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ARAB AMERICAN ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION  
www.aaeausa.com

## AAEA Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 19, 2011 at 6:00 PM

### 1. Call meeting to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm at the Pita Café in Oak Park, MI.

### 2. AAEA Board Roll Call

Present: President - Sami Khaldi  
President Elect – Awni Qaqish  
Secretary – Maria Sedki  
Treasurer – Mahmoud El-Gamal  
Director – Maher Abbasi  
Director – Ghassan Abdelnour  
Director – Sermed Saif

Excused: Director – Nafa Khalaf  
Director – Sam Bahou

### 3. General Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves and what company they represent. A sign-in sheet was also passed around and is attached to these minutes.

### 4. Approval of Current Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of the following under New Business:

- Association Name and Logo

### 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The November 9, 2010, meeting minutes were approved.

### 6. Previous Action Items

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee. *(Not Completed)*
- Sermed Saif to add Mohammed Alghurabi's name to the e-mail list. *(Not Completed)*
- Awni Qaqish will send out the "Thank you" letters to all the Annual Dinner Sponsors. *(Completed)*
- Sermed Saif will post information from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting on the website. *(Not Completed)*
- The Board will vote to pick a single representative to the National Committee. *(Not Completed)*
- Awni will send out an e-mail to try to schedule a Special Board Meeting for the week of November 15. *(Completed)*

## 7. Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees gave an update of their current progress:

### a. Finance Committee – Treasurer’s Report

A handout was distributed at the meeting. The Organization currently has \$10,003.12 in the bank. \$8,350.00 was spent since the last meeting on the 2005 through 2010 taxes and federal ID. Approximately \$6,000.00 should however be refunded.

John McGrail donated \$750.00 to the Scholarship Fund. The check was received and a Thank you letter was sent out to him.

2011 Membership Dues are due by January 31, 2011. Mahmoud El-Gamal will e-mail Sermed Saif the renewal form to e-mail to everyone with a reminder that only members in good standing can vote in the March elections.

### b. Membership / Recruiting Committee

Andre Hindo and Sam Bahou volunteered to be on the Committee.

### c. Activity Committee

About Atiyeh and Jamil Jamil volunteered to be on the Committee.

### d. Student Scholarship Committee

Najwa Abouhassan, Awni Qaqish, and Mahmoud El-Gamal will continue to serve on the Committee.

### e. Education Committee

Raied Hindi and Sami Khaldi volunteered to be on the Committee.

### f. Publication Committee

Maher Abbasi, Chady Wehbe, and Abdul Abbas volunteered to be on the Committee

## 8. Ad Hoc Committees

### a. Annual Dinner

Chady Wehbe, Souheil Sabak, Ghassan Abdelnour, Raied Hindi, Jamil Jamil, Sami Khaldi, and Awni Qaqish volunteered to be on the Committee.

### b. Election Committee

Andre Hindo, Nidal Fakhoury, and Rafat Putrus volunteered to be on the Committee. Andre Hindo will forward the information on the election to Sermed Saif to e-mail to members. The open positions are for President Elect, 4 Board Members, and Secretary.

### c. Website Committee

Jamil Jamil has volunteered to help Sermed Saif with the website.

### d. National Outreach Committee

The Steering Committee has asked that each State have one representative. The Board voted to have Sermed Saif be the representative. Sami Kahldi will continue to serve as the representative until the new Board takes office at which time Sermed Saif will take over.

## 9. Student Chapter

No update

#### **10. New Business**

Discussion was held over the Association Name and Logo with two items being identified:

- a. According to Sami Khaldi, the National Organization is requesting that AAEA officially recognize the National Name (AAAEA) and Logo and adopt it as our new logo with the words "Michigan" at the side of the logo.
- b. Another discussion was started on the desire of some AAEA members to change the name to a catchier name that would be more inclusive and less specific.

After a long discussion, no decision was made or action taken. However, Sami Khaldi was asked to contact the National Steering Committee and verify if "AAAEA" was finalized as the name of the organization or if the local chapters are to vote on agreeing to simply have a unifying name and logo with the actual name and logo to be finalized at a later time.

#### **11. Public Comment – 3 min max**

Chady Wehbe suggested that Sami Khaldi and Sermed Saif issue an e-mail to the members summarizing the status of the National Organization, the progress to date, the goals of the organization, what committees are setup, and which ones need volunteers.

#### **12. Next Meeting**

The next business meetings will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, at Al-Ameer restaurant in Inkster.

#### **13. Guest Speaker**

To be determined at a later date.

