



Meeting Logistics & Information

Date	Wednesday, April 19, 2023	Attendees
Time	9:00 AM – 11:00 PM	Betsy Ames, Joe Rando, Cindy Zeis, Mike Turns, Nicole Burger, Kaitlyn Mitchell, Nick Jones, Jonathan Harrison
Meeting Type	NEHERS Alliance – Board Meeting	Non-Attendees Chris Mazzola
Facilitator	Mike Browne	Special Guests
Web Link	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122221509	

Meeting Motions			
<i>Motion #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Movement</i>	<i>Favor/Oppose/Abstain</i>
1	To approve March minutes (via email)	Motion – Joe Second – Chris	7/0/0
2	To approve A/P of \$4,245.81	Motion – Joe Second – Cindy	7/0/0
3	To adjourn	Motion – Joe Second – Mike T	8/0/0

Roll call:

- Executive Director: Betsy Ames
- 2023 Board: Nick Jones, Joe Rando, Cindy Zeis, Jonathan Harrison, Chris Mazzola, Mike Turns, Keegan Ebbets, Nicole Burger, Kaitlyn Mitchell
- Present (quorum = 5): Joe Rando, Cindy Zeis, Mike Turns, Nicole Burger, Kaitlyn Mitchell, Nick Jones, Jonathan Harrison
- Late: Keegan Ebbets
- Absent: Chris Mazzola

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- Vote on minutes from March (Kaitlyn)
- ❖ Motion made by Joe via email on 3/17/23, seconded by Chris Mazzola, approved unanimously.
 - Emailed this vote due to bank accounts opening.



- The two new local accounts are open at UMASS5.
- Vote on AP for March (Joe)
 - Monthly accounts services totaling \$4,245.
- ❖ Motion made by Joe Rando to approve the March AP and the amount of \$4,245.81 seconded by Cindy Zeis, approved unanimously.
- Exclusivity statement from RESNET signed 4-13-23.
 - Betsy ran by the executive committee, it was signed and approved.
- Encouraging participation in the Forums (Cindy)
 - Actively encouraging participation in online forums, to resurrect in support of our readers and for cross collaborations.
 - Betsy- Good for people to populate current items, will include things on social media to encourage discussion.
 - Joe- Relevant noteworthy notes from Board or Executive committee meetings, in the hope of starting a conversation. Acknowledges we use it as an open forum/ start new discussions as either 'informational' or 'discussion.'
 - Mike- Members can save discussion on LinkedIn and then for members, a link to the full thing.
 - Joe- Effective way to post to get comments.
 - Betsy- Members only benefit to comment in the forum.
- RESNET Conference November 15-17 conflicts with November board meeting.
 - When to have board retreat?
 - Before the RESNET conference?
 - After it on November 28th, 29th or 30th?
 - Do we want to meet live or on Zoom?
 - September/October? Seems like it might be a better time for most.
 - November is when projects close out.
 - In touch with Betsy for preference for time/virtual or in person.
 - Betsy will send a Doodle Poll out to the Board for the retreat.
- NEHERS Board Dinner at RESNET
 - Mike Browne (ABA) has given \$1000 to sponsor the dinner this year. Additional sponsors welcome.
 - Joe will be looking for sites near the conference center. Suggestions welcome.
 - Joe- Ideally the first night of the conference we have dinner.
 - Wednesday evening.
- NEHERS Swag as General Thank You Gifts (not for Board Dinner)
 - The Board Dinner after the RESNET Conference is an annual way of thanking everybody who supports the organization.
 - Since it became virtual, wheat straw mugs were a good gift instead.
 - With our logo on it.

- Paying for President and VP conference fees (Cindy/Betsy)
 - Board members saw it as a slippery slope, because bylaws say you are not supposed to be compensated for what you do for the organization.
 - Not including reimbursement for things like printing fees.
 - Approached two former board members about going to the New Orleans DOE conference for fundraising, neither wanted to go, but Mike Browne went to the DOE conference in DC.

