



NASA Ames Contractor Council
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2021
Meeting held virtually via Microsoft TEAMS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>M/S</u>	<u>Phone</u>
NASA Representative	Carol Carroll	ARC	200-9	4-0256
President	Kari Gonter	Metis Technology Solutions		(760) 500-0136
Vice President	Mark Rowland	Flight Research	NRP-19	(510) 366-5909
Treasurer	Sara Jain	Tellus Solutions		(408) 368-0726
Secretary	Valerie Escobar	AMA	N229-3	(408) 761-6063

Call to Order [11:01] by Kari Gonter

Introductions

David Korsmeyer

- The Agency has raised the Center capacity limit of staff allowed at Ames to 50%.
 - As you see more work being needed on site, please work with your Civil Servant task requestors to identify which staff need on site access.
 - Most days there are a maximum of 800 people on center, which is about 25% so there is room to bring more people on site if more onsite presence is needed.
 - Organizational Director approval is all that is needed for access, Center approval is no longer needed.
 - Ames has a high percentage (combined) of Civil Service and Contract staff that are either fully or partially vaccinated or have sought a reasonable accommodation. The main goal is to communicate to Ames personnel that if they are working on site, it is going to be a very safe place in respect to COVID practices.
 - Ames' mask policy will remain consistent with the County of Santa Clara. Ames will consider updating mask mandates when the county does.
 - Almost 700 people went to Ames on November 30th and received their COVID-19 booster shot.

Christine Munroe:

- Small Business Goals:
 - At the Agency level we met the Small Business goal
 - At the Center level we did not meet the Small Business goal, but we made all the other goals. The Small Business goal was not met due to internal issues where contracts were extended, and they were no longer classified as small.
- Other Business awards: certificates will be presented in January.

ACC Business Items

ACC President's Report – Kari Gonter

- Kari approved the November minutes at 11:12 am.
- Holiday Party has been scheduled January 13, 2022 from 4pm to 7pm at Michaels restaurant, an invitation will be sent out via email.
- Kari has received inquiries from other companies who are looking to do business at Ames. Kari will talk to Saba offline.

ACC Vice President's Report – Mark Rowland

- No Report

ACC Treasurer's Report – Sara Jain

- Beginning balance: \$15,278.42

Expense

- \$24.95 Webhosting for Cruzio
- Total ending balance: \$15,253.47

ACC Secretary's Report – Valerie Escobar

- No Report

Committee Reports

Small Business – Saba Hussain

- There was a wonderful turn out at the November 18th joint counselling session.
- If you have any small business goals you are trying to meet, send the NAICS code Christine and CC Mariam and Saba.
- There is some interest in having an in-person networking event. Looking at March 2022 to host a networking event. Saba is going to put together options and work with Kari to schedule

Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour

- The calendar is out. If you would like to purchase copies of the calendar the link is on the ACC website.

Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell

- No Report

Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon

- No new requests for grants currently.
- The Ames Early Career Network will provide an update on their Guest Speaker series at the February ACC meeting.

Public Policy- Sara Jain

- NASA's DART mission is headed to a double asteroid with the intent of crashing into it. Nothing is expected to survive, but the data it provides may help some day if another asteroid is on a collision course with Earth and must be diverted. The mission will use a "kinetic impact technique," to alter the orbit of an asteroid. In other words, the spacecraft will smash into a space rock to change its direction. DART will impact a "moonlet" called Dimorphos that orbits around a much larger asteroid Didymos and the mission teams aims to shorten its orbit around Dimorphos by several minutes.
- The House finally passed the second bill to address President Biden's infrastructure agenda. This "human infrastructure" bill has \$1.115 billion for NASA, far less than what NASA Administrator Bill Nelson once hoped for, but would be a significant boost for the agency on top of its regular appropriations nonetheless. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.
- NASA officials conceded today that 2025 is the earliest possible date U.S. astronauts will return to the Moon, not 2024 as promoted by the Trump Administration and adopted by the Biden Administration earlier this year. That will be the third mission in the Artemis series and the first two also have slipped. Meanwhile the development cost for the spacecraft that will transport the crew, Orion, has grown from \$6.7 billion to \$9.3 billion. NASA Administrator Bill Nelson told reporters that a number of factors are affecting the schedule for the Artemis program to return astronauts to the Moon as a steppingstone to Mars. The impacts of COVID-19 on the NASA and industry workforce and supply chain, first time development challenges, less than requested congressional funding for the Human Landing System (HLS) to get from lunar orbit down to and back from the surface, and a seven-month delay due to litigation over the HLS contract NASA signed with SpaceX are all contributors to the delay
- 2021's Best Comet: Astronomer Gregory Leonard discovered C/2021 on January 3, 2021, and according to Leonard, the last time the comet visited our solar system was likely 75,000 to 80,000 years ago. After it passes Earth and our Sun at the stunning speed of 158,084 miles per hour, it will be ejected from our solar system for millions of years, making this possible observation of Leonard a truly a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon

- Nothing to report

ACC Golf Tournament– Mark Rowland

- Kari is going to talk to Mark and start planning a Summer 2022 tournament.

New Business

- Contractor Excellence awards are still on hold until an in-person event can be held.

Adjourning the Meeting

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 11:29 am.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on January 5, 2022 at 11 am (PST)