

**Young Professionals Committee Meeting Minutes**

Sept 21st 2:30pm, 2023

1. Call to Order and Welcome – **Introduce new members**: Nick Portwine and Charise Collins

**Meetings will typically be 3rd Thursdays 2:30pm**, virtual on Zoom

**Aprrove minutes** *Meeting minutes: Ariana W. Backup: Rachel Z.*

MWEA Holiday party is Dec 14th.

1. **Succession Plan: Chair/Vice Chair positions started following MI-ACE.**
   1. New Professionals vs Young Professionals:
      1. We will be using those terms interchangeably.
      2. This committee is for anyone that is new to the water industry.
2. **Schedule of events for 2023** (Thursday afternoons seem to work best)
   1. October 19th, Listening Session with Bonnifer Ballard
      1. Hybrid Meeting (Virtual and In-Person, GR)
         1. 2935 Buchanan Ave SW (2935 Buchanan Ave SW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49548)
      2. Executive Director wants to get our thoughts on what’s up ahead for the water industry – specifically, how MI-AWWA and the young professionals can work together to make a better future for us all!
   2. October 26th East Side, West Side Plant Tours
      1. East Side Tour will be visiting Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant at 2pm
      2. West Side Tour will be visiting two plants: Benton Charter Twp & St. Joe Water Treatment Plant. Meet at Benton Charter WTP at 1:45pm, half will carpool over to St Joe WTP, the other half will stay at Benton Charter WTP. Tours will start at 2pm and then 3pm once groups are switched.
      3. Mixer locations are being finalized by MI-AWWA staff, but tentatively will meet at:
3. East Side: Session Room 3:45pm
4. West Side: North Pier Brewing 4pm
5. **Discussion for YP Commitee 2024: This committee exists to support the young and new professionals in our industry and AWWA Michigan Section. The goals/ambitions/activities that we plan and pursue should be decided collectively as a committee, and can change as needs arise. Feedback or ideas for committee happenings is always welcome. Since this was the first meeting of the term year, the committee took some time to discuss and provide feedback on three major committee aspects:**
   1. **Meetings: segments to be added to monthly committee meetings**
      1. Seasoned professional guest speakers will start each meeting with a brief overview of their water career journey and any advice to YPs (10 minutes)
         1. November Meeting—Kyle Tryan
         2. December Meeting—Collin McCorkle
      2. YP presentations – Quick spotlight on each person’s job and/or current projects (10 minutes)
         1. November Meeting—Ariana Wade
         2. December Meeting--\*Spot Available, contact Rachel if interested\*
      3. Technical trainings (briefly discuss trainings attended)
   2. **Communication: we want to avoid overwhelming amounts of emails**
      1. 1 email per month (Newsletter) between monthly meetings.
      2. Think about other methods of communication
   3. **Events: besides our traditional plant tours, what else should we aim to plan?**
      1. Holiday Party: Join with MWEA? Rachel is going to reach out to MWEA YPC
      2. Joint Expo:
         1. Operators Trainings and Vendor Expo
         2. Mixer hosted by YP the first night of the event
         3. Goal: Pair up high school studends and fresh YPs with seasoned professionals
      3. Spring tours – Which plants to tour?
         1. City of Saginaw is interested in hosting a tour.

**Other Ideas:**

-Annual YP event at MI-ACE?

-1 No Water No Beer? Or No Water No Coffee breakfast?

-sporting event (griffins, pistons, tigers...)

-Kickball fundraiser? -Holiday Party?

-Plants to tour: Plainfield, Grand Haven, South Haven, Ludington, Wyoming, LBWL, Benton Charter Twp, Lake Charter Twp, GLWA plants,...

1. Spread the word about the YPs and help us boost membership!
2. Additional comments and Adjourn