MANUAL (Nick)

- No meeting this month.
 - Betsy sent out an email to get help to identify links that are broken and what the correct links are. Betsy can update the pdf and will get it ready for the hard copy print. (Nick, Mike, Rob, Cindy)

TRAINING COMMITTEE (Joe)

- Spring 2023 Training:
 - Online: May 15-26
 - Practical: June 5-9
 - The class is already full! We have 16 full registrations.
 - Before the early bird deadline, we had full registration.
 - High demand with the Inflation Reduction Act in full force.
- Update from meeting with PSD on 4/13
 - Fall training will be live- not sure if we can compress the time in the field or not.
 - Not doing a 4th training this year, considering it for next year, if enrollment remains strong.
 - Deciding when we would do it next year, either condensed field training or back to pre-pandemic five-day classroom.
 - PSD is still working on integrating their learning management system to streamline training.
 - Considering having NEHERS offer zoom study halls during the week break.
 - For students that are struggling, meet after class to discuss. Since collaboration is lacking.
 - Betsy- Not something with a moderator, just for students.
- Stretch Code HERS 42 Course Development (Betsy)
 - Still in development, there will be different models and various kinds of components. So, you can see different ways the changes in the model affect the building components.
 - Nicole- The model home that we were going to share and contemplating whether to show spray foam as one of the options because we are trying to show the embodied carbon as a better alternative.
 - Decided to use cellulose in one of the examples.
- PHIUS Pre-Requisite Checklists Training
 - May begin developing an RFP for some training on the passive house prerequisites.
- Looking into supporting live PHIUS Verifiers training in MA (Nicole)
 - Have not followed up since the initial email to PHIUS to what they were looking to do in MA.



- Additional test for MF- how can we get the word out, so people understand the initial requirements.
- Betsy- Not much of a follow up, just said they were still looking into it.
- Scholarship spots.
 - Women/Minority women in the industry.
 - Executive Committee approved this initiative.
 - Reach out if you have any questions on this.

STANDARDS (Cindy)

- Finalize IAP v2 public comments – Due April 24
 - Will get out last version out soon and comments sent it in April 24.
- Start looking at ZERH v2 – Tony sent over notes for starting point for discussion – Due May 15th.
 - Link to overview webinar on 4/12/23 at 2-3pm EDT:
<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/a82f121c-c1f3-40c2-8fdc-a513298d30ce@a85d7722-a499-48ec-b1d0-407cfb864c75>
 - Links to info pages:
 - <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USEERE/bulletins/3533158>
 - <https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/zerh-multifamily-version-2>
 - Will have another meeting between now and the deadline.

QAD (Jonathan)

- Proposed amendment to the QA standard.
 - Jonathan and Mike Browne met with the Standards Committee.

WEBINARS (Keegan)

- 2023
 - ~~January 25th: Programs webinar – 10 states~~
 - 70 registered/ 43 attended.
 - Overall Survey Satisfaction 4.00/5.00
 - ~~February 22: 45L Updates, Energy Star, & ZERH Overview~~
 - 63 registered/ 43 attended.
 - Overall Survey Satisfaction 4.41/5.00
 - ~~March 16: Intro to Becoming a HERS Rater for High School Students~~
 - 24 registered/ 11 attended.
 - Overall Survey Satisfaction 4.75/5.00
 - April 26: Steps to becoming a PHIUS Verifier – In Process
 - Tony Lisanti, Bev Craig, Allison Zuchman and Josh Ruedin
 - May:
 - June:
 - July:
 - August: (Skip)

- **September:**
- **October:**
- **November:**
- **December:**
- **Betsy-** Forward all publicity to your networks. If you have a topic you are interested in, please let us know.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS (Chris)

- Next up, half-off membership renewals starting July 1st.
 - Offer prorated for the second half of the year.
 - Memberships for distinct categories, not all categories.

