

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

MINUTES OF MEETING

PLASTICS COMMITTEE
Springfield, New Jersey
May 2, 1963

PRESENT:

Messrs. W. H. Salzenberg (Chairman), E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
J. T. Castles, General Electric Co.
John R. Eck, Monsanto Chemical Co.
D. S. Frederick, Rohm & Haas Co.
D. M. Joseph, CIBA Products Co.
H. W. Mason, Jr., Reichhold Chemicals, Inc.
T. T. Miller, W. R. Grace & Co.
D. C. Williams, Eastman Chemical Products, Inc.

W. C. Goggin, Dow Chemical Co.
W. B. Humes, Union Carbide Plastics Co.
L. J. Francisco, American Cyanamid Co.
E. A. Edberg, Koppers Company, Inc.
O. L. Pierson, Rohm & Haas Co.
William Demarest, M.C.A.
F. H. Carman, M.C.A.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Walter Salzenberg.

Building Standards Survey.

Prior to the report on this subject, Mr. Demarest presented a digest of the assignment to the Daniel Yankelovich, Inc., consultants, which was essentially the basic points covered in the original meeting of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee.

In Mr. Kinsella's absence, Mr. T. T. Miller discussed the findings of the consultants as had been reported to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee in the meeting April 26. The final report is now being duplicated, and it is planned to supply a copy to all Executive Representatives of the Plastics Group and its Plastics in Building Committee for study. Briefly, the conclusions and recommendations covered:

- (1) A firm recommendation there should be a program of standards and certification.

- (2) The kind of program that should be set up to achieve this.
- (3) The promotion necessary to implement this program.

Mr. Miller then discussed the various sections of the report under the following headings: (a) Reason for the Study; (b) People who were consulted; (c) Where plastics stand today in the building field; (d) What is inhibiting acceptance of plastics; (e) The needs of the various groups in the building industry; (f) Would standards help and tend to increase sales; (g) Criticisms of plastics industry standards to date; (h) How the industry should organize to handle this program of standards development; (i) The pros and cons of certification and labeling, other than legal; (j) Promotion of the program; and (k) What to undertake first, such as, give attention to siding.

The latter point was the only significant difference from the December staff report following an intensive survey prior to the employment of the consultants.

It was concluded that all members of the Plastics Committee and the Association should be urged to study the report which will be available shortly. In the ensuing discussion on funds that may be necessary to initiate a program during the next fiscal year, it was subsequently agreed that the best estimate on monies that could be expended on a new program of this nature is \$50,000; it was agreed this should be included in the budget requesting members to report their willingness to go along with the necessary increase in fees. If this extra funding is not obtainable through the regular channels, the Plastics Committee will then investigate other methods of financing the program as may be ultimately recommended on the basis of the surveys to date.

Other Building Activities.

O. L. Pierson, Chairman of the Plastics in Building Committee, with special comments by E. A. Edberg, Vice Chairman, reported on the various aspects of the building program, and mentioned:

- (1) His Committee in December 1962 endorsed the findings and recommendations of the survey

reported by Mr. Demarest and was gratified to know that the Yankelovich study corroborates this position.

- (2) If the recommendations are adopted, the Plastics in Building Committee would expect to continue present activities, since the new program would be complementary.
- (3) Members of this group, being close to building problems, should continue to be a ready source of guidance for the proposed new standards project.

The primer on Code Approvals Procedures of direct interest to the plastics industry has been substantially completed by the MCA staff director; a publisher has indicated interest in handling this handbook.

Mr. Demarest reported that the industry's West Coast representatives had convinced the San Francisco Board of Examiners that the industry should be granted an extension of time in which to carry forward its studies on smoke hazards. However, he pointed out that this extension was granted for only a three-month period, and it was doubtful whether the Underwriters' Laboratories research on the smoke hazards of plastics for the MCA could be completed within that time.

Nominating Committee Report.

For new members on the Plastics Committee, J. T. Castles reported the recommendations of the Nominating Committee as follows:

- L. J. Francisco, American Cyanamid Co.
- W. C. Goggin, Dow Chemical Co.
- W. B. Humes, Union Carbide Plastics Co.
- H. H. Irvin, Marbon Chemical Div., Borg-Warner Corp.
- R. E. Workman, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

These nominees are to replace Messrs. Kinsella, Marusi, Eck, Mason and Dinges, who have served their two-year term.

Members were then advised that T. T. Miller, present Vice Chairman, would no longer be able to serve the Committee as its Vice Chairman or Chairman. Accordingly, the Nominating Committee subsequently presented the names of W. C. Goggin for Chairman and W. B. Humes for Vice Chairman for the year beginning June 1963. (Consistent with past procedures, the Committee should elect its Chairman and Vice Chairman in the next meeting.)

It is understood the above nominations for new members will be circulated to the Plastics Group for vote before submission to the Board of Directors for approval.

Plastics Financial Package for 1963-64.

A tentative budget for 1963-64 was submitted with the agenda. In discussion it was pointed out there was no provision for a Building Standards Program, and that \$50,000, as proposed earlier in the meeting, for such an activity would require about a 50% increase in fees. The Committee proposed that the new range of fees be submitted to each member for a decision as to acceptance of the increase to carry forward the Building Standards Program as may be developed following thorough consideration of the Yankelovich report.

Arrangements Committee.

With approval of the Committee, Chairman Salzenberg asked the following to serve on an Arrangements Committee for the September meeting:

H. W. Mason, Jr., Chairman
D. C. Williams
