



International Association of Electrical Inspectors

Minnesota Chapter

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www.MinnesotaIAEI.org

President: Scott Novotny

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Sec/Treas: M. "Sam" Sampson

MINUTES MINNESOTA CHAPTER SUMMER MEETING

JUNE 13, 2009

The summer meeting of the Minnesota Chapter IAEI was called to order at 8:00 AM on Saturday, June 13th at Riverwood Conference Center by Secretary M. "Sam" Sampson, as President Novotny and Vice President Sheldon Monson were unable to attend the Saturday meeting.

Secretary Sampson read the minutes of the spring meeting which were then approved without change.

The financial report was read by Secretary Sampson which detailed the expenditures for the upcoming Western Section Meeting. The chapter has already purchased brief bags and lanyards for attendees and is sponsoring entertainment Sunday evening and a speaker as well as a live band for the Tuesday banquet. This will effectively use up the Chapter's \$10,000 CD which matured April 23, 2009.

Under committee reports, it was announced that Ron Gnotke had resigned from his long-standing position as scholarship committee chair and contract inspector Scott Nutting volunteered to take over the position. For many years the Chapter has awarded a \$500 scholarship which has been generously matched with a contribution from American Midwest Power courtesy of past chapter secretary, Earl English. Scott will contact the membership prior to the Chapter Fall Meeting with application forms for the annual scholarship(s) which are given to the child of an active member who is enrolled in a post-secondary program.

Membership chair Tim Miller reported that membership numbers have remained constant this year, but reminded each member that their membership cards come with a postcard for a free six-month IAEI trial membership that should be given to building officials and others, encouraging the growth of our associate membership.

The Sunshine Committee chair Thomas reported that he had sent a get well card to John Crep, former contract inspector and electrical area rep, who is now undergoing treatments for esophageal cancer.

Western Section Meeting chair George Cusick noted that both the Minnesota Chapter website, www.MinnesotaIAEI.org and Western Section IAEI website, www.IAEI-Western.org have the registration forms, meeting and hotel information as well as details of the spouses program for the 2009 Section Meeting in here in Bloomington. He asked for volunteers to assist with registration on Sunday afternoon and with continuing education, room monitoring and security for the meeting, September 21 to 23rd. In addition to Mark Smythe, Doug Lutterman, Jeff Slimmer, Rick McKinnon, Wade Schlie and Randy Maha, who volunteered previously, Bob Sogla, Paul Krmptich and Darryl Trangsrud signed up to assist the committee.

Under Other Matters, Secretary Sampson asked the membership to discuss the viability of continuing to hold the summer meeting with the MEA, considering that attendance has traditionally been very low. The Minnesota Chapter share of the event is \$500.00, which is a quarter of our annual budget. Judi Rubin, of MEA, told us that it is harder than it has ever been to encourage participation and to convince electrical professionals of the value of these gatherings. She stated that because the inspector participation was so low, MEA was willing to waive the usual contribution this year. She added that MEA is always happy to welcome inspectors at the Friday afternoon lunch, tradeshow and afternoon sessions because of the value of their presence. a

Richard Owen, inspector member on the Board of Electricity reported that the opinion of the administrative law judge supported the Board's effort to require 8 hours per year of continuing education for registered unlicensed individuals. The change will take effect August 31, 2009 or five days after publication in the State Register, whichever happens last.

Mr. Owen reported on the financial challenges of the Department of Labor & Industry, reminding everyone that the Department worked very hard to get the legislature to understand the impact of the budget cuts, which included a 5% cut in all inspection contracts and the sunset of all REIs filed prior to January 1, 2008, but to no avail. He said that Assistant Commissioner Tom Joachim was faced with hard choices and has to make the Division work with what the legislature has allotted.

Dick also told us that at the June meeting, the Board was asked to make a final interpretation as to whether the installation of solar panels is included in the scope of "electrical work" as defined. He encouraged those inspectors with strong opinions on the matter to attend the Board meeting on July 7th where the Board will be seeking public comments.

Dick also announced his pending retirement from his position as Chief Electrical Inspector for the city of Saint Paul, and his subsequent resignation from the Board of Electricity, effective August 31, 2009. This will leave an opening for the inspector member of the Board. Anyone interested in the position should look at the link at the Department of Labor & Industry's website for the Board of Electricity (<http://www.dli.mn.gov/Boe.asp>), where they can find more information about how to make application for appointment to the Board.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am and followed by a presentation from Jeffrey Fecteau, filed representative from Underwriters Laboratories, on the "Evolution of AFCL."

Respectfully submitted,

M. "Sam" Sampson
Secretary