24 June 2021 AAPA Facilities Engineering Committee Recap

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our meeting last Thursday. It was nice to virtually see you. For those who were unable to join us, or for those who may have missed any part of the meeting, here is a quick recap:

Lighthouse Awards – We received 4 submissions and now it's time to judge. We need three judges. Our chair and vice chair volunteered to judge so we asked for one more volunteer to judge. Henk Voogt from Port of Rotterdam volunteered. Thank you, Henk! The judges will have until June 28th to review and score the 4 submissions in AAPA's online platform, Submittable.

MARAD Webinar Recap – The Facilities Engineering Committee hosted a webinar with MARAD on June 10th titled "Understanding Federal Grant and Loan Funding Opportunities for U.S. Ports." We had 80 registrants, of which 49 attended. They were very engaged, asking at least 2 dozen questions during the Q&A following the presentation. Key links he shared during the presentation can be found in the attached slide deck, or, you can also access the full slide deck and recording of the webinar on AAPA's website here (note: you will need your login credentials to access them.)

Facilities Engineering Seminar & Expo – The program has been decided for the seminar and speakers are being invited. Registration is now open and we are also taking booth applications. So far, we have 10 paid registrations and 3 tabletop exhibitors. Our goal is to have at least 75 paid attendees and 15 tabletops. Our program subcommittee (Chris Novack, John Foglesong, Erik Stromberg & Rackley Dawson) has been working hard to put together a good program for you. Please register to join us! You can view the program and register online at https://my.aapa-ports.org/Public/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=21FACENG. The event takes place November 2-4 in Savannah, Georgia.

Committee Leadership – The committee leaders would like to add a 2nd Vice Chair position to the leadership team. The committee leaders help prepare for and lead committee meetings, lead planning for the biennial Facilities Engineering Seminar & Expo, oversee the Facilities Engineering category of the annual Lighthouse Award, and other programs of interest for the committee. Because this person may ultimately rotate into the chair position (after no less than at least one year), this person should for this time being, work at a port and be an engineer. If you are interested in serving in this role, please contact Paula, Chris or John by July 9, 2021.

Open Forum – At the end of the call, we discussed that we had received many interesting topics for the Facilities Engineering Seminar. Since we only had room on the seminar agenda for four panels, we weren't able to accept all of the ideas. However, we should be able to find opportunities to discuss many of these topics throughout the year in committee meetings or webinars, or perhaps other forums. I have attached the seminar topics that we were not able to accommodate on the seminar agenda. Chris and John and I will be discussing how best to tackle incorporating these into our discussions, so look for more about this soon...

Next Meeting – We have not set a definite date yet but are looking to schedule the next meeting for the end of August and will send an appointment out likely within the next week or two.