdf.

7.3.1.1 Report on status of documents: ones in process, ones stable, ones needing action or of concern

Karl Ruling said that there was nothing further to report than was included in the report, and that Erin Grabe had done the report this time around.

7.3.1.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

7.3.1.2.1 Public reviews

The Fog & Smoke Working Group has drafted a 5th edition of the Introduction to Modern Atmospheric. This is not a standard, but publication requires a public review. Do you approve of the working group sending this document to public review?

Steve Terry moved to approve the public review of the 5th edition. The motion was seconded and

approved by a unanimous show of hands.

7.3.1.2.2 New projects

None to consider.

7.3.2 TSP Marketing

No news.

7.3.3 Making the TSP be more international

Except for the Followspot Positions Working Group, all of the working group meetings at USITT have a remote-attendance option via WebEx.

Erin Grabe reported that the process of getting things in place for WebEx options at this meeting cycle were not easy, but were done. She added that the efforts will hopefully increase international participation, and not just increase national remote-attendance.

Steve Terry asked about the mechanics of the video switching. Erin explained that it is part of the codec from the Cisco system, which consolidates the attendee's video and audio.

Mike Lay said that he expected the next meeting to be about 50/50 in remote to in-person attendance, and that we are not getting many *new* participants.

Lori Rubinstein suggested that money saved on travel and accommodations by companies be considered for donation to the Technical Standards Program.

7.3.4 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

Nothing to review.

8 New business

8.1 Other new business

9 Optional Reports

9.1 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects

9.1.1 Control Protocols

Mike Lay reported that there was a usual mix of projects going on, and that the processes were running pretty well.

9.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter reported that the group was dealing with comment resolutions to a Canadian ANS, and is making plans to take on a luminaire-hanging code of practice.

9.1.3 Floors

Jerry Gorrell reported that the group was working on projects dealing with falls from stages and floats.

9.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Larry Schoeneman reported that vaping and e-cigarettes have been addressed in the revised edition of the Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects.

9.1.5 Followspot Position

Karl Ruling reported that the group is scheduled to meet here at USITT.

9.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell reported that the group had a couple of projects in various stages, and that they are meeting here at USITT to discuss them.

9.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported from that the fire safety curtains standard wound up being contentious within the group. Nothing much to report yet; as the RWG meets after this meeting.

9.1.8 Stage Lifts

Karl Ruling noted that this group meets immediately after the TSC meeting. He added that he is hopeful that the new leadership will take good care of the tasks at hand.

9.2 Reports of affiliated organizations and PLASA EU

9.2.1 ASTC

Jules Lauve reported that the annual meeting is this Saturday, 21 March. He also reported that this will be the second year for the Student Theoretical Renovation Challenge Award, being presented this Friday, which DePaul and Yale Universities are involved in.

9.2.2 NFPA

9.2.2.1 FDW-AAA committee

Jerry Gorrell reported that this revision cycle is complete. Chapter 21 addresses fire safety curtains. Dan Culhane has reported to Gorrell that fusible links are gone as a requirement, except for the note that if they are in the system, don't paint them.

9.2.2.2 SPE-AAA

Larry Schoeneman reported that rewrites of the special effects codes are going up for a vote soon.

9.2.2.3 SAF-AXM

Jerry Gorrell reported that the next meeting is scheduled to be held in Milwaukee in early August and that he plans to attend.

9.2.2.4 NEC

Mitch Hefter reported the group met in January for changes to panel balloting. He said that some work had been accomplished and that he is waiting to see if it pays off.

9.2.3 PLASA EU

Lori Rubinstein reported on the CDM (Construction Design Management) regulations, which are set to go into effect in April. The HSE has divided our industry into four sections, and put out draft guidance for each, which will not be completed by the deadline for CDM regulations to go into effect, so people might be cited for not following the unpublished guidance. The HSE has said that they do not plan to do this.

Lori Rubinstein add that the entertainment industry had abandoned the idea of legal challenge to the HSE for their removal of the entertainment industry from comment consideration, which the HSE did.

She ended by saying that the industry is working with HSE to translate CDM requirements into our language.

9.2.4 Event Safety Alliance

Lori Rubinstein reported that she and Karl Ruling have a monthly phone call with the Alliance. She added positive feedback from the Event Safety Summit, including on the content and quality of the presentations. Eddie Raymond expressed agreement with Lori Rubinstein on her comment.

Lori Rubinstein mentioned that the next summit is scheduled for Spring 2016, and that Steve Adelman, a board member of the Event Safety Alliance, had expressed his gratitude to the Technical Standards Program for its work.

9.2.5 USITT

Jerry Gorrell reported that this conference is expecting 5,000 people, which would make it the largest attended USITT. He noted that the show floor is the largest ever for USITT, to which Mitch Hefter agreed.

Mitch Hefter reported that Louis Bradfield, TSC member, recently has had surgery that was complicated by an infection and is unable to be here because of his condition.

10 Other business

Bill Sapsis announced that there will be another NATEAC in July 2016. The boat ride will be the 16th. The conference will be the 17 & 18.

10.4 Above & Beyond Award

Mike Garl presented the Above and Beyond Award to Larry Schoeneman for his fund-raising efforts for the Technical Standards Program and for his work in leading the Fog & Smoke Working Group.

9 Schedule for future meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 26 July 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the D/FW Marriott Solana in Westlake, TX.

The group then discussed moving some meeting times to facilitate European participation. Erin Grabe will work with Frances Thompson to see about rearranging some meetings.

10 Adjournment

Bill Sapsis moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Technical Standards Council Members as of 18 March 2015

Name	Representing	Voting status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA EU	O
Harry Box	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	O
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	PLASA NA	exf
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA EU	exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
A. Scott Hoyt	Heartland Scenic Studio	exf
David Johnson	Penton Media	O
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Jules Lauve	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
JR Reid	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Lori Rubinstein	PLASA NA	exf

Technical Standards Council Members as of 18 March 2015

Name	Representing	Voting status
Karl G. Ruling	PLASA NA	exf
Marian Sandberg	Penton Media	O
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P

Key to Voting status:

P = Principal voter

A = Alternate voter

exf = ex officio (staff), non-voting