#### **14. Action Items**

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee.
- Sermed Saif to add Mohammed Alghurabi's name to the e-mail list
- Sermed Saif will post information from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting on the website.
- Mahmoud El-Gamal to e-mail Sermed Saif the Membership Renewal Form to e-mail to everyone with a reminder that only members in good standing can vote in the March elections.
- Andre Hindo will forward the information on the 2011 Elections to Sermed Saif to e-mail to members.
- Sami Khaldi to contact the National Steering Committee and verify if "AAAEA" was finalized as the name of the organization or if the local chapters are to vote on agreeing to simply have a unifying name and logo with the actual name and logo to be finalized at a later time.
- Sami Khaldi and Sermed Saif to issue an e-mail to the members summarizing the status of the National Outreach Committee, the progress to date, the goals of the organization, what committees are setup, and which ones need volunteers..

Business Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm

Written By: Maria Sedki, on January 19, 2011



ARAB AMERICAN  
ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS

**AAEA Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 6:00 PM**

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Name	Representing	Phone No.	e-mail
María Sedki			
Sermed Saif	Huron Consultants		
Sami Khalde	W.C. Permits		
<del>CHRYSLER/PRODUCTION</del> CAU & Assoc			
ANDRÉS R. ITENDO	WASH Const. Co.		
Mohammed E. T. G. F.	PST		
Raied S. Hamed	Detriot Contracting INC		
Awni Raqish	TYJT		
M. J. A. Almasri	Retired WCDPS.		
Mohammad Suleiman	Ex. WCDPS.		
CHADY WEHBE	Accurate Surveying & FLAPPING		
John Saul			



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**AAEA Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 6:00 PM**

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Name	Representing	Phone No.	e-mail
MAHER ABBASI	City of Detroit		
Jamil Jamil	Student	(313) 409-1325	
Rafat Ayyar		248-539-4889	rifatayyar@msu.edu
Lamia Ayyar		248-539-4889	lamiaayyar@yahoo.com
ABOUD ATIYEH	SOLE CONST.	734-216-0111	
AHMAD ALI	HENNESSEY ENGINEERS	734-341-7154	AALALI@HENNESSEY.COM
Abdul Abbas	City of Detroit	313-971-3309	abbashams@ymail.com
Samer Abbas	Student UMD	313-492-0347	samer1abbas@gmail.com



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ARAB AMERICAN ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION  
www.aaeausa.com

## AAEA Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM

### 1. Call meeting to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm at the Al-Ameer Restaurant in Inkster, MI.

### 2. AAEA Board Roll Call

Present: President - Sami Khaldi  
President Elect – Awni Qaqish  
Secretary – Maria Sedki  
Treasurer – Mahmoud El-Gamal  
Director – Maher Abbasi  
Director – Ghassan Abdelnour  
Director – Sermed Saif

Excused: Director – Nafa Khalaf  
Director – Sam Bahou

### 3. General Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves and what company they represent. A sign-in sheet was also passed around and is attached to these minutes.

### 4. Approval of Current Agenda

The agenda was approved with no additions

### 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The approval of the January 18, 2011, meeting minutes was tabled to the next meeting.

### 6. Previous Action Items

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee *(Not Completed)*.
- Sermed Saif to add Mohammed Alghurabi's name to the e-mail list. *(Not Completed)*
- Sermed Saif will post information from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting on the website. *(Not Completed)*
- Mahmoud El-Gamal to e-mail Sermed Saif the Membership Renewal Form to e-mail to everyone with a reminder that only members in good standing can vote in the March elections. *(Completed)*
- Andre Hindo will forward the information on the 2011 Elections to Sermed Saif to e-mail to members. *(Completed)*.
- Sami Khaldi to contact the National Steering Committee and verify if "AAAEA" was finalized as the name of the organization or if the local chapters are to vote on agreeing to simply have a unifying name and logo with the actual name and logo to be finalized at a later time. *(Completed)*.

- Sami Khaldi and Sermed Saif to issue an e-mail to the members summarizing the status of the National Outreach Committee, the progress to date, the goals of the organization, what committees are setup, and which ones need volunteers. *(Not Completed)*.

## 7. Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees gave an update of their current progress:

### a. Finance Committee – Treasurer’s Report

A handout was distributed at the meeting. The Organization currently has \$11,542.64 in the bank.

Prior to the start of the meeting 12 members had paid their 2011 dues and only two members had volunteered the additional \$10.00 for National. At the meeting, several people paid their dues. A revised tally of the paid members will be submitted at the next meeting.

A motion was passed to perform an audit of the Organization’s finances prior to the next elections. A second motion was passed to have Chady Wehbe and Aboud Atiyeh perform the audit. Chady and Aboud will schedule a meeting with Mahmoud El-Gamal to go over the finances and submit a report by the next meeting.

### b. Membership / Recruiting Committee

Andre Hindo and Sam Bahou were not present. No update was presented.

### c. Activity Committee

Aboud Atiyeh will work on some ideas for the next meeting.

