



NASA Ames Contractor Council
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2023
Meeting held virtually via Microsoft TEAMS

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>M/S</u> | <u>Phone</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|------------|----------------|
| NASA Representative | Amir Deylami | ARC | | |
| President | Kari Gonter | Metis Technology Solutions | | (760) 500-0136 |
| Vice President | Vince DeFrancisci | Bay Area Environmental Research Institute | | |
| Treasurer | Sara Jain | Tellus Solutions | | (408) 368-0726 |
| Secretary | Valerie Escobar | AMA | N229-3 | (408) 761-6063 |

Call to Order [11:00] by Kari Gonter

Introductions

Amir Deylami, Center Associate Director

- FEVS Workshop was held a few weeks ago and some key take aways:
 - o Challenges with workload and burnout
 - o A need for better recognition
 - o Continued improvement on communication

Christine Munroe, Small Business Specialist

- Agency: Made the small business goal, but the other 4 social economic category goals were not met (SDB, WOSB, HUBZone, SDVOSB)
- NASA Ames made all their small business goals (Small Business, SDB, WOSB, HUBZone, SDVOSB)
- Upcoming OSBP Learning Series (3rd Wed of each month 10am PST/ 1pmEST.):
 - <https://www.nasa.gov/osbp/regional-outreach> or <https://www.nasa.gov/osbp/>
 - o December 13: Programs and Resources to help you do Business with the Federal Government
 - o January 17: How Best to Market to NASA
 - o February 16: NASA HBCU Opportunities
 - o March 20: Women Changemakers and Small Business Success at NASA

- Small Business Liaison Officer (SBLO) Training “Second Wednesday” FY 24: To get on the email invitation list, email Stephanie.Lewis@sba.gov
 - o Dec 13, 2023 –Definition of small business and the socioeconomic categories (Sophia Chou)
 - o Jan 10, 2024 –Setting Subcontracting Plan Goals (Valerie Coleman)
 - o Feb 14, 2024—Preparing for an SBA Subcontracting Plan Compliance Review (Arnette Mayhew)
 - o Mar 13, 2024—The “If Not, Why Not” subcontracting plan requirement (Janice Nietes)
- Upcoming Outreach Opportunities:
 - o Dec 14, 2023: US Black Chamber Inc (Virtual)
 - o Jan 25, 2024: NASA Small Business Outreach Event and Networking (Virtual)
- Request for Council:
 - o Look at Ames Contractor Council website and make sure your company information is correct
 - o Make sure companies are registered in the NASA vendor database, there have been a lot of changes and this is the first stop to show that you are interested in doing business with NASA
 - o Please submit ISR information on time, via the ESRS system. If you are having issues, please reach out to Christine/ the CO before the deadline.
 - o Small Business Committee needs a lot more participation

ACC Business Items

ACC President’s Report – Kari Gonter

- Kari sent out the wrong minutes (October meeting versus November meeting). The minutes for November will be approved at our next meeting.
- We need more committee/group participation from other members of the council. It would be nice to get some fresh ideas and new people involved. If you are interested, please reach out to Kari.

ACC Vice President’s Report – Vince DeFrancisci

- No Report

ACC Treasurer’s Report – Sara Jain

- Beginning balance: \$18,053.05
- Credit: \$1,500 (check deposit from calendar)
- Expense: \$24.95 (web hosting)
- Total ending balance: \$19,528.10

Check payment for the calendar should be received by Print Shop this week.

ACC Secretary’s Report – Valerie Escobar

- No Report

Committee Reports

Small Business – Saba Hussain

- No Report

- Meeting was held November 21 and there were only 3 people in attendance. Participation is needed from individuals who are a part of a small business is needed.

Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour

- Calendars will be available for purchase at the Ames Happy Hour. We still have 55 calendars available for sale.
- Purchase of new cash box and tablecloth was approved.

Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell

- No Report.

Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon

- No new grant applications.
- Team Andromeda grant payment is in process, the check has been sent for second signature.

Public Policy- Sara Jain

- On November 14th the Secure World Foundation announced that 26 space companies from 10 countries have signed a statement supporting international efforts to stop direct-ascent antisatellite tests that create space debris that imperils commercial space activities.
- The Senate passed a Continuing Resolution to keep the government funded until early 2024 late on November 15th. The unusual “laddered” bill passed the House yesterday and sets two different dates for extending FY2023 funding as work continues on FY2024 appropriations
- SpaceX will need to launch at least 15 Starships to execute the Artemis III lunar landing NASA said on November 17th. Starship cannot fly directly to the Moon, but must refuel in Earth orbit before setting out for deep space.
- Six members of California’s congressional delegation sent a letter to NASA Administrator Bill Nelson on November 22nd urging him not to scale back Mars Sample Return funding right now. Saying they are “mystified” by the agency’s decision to pause the MSR program, revealed at a NASA advisory committee meeting the last week of November, they asserted the decision violates Congress’s authority.

Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon

- There weren’t any incidents in October, but in November we saw 5 mishap events.
 - o Dust in their eyes while working on a piece of equipment
 - o 3 employees went to the health unit to report symptoms of malaise while working in a building
 - o Steam eruption
 - o Power went out in the fire station after a small electrical fire
 - o Someone pulled a muscle.

ACC Golf Tournament– Kari Gontar and Trey Croom

- Sara Jain has volunteered to support the Golf Tournament along with Kari and Trey.
- Focus now is setting a date for the event.

Contractor Excellence Awards– Debbie Koyler

- The nomination deadline for the Honor Awards has passed and there were no submissions.

New Business

- Sara Jain has accepted the position of ACC representative for the Ames Exchange.
- Faten is working to send information for our January Happy Hour.

Adjourning the Meeting

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 11:51 am.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on February 7, 2024, at 11 am (PST), where we will hold our nomination and election for board positions (President, Vice President and Secretary).