Consultants Practice Specialty Conference Call Minutes: February 1, 2013

Attendees – Pam Walaski, Debby Shewitz, Neil Feldscher, Terry Grisim, Scott Thomas, J.A. Rodriguez, Carol Robinson, Kirk Martin, Dhruti Thaker

I. January Minutes – Not approved due to lack of quorum.

II. Nominations and Elections – Terry Grisim and Debby Shewitz reported that the committee will nominate Pam Walaski as Administrator and Brian Hitt as Assistant Administrator for the 2013-14 program year. Nominations will be submitted to the Society in the next few weeks.

III. Directory – Pam, Debby and Carol brought everyone up to date on the status of the current directory. The vendor is still working on the suggested changes.

Subsequently, BCSP has launched its directory, which is free, although only open to those with a BCSP certification. Several people on the call have already submitted their profile. Terry spoke with BCSP staff about some of the search engine capabilities.

Those on the call discussed the current pricing structure and whether it would encourage people to list who were not really in practice because it was so cheap.

Debby and Carol will prepare a summary of the group’s concerns for Jeff Camplin who will meet with staff the first week of February.

IV. Legal Services Branch – Neil plans to piggyback his Advisory Committee conference calls on ours for the time being until he can get sufficient people engaged.

V. The Advisor – Pam and Dhruti reported that Scott Thomas and Tom Keelty will join the Publications Team for the next issue, which will be a big help in spreading out the workload. The next due date is April 15. The most recent issue should be distributed soon.

VI. Website and Social Media – Carol was not on the call, so there was no report.

VII. Membership – Rich was not on the call, so there was no report.

VIII. Body of Knowledge – Greg was not on the call, so there was no report.

IX. Consultants Guide – Pam reported that the Technical Publications Advisory Committee has approved the proposal for the Consultants Practice Specialty (CPS) to write a guide book on becoming a consultant. J.A. Rodriguez has agreed to join Pam and Carol as the third editor. In the near future, a call for authors will go to all CPS members along with a Table of Contents. Those wishing to contribute will be asked to select a chapter and to provide a brief outline of the chapter content and information about their publishing and writing skills. A publication timeline will also be developed in the near future. Anyone who wants to contribute to the book should let Pam/Carol/J.A. know of their interest or keep an eye out for the call. It will be sent via e-mail to all CPS members and will also be posted on LinkedIn.

X. CoPS Matrix – Pam reviewed the current status and noted we are just one point away from a Silver category. We were able to increase our points for having a strategic plan/goal plan and for
members being published in Professional Safety as well as in other publications (EHS Today). Any other points that can be identified should be brought to Pam’s attention or raised during monthly conference calls.

The current version of the matrix is always available for review on the CPS DropBox site.

XI. S&H Programs for Small Business (publication revision by CoPS) – Pam indicated that there is no update at this point from Jeff Camplin.

XII. Awards and Honors – Neither Brian nor Dennis were on the call, so there was no report.

XIII. New Business
a. Call time request for change – Carol Robinson has asked that we move the call time because she has a standing commitment during that timeframe, making it difficult for her to participate. The group agreed to move the calls to 2:30-3:30 pm (EDT), remaining on the first Friday of the month.

b. PDC Planning – CPS has the most sponsored sessions of any practice specialty at 14 this year. LinkedIn will be used to begin promoting them and a handout with all of the sessions will be made available prior to Safety 2013 so that CPS members can attend and support their fellow members if possible.

c. Advisory Committee Program Year 2013-14 – Although it is early, Pam asked all Advisory Committee members to begin thinking about their interest in staying with their current position for the next program year. Options also include moving to a difference position if interested. Pam will contact everyone in a few months to begin the discussions.

d. Strategic Plan – The draft was reviewed and approved. It is available on the CPS DropBox site.

The next call will be Friday, March 1 from 2:30-3:30 pm (EDT).