2017 Spring Meeting Report

The Masonry Society had enjoyable and productive meeting in Denver Colorado from April 18-23. During the Town Hall Meeting, updates on Society Activities were given along with a Financial Report that shows the Society is doing better than projected.

This report highlights some of the significant actions and decisions made at the Meetings:

- Based on a recommendation from President Jerry Painter, the Board of Directors approved the formation of a Nominating Committee to be Chaired by Scott Walkowicz, with members of Richard Bennett, Rochelle Jaffe, Michael Schuller and Jason Thompson. The Nominating Committee will consider possible members for the Society’s Board of Directors, and will submit recommendations to the Society’s Membership this summer. Recommendations for future Board Members can be forwarded to members of the Nominating Committee or to the Society’s Executive Director.

- Based on a recommendation from the Awards Committee, the Board of Directors is considering Fellow Member Nominees.

- The Board of Directors approved an aggressive, but balanced, budget to the Society’s 2018 Fiscal Year (August 2017 - July 2018) that included new membership benefits, the elevation of a part-time employee to a full-time project engineer status, new webinars, and a 40th Anniversary Celebration.

- President Painter formed a Task Group to consider the impact to TMS’s Publication Income that could result if Free Access to Standards is required in the future.

- The Board of Directors approved moving approximately $45,000 of savings into its reserve account, re-establishing reserves at approximately 3-months of operating expenses. With this action, the Society now has approximately $115,000 in its Reserves Account. These monies can only be used by action of the Board of Directors, and are intended as a “rainy day” fund during periods where the Society is not earning revenues in excess of expenses.

- The Administrative Committee Team reviewed and proposed changes to the 2017 Annual Meeting Schedule including:
  - Presenting a second Masonry Giants Session
  - Adding a Young Member Event to be hosted by Drew Geister.
  - Adding check boxes to the registration form to allow attendees to note whether they would you be willing to be a mentor to a new attendee, and whether they would like a mentor.
  - To provide a complimentary Anniversary Issue of the Awards Lunch Flyer noting significant award winners, leaders, and which would allow Members and Friends to include Society remembrances and dedications.

- Based on recommendations from the Meetings Committee, the Board of Directors approved holding the 2019 Annual Meetings from November 6-9 in Phoenix.

- Considering new website features, the Administrative Committee Team recommended, and the Board approved, a new benefit for TMS Members of Electronic Read Only Versions of TMS 302 (Sound), TMS 403 (Direct Design) TMS 404/504/604 (Cast Stone) at no charge during their membership year.
Based on a recommendation from the Membership and Outreach Committee and the Administrative Committee Team, the Board of Directors approved the following dues for 2018:

$215 Individual,
$700 Affiliate,
$2000 Sustaining
Leave Student, Junior, Retired Memberships at current rates

The Administrative Committee Team (ACT) recommended, and the Board approved, that TMS participate as a Cooperating Organization at the 2018 Structures Congress in Fort Worth Texas. As part of this, TMS will again host a booth, and will try to conduct at least 2 technical sessions.

The Technical Activities Committee (TAC) is considering numerous revisions and clarifications to the Technical Committee Operations Manual (TCOM). Some of these revisions may require revisions to Bylaws if made (for example if rules on notifications for meetings are changed to accommodate virtual meetings, a similar change may be needed in the Bylaws).

The Research Committee has offered numerous ideas on TMS Journal. ACT and TAC are discussing whether the Research Committee should begin overseeing TMS Journal. The Research Committee is also preparing a 2nd Masonry Giants Sessions during TMS’s Annual Meeting this November, and will be considering several awards over the summer.

The Sustainability Committee has proposed changing its name, scope and mission. TAC is in general in support but has requested several clarifications on the proposal.

Independent Author Publications (IAP’s) (A masonry textbook from Ahmad Hamid textbook and Assessment and Retrofit of Masonry book from Hamid and Schuller) are being reviewed and may be ready for publication late in 2017 or in 2018.

TAC is working with the Investigating Disasters Committee on creating a database of qualified investigators.

The Design Practices Committee is working on a number of projects including a new edition of the Direct Design Handbook, provisions for dry-stack post-tensioned masonry, and TMS Responds.

The Construction Practices Committee considered comments from the Technical Activities Committee on their proposed revisions to the Masonry inspection Checklist.

The Existing Masonry Committee is considering comments on their revisions to Condition Assessment of Masonry Facades, and is working on a number of other publications and resources.

TMS 402/602 Committee had productive meetings and is now preparing its 3rd ballot of the cycle. A public comment related to veneer is being considered along with requested consideration of prescriptive anchored veneer requirements by the Technical Activities Committee.

The Design Examples Team of the Masonry Designer’s Guide Team met to review changes needed to the examples based on changes in ASCE 7-16 and TMS 402/602-16.
• The BIM-M Committee had productive meetings and has transitioned from helping to identify needs of BIM-M REVIT to now helping solve those issues.

• The Membership and Outreach Committee and Board of Directors will be working to help promote Membership in the Society.