ENERGY CODES (Mike T)

- Update from meeting on Thursday, March 16th.
 - DOE is having their National Energy Codes conference on May 2-4 in Chicago.
 - Mike T is attending.
 - Have the committee behave more like the Standards Committee and make comments on code development processes.
 - Will start to make public comments during the development process-PCs over the next few months.
 - Mike T will send updates when consensus is available.
 - High demand for MA Stretch Code Training.
 - Lots of questions regarding additions and tier 3 alterations.
 - Discussing continuous installation in next meeting- required prescriptively, trade-off allowed for performance pathways. (June 16 at 11am)
 - How will this align with embodied carbon?
 - Betsy will send out an announcement to generate more participation, particularly pertaining to the above.
- Code presentation for Norwalk, CT is scheduled in June- Cindy

EMBODIED CARBON (Nicole)

- RESNET Standard Development Committee:
 - The vote on 3/14 at the RESNET board meeting did not go through, it will be voted on again at the next meeting.
 - The Advisory Council met and voted to create the standard.
 - At the RESNET meeting people raised objections that derailed the whole Board Meeting.
 - Getting pushback here in US that is not present in Canada.
 - Standard Draft
 - Chris may not send the draft in advance of the first technical committee meeting. May include renovations.
 - Mike will work on the appendix.
 - Pending getting the standard, may not be able to complete until technical committee has completed their work.

- NESEA lunch roundtable was successful, had about 100 people attending.
 - About 15 to 20 raters in the room, diverse groups of people interested in embodied carbon.
- Workflow – In Process – Andy
 - Chris Magwood said that any part of the building that is in place is considered zero emissions.
 - Patrick Nicholas has joined our group from Ekotrope.
- EPA RFI on EPD Development
 - Chris Magwood is asking CLF if they would like us to sign their comments submission.
 - The EPA is looking for info on how they are using their funding to help create EPDs.
 - Carbon Leadership Forum put together a set of comments for EPD improvements.
 - Rocky Mountain Institute, New Building Institute signed on, checking to see if they want us to sign on as well.
- New Contacts:
 - Max Holmes – President and CEO of Woodwell Climate Research Center
 - Former pres. Dr Phillip Duffy presently Climate Science Advisor for Biden
 - [Nominate them as keynote speakers for RESNET?](#)
 - Mindful Materials <https://www.mindfulmaterials.com/>
 - Do we want to sign the mindful materials pledge?
 - Annie Bevan annie.bevan@mindfulmaterials.com
 - Laurel Christensen laurel.christensen@mindfulmaterials.com
- Speaking Opportunities:
 - 2023 RESNET Conference Session Nominations Now Open!
 - <https://www.resnet.us/conference-2023/session-nomination/>
 - Nominate Max Holmes – President and CEO of Woodwell Climate Research Center as a keynote speaker? Who to contact at RESNET?
 - NESEA Building Energy NYC Proposals Due May 7th, Conference Oct 12th.
 - NESSBE- Workflow demo? (November- theme: energy justice)
 - Architects Group in Boston (Chris Mazzola- Fall of 2023 or spring of 2024)
 - Building Performance Association Session – Andy?
 - Boston Architectural College- Nicole
 - MF Peer-To-Peer Network- Nicole
- Funding opportunities/Grants – Betsy
 - Chris Mazzola spoke with Bev, and she said they may have \$75,000 for EC.
 - A sitting senator or congressperson that can help direct IRA22 money to MassSave or DOE to help fund incentives for EC. Elizabeth Warren?
 - DOE Small Business Expo <https://www.energy.gov/osdbu/2023-small-business-forum-expo>
 - From Chris Mazzola: I think NEHERS should sponsor two reps of the EC working group, to go to the DOE forum and find the exact person that would be willing to help us fund the next steps of the EC movement. I work best face to face and reading a room and the attendees. This could be a great opportunity for us to make new connections at a higher level. I am confident NEHERS can afford to send a few reps. I would probably suggest Andy, Betsy and one other who you feel will approach every table with our basic question and explain the urgency of the task. We would need full conference for three people, hotel, and airfare. Anything else would have to be covered by the three... at very most \$5K total?
- Additional items:

- Harvard or MIT is building a PH and low-carbon dormitory. Nate
 - **Point of interest**
- [MassCEC Embodied Carbon](#) Challenge (MF Residential) – Nicole
 - **Nicole is enrolling one of her projects into the Embodied Carbon Challenge.**
 - **Historic existing building with a new construction portion.**

❖ **Joe Rando makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike Turns seconds, motion passes unanimously.**