### d. Student Scholarship Committee

Work will begin in April for this year’s applications.

### e. Education Committee

Sami Khaldi will issue an e-mail asking members on what type of educational services they would like to see.

### f. Publication Committee

The Al-Muhandis newsletter is requesting articles. Please forward them to Maher Abbasi.

## 8. Ad Hoc Committees

### a. Annual Dinner

Souheil Sabak will begin working on the annual dinner later in the year.

### b. Election Committee

Nominations are due by March 8, 2011. The elections are at the next General Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2011. Sermed Saif will send an e-mail reminding everyone and informing them of the location and time of the meeting.

### c. Website Committee

No update since the last meeting

### d. National Outreach Committee

There are several sub-committees that would like volunteers including: National Steering Committee, Structural Committee, Automation Committee, Fund Raising Committee, and the Membership Committee. Sermed Saif and several other AAEA members are part of the Automation Committee. Sami Khaldi has been covering the remaining committees but he needs help.

#### **9. Student Chapter**

No update on the Wayne State Chapter. LTU has been active. LTU is hosting the SOS 2011 Conference and AAEA will be an Endorsing Sponsor of the event. Awni Qaqish will forward the information on the conference to Sermed Saif to issue to all members in the hopes that some may stop by.

#### **10. New Business**

If any members have changed their e-mail address or are not getting info from AAEA, they should notify Sermed Saif to update his mailing list.

#### **11. Public Comment – 3 min max**

Rami Haddad introduced himself and his interest in being involved with AAEA. He also invited members to attend the next Lebanese Collegiate Network's annual convention on April 2, 2011.

#### **12. Next Meeting**

The next business meetings will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at Al-Ameer restaurant in Inkster at 6:00 pm

#### **13. Guest Speaker**

To be determined at a later date.

#### **14. Action Items**

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee.
- Sermed Saif to add Mohammed Alghurabi's name to the e-mail list
- Sermed Saif will post information from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting on the website.
- Sami Khaldi and Sermed Saif to issue an e-mail to the members summarizing the status of the National Outreach Committee, the progress to date, the goals of the organization, what committees are setup, and which ones need volunteers.
- Chady Wehbe and Aboud Atiyeh will schedule a meeting with Mahmoud El-Gamal to go over the Organization's finances and submit an audit report by the next meeting.
- Sami Khaldi will issue an e-mail asking members on what type of educational services they would like to see.
- Sermed Saif will send an e-mail reminding everyone of the election dates and informing them of the location and time of the meeting.
- Awni Qaqish will forward the information on the SOS 2011 Conference at LTU to Sermed Saif to issue to all members.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 pm

Written By: Maria Sedki, on February 18, 2011





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**Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM**

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Name	Representing	Phone No.	e-mail
María Sedki	SDA		
AMINI CRAPER	TYJT		
Sami Khalid	Wayne County	734 502-0443	
Rafat Putrus	RSP	248 147-3773	rputrus@comcast.wi
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ABOUD ATIYEH	SOLE	734-216-0111	SOLECONS@YAHOO.com
Souheil Sabak	C. E. Raines. Co	(734) 285-7510	ssabakecharles@yahoo.com
AHMAD ALI	HENNESSEY ENGINEERS	734 341-7154	ADALI@HENGINEERS.com
GHASSAN ABDELWAHAB	LIAN ASSOC.	248 752-1249	
Sermed Saif	Huron Consultants	810 394-7887	
Mahmoud El-Gul	P SJ		



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Name	Representing	Phone No.	e-mail
M. Dia Almasri	<del>XXXXX</del>	313 645-9104	malmasri77@hotmail.com
MAHER ABGASI	DWSO	313-485-7551	ABGASI@DWSO.ORG
Raied S. Hindi	Detroit Contracting Inc	313 962 8472	<del>RS</del> rhindi@detroitcontracting.com
Rami Haddad			



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## AAEA Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM

### 1. Call meeting to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm at the Al-Ameer Restaurant in Inkster, MI.

### 2. AAEA Board Roll Call

Present: President - Sami Khaldi  
President Elect – Awni Qaqish  
Secretary – Maria Sedki  
Treasurer – Mahmoud El-Gamal  
Director – Maher Abbasi  
Director – Ghassan Abdelnour  
Director – Sermed Saif

Excused: Director – Nafa Khalaf  
Director – Sam Bahou

### 3. General Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves and what company they represent. A sign-in sheet was also passed around and is attached to these minutes.

### 4. Approval of Current Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of an item to allow the Candidates to introduce themselves.

### 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The February 15, 2011, meeting minutes were approved.

### 6. Previous Action Items

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee (*Not completed*).
- Sermed Saif to add Mohammed Alghurabi's name to the e-mail list. (*Completed*).
- Sermed Saif will post information from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting on the website (*Cancelled*).
- Sami Khaldi and Sermed Saif to issue an e-mail to the members summarizing the status of the National Outreach Committee, the progress to date, the goals of the organization, what committees are setup, and which ones need volunteers. (*Cancelled*).
- Chady Wehbe and Aboud Atiyeh will schedule a meeting with Mahmoud El-Gamal to go over the Organization's finances and submit an audit report by the next meeting (*Completed*).
- Sami Khaldi will issue an e-mail asking members on what type of educational services they would like to see. (*Not completed*).

- Sermed Saif will send an e-mail reminding everyone of the election dates and informing them of the location and time of the meeting. *(Completed)*.
- Awni Qaqish will forward the information on the SOS 2011 Conference at LTU to Sermed Saif to issue to all members. *(Completed)*.

## 7. Candidate Introductions

The Candidates running for office introduced themselves.

## 8. Elections

The elections were conducted. There were 21 Ballots with the following results:

President Elect	Maria Sedki	16 votes
Secretary	Reid Hindi	21 votes
Directors	Souheil Sabak	17 votes
	Ghassan Abdelnour	16 votes
	Sermed Saif	15 votes
	Sam Bahou	12 votes
	Samil Khaldi	Automatic

## 9. Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees gave an update of their current progress:

### a. Finance Committee – Treasurer’s Report

A handout was distributed at the meeting. The Organization currently has \$12,192.89 in the bank. There are currently 26 paid members and 23 members paid the additional \$10.00 for National.

Chady Wehbe and Aboud Atiyeh perform an audit of the Organization’s finances. They met with Mahmoud El-Gamal and went over the books. The Organization’s Finances are in order.

We have not received a refund check back yet from the IRS.

### b. Membership / Recruiting Committee

Andre Hindo and Sam Bahou will begin calling people next month to get engineers and architects to join or re-join the Organization.

### c. Activity Committee

Aboud Atiyeh can setup several golf outings if there is interest. He will come up with several dates to pick from.

### d. Student Scholarship Committee

Work will begin in April for this year’s applications. There was a suggestion to consider opening the scholarship for higher education students as well.

### e. Education Committee

Sami Khaldi will issue an e-mail asking members on what type of educational services they would like to see.

**f. Publication Committee**

The Al-Muhandis newsletter is requesting articles. Maher Abbasi will send them one on the results of the election.

**10. Ad Hoc Committees**

**a. Annual Dinner**

Souheil Sabak will begin working on the annual dinner later in the year. If anyone has suggestions for the Guest Speaker, please contact Souheil.

**b. Website Committee**

Geed Latif has agreed to help Sermed Saif with updating the website.

**c. National Outreach Committee**

A reminder that there are several sub-committees that would like volunteers including: National Steering Committee, Structural Committee, Automation Committee, Fund Raising Committee, and the Membership Committee.

**11. Student Chapter**

No update on the Wayne State Chapter. Entesar Mansour has not been successful in generating interest at LTU.

**12. New Business**

None

**13. Public Comment – 3 min max**

Rami Haddad suggested a trade exchange with the Lebanese Collegiate Network's (LCN) annual convention on April 2, 2011, at Oakland University. LCN will provide AAEA with a table at the dinner and in exchange AAEA will provide a table to LCN at our Annual Dinner.

A motion was passed to accept the trade exchange.

**14. Next Meeting**

The next business meetings will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at 6:00 pm. Location to be determined.

**15. Guest Speaker**

To be determined at a later date.

**16. Action Items**

- Sami Khaldi will contact Najwa Abouhassan or Entesar Mansour to see if they would be interested in volunteering to be the communication directors for the Michigan Chapter of the National Student Committee.
- Sami Khaldi will issue an e-mail asking members on what type of educational services they would like to see.
- Maher Abbasi will send Al-Muhandis an article on the results of the election.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 pm

Written By: Maria Sedki, on March 18, 2011



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**AAEA Meeting**  
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Name	Representing	Phone No.	e-mail
Maria Sedki	SDA	248-844-5400	
Souheil Sabak	C. E. Rainer Co	(734) 285-7570	
ABOUD ATIYEH	SOLE'	734-216-0111	SOLECONS@YAHOOCOM
WALID AHAMDAW	WALSH	313-573-6600	
CHADY WEHBE	Accurate Surveying & Mapping	313-506-3160	
John Saad	John Saad	313-575-2200	
Raied Hindi	DCI	313-962-8472	
Senmeel Saib	Huron Consultants	810-594-7887	
AWINI QADH	TUTT	313 963 0612	
Sami Khaldi	W.C-Permits	734 502-0443	
Rafat Putras	ITSP Const	(214) 47-3773	
ANDRER. HINDO	Walsh	313-873-6600	

