



NASA Ames Contractor Council
Meeting Minutes
November 10, 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 concluded its discussions with the Civil Servant Unions, and they are moving towards Stage 2 with increased site capacity at 50%. Formal approval has not been approved by Headquarter yet, it is expected to occur in January 2022.
- Once Ames goes to 50% capacity, they are expecting that Teams are going to begin requesting that they come back on site and it is going to be permitted, with the only constraint being the health and safety issues.
 - Older buildings will continue to have minor constraints to maintain proper ventilation.
- Working to accommodate people who wish to continue with teleworking and those that would like to work on Center.

Christine Munroe:

- On November 27th we will be celebrating Small Business Saturday.

- A joint counselling session has been scheduled for November 18th at 11am. We have two small businesses booked to share their capabilities.

Sarah Pollock, Ames Procurement Officer

- The Safer Federal Workforce Taskforce amended the deadline for Federal Contractor vaccination requirements in the EO to January 18, 2022, formerly December 8, 2021. Although the date has shifted for covered contract employees, there is no change to the effective date of the EO so there will not be any modifications to contracts.
 - The task force is still working to update the FAQs on the website notating the change in effective date.

Kristina Wilmoth, Dean of Students & NASA International Internship

- The Role of the Dean of Students:
 - Connects students to events, activities, groups, and opportunities (Center and Agency talks/ presentations, poster sessions, informal get togethers)
 - Creates community amongst students for general welfare, resource pooling/sharing (cars, housing, etc.).
 - Support diversity and equity and inclusion and access for all
 - Serves a single POC for Center and Agency questions regarding students.
- “ARC Dean of Students Community” is a TEAMS channel where management can connect and share information on programs at the Center involving students.

Jeffrey DeVine

- Hosting a webinar on November 19th, more details will be provided to anybody who wishes to participate.

[ACC Business Items](#)

ACC President’s Report – Kari Gonter

- Kari approved the October minutes at 11:24 am.
- ACC Holiday Party: Faten is working on scheduling a date at Michael’s.

ACC Vice President’s Report – Mark Rowland

- No Report

ACC Treasurer’s Report – Sara Jain

- Beginning balance: \$14,570.79.69

Credit:

- \$732.58 credit is in process from our 2019 Paypal balance

Expense

- \$24.95 Webhosting for Cruzio

- Total ending balance: \$15,278.42

ACC Secretary’s Report – Valerie Escobar

- No Report

Committee Reports

Small Business – Saba Hussain

- Next Small Business meeting is Thursday October 10th, please let Kari or Saba know if you would like to be sent the invite.
- Saba is still working on Joint Counseling Sessions with Christine

Ames Calendar– Faten Mansour

- Faten is working with the print shop to get the calendar printed. We are hoping to deliver by the first week of December.
- We will be opening sales to the ACC Community first at \$15/calendar (plus processing if using Paypal) since the calendars are in limited supply.

Marketing and Communications - Renee Mitchell

- Renee has updated the blog with:
 - o The FY20 NASA ARC Small Business Industry Award winners have been posted to the blog
 - o A feature has been added to the blog to highlight small, Hispanic owned businesses.

Imagination Foundation – David Cornelius and Linda McCahon

- No new requests for grants currently.
- Looking to have the Ames Early Career Network provide an update December/January.

Public Policy- Sara Jain

- Blue Origin's lawsuit against NASA for awarding SpaceX the only contract for a lunar landing system was rejected today by the Court of Federal Claims. The opinion itself is sealed for now, but in a public document Judge Richard Hertling granted NASA's motion to dismiss. Company founder Jeff Bezos tweeted "Not the decision we wanted, but we respect the court's judgment, and wish full success for NASA and SpaceX on the contract."
- Blue Origin, Sierra Space and several other companies announced plans on October 25th to team together and build a "mixed use business park" in low Earth orbit called Orbital Reef. The initial facility will have three main modules providing about the same amount of usable volume as the International Space Station but can expand if market conditions warrant. The plan is to have it assembled in the mid-2020s to allow for an orderly transition from the ISS and avoid a "space station gap."
- NASA is targeting a two-week window in February 2022 for Artemis I, the uncrewed test flight of the Space Launch System and Orion spacecraft. A lot of work remains to be done, including a dress rehearsal planned for January, so the timeframe is tentative, but the announcement is a sign that the long-awaited launch is drawing near. Artemis I is the first step in NASA's effort to return American astronauts to the lunar surface five decades after the last Apollo crew departed.
- NASA's Lucy spacecraft started its journey to the Trojan asteroids with a successful launch, but on October 17th the agency said one of the two solar arrays, critical to mission success, may not be properly latched. Still, the arrays are producing power and charging the battery, so the long term consequences are yet to be determined. Lockheed Martin built the Lucy spacecraft. Northrop Grumman provided the solar arrays.
- Actor William Shatner, who just made his first actual trip to space after decades portraying Star Trek's fictional Captain Kirk, was overwhelmed by the experience. His emotional and eloquent description of

comprehending Earth's fragility by seeing it from space exemplifies what space advocates hope will be a newfound appreciation for our home planet as ordinary citizens get a chance to see it from above. He thinks "everybody in the world should do this."

Safety Outreach– Mike Weiss and Linda McCahon

- 2 Incidents in August (both under investigation)
 - o A vehicle struck an object--drove over a cable spool and resulted in some property damage.
 - o Contractor injury-- contact of a hot object (occupational first aid).
- 2 Incidents in September
 - o Injury due to a fall--employee rolled their ankle
 - o Damage due to a fire caused by energized electrical equipment. Personnel in the area extinguished the fire with a dry chemical extinguisher, so there was damage.

ACC Golf Tournament– Mark Rowland

- No Report—event is on hold.

New Business

- Please let Kari or Faten know if you would like to assist planning for our Holiday celebration in January
- COVID boosters are being offered at the Ames Health Center beginning November 30th.

Adjourning the Meeting

- Kari Gonter adjourned the meeting at 11:43 am.

Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next official meeting will be held virtually on December 1, 2021 at 11 am (PST)