

Meeting minutes NJCoast Excom June 16, 2022, held in person at the Holmdel Library, BellWorks.

The meeting was called to order by Irfan.

Attendees: Irfan Lateef, Chair of the Section; John Deltuvia, Secretary of the Section; Prasad Atluri, Chair, COM19; Krishnamurthy Rangunandan, Chair, AP/VT/EMC; Kit August, Chair, SIGHT, but representing IM/C as Vice Chair in TK Srinivas' absence; Anjali Agrawal, Chair, ED/MTT/PHO; Manu Malek, Chair, LMAG; Frank Laslo, Elections Coordinator; Tom Willis, Vice Chair, SIGHT, representing SIGHT as Kit August was representing IM/C. This constituted a quorum.

Also in attendance were:

- Ken Schacter, a retiree from Texas Instruments, where he spent 14 years as a Senior Member of the Technical Staff and 18 years in the Training department. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE and has been an IEEE member for 42 years; and
- James Kennedy, an IEEE member for 35 years, who worked for Lucent Technologies for many years at the Murray Hill and Holmdel locations, first in circuits and processing, and later in photonics.
- Bala Prasanna, Director-Elect of IEEE Region 1.

A vote was taken on the authorization of funding for a possible boat gathering as a summer event. The vote was 8-0 and Irfan and John were delegated to investigate possibilities and enter into a contract if a good fit was found.

Anjali said she would be willing to plan the end of year banquet but suggested a joint banquet with PCJS would be better. Kit agreed on this point.

James asked how to increase numbers and suggested some sort of end-of-summer event.

Bala stated that there would be no midyear banquet this year, and Irfan mentioned the difficulty of planning any live events or meetings due to the variability of COVID. Prasad talked about the demographics within the Section, and the higher vulnerability to COVID due to risk factors such as age. James and Prasad discussed the comfort level of masking or not masking. A general discussion ensued, but no consensus was reached.

Bala stated that the Regions were being reconstituted due to worldwide population shifts, and that Regions 1 and 2 would be merging. Bala did not say how this might affect the Officer-Elect positions in those regions.

Frank Laslo had reported by email that he has received three responses for open positions, two of which were declinations. There have been no section nominations. In Frank's opinion, this indicates that a merger with PCJS needs to be seriously considered.

Irfan then closed the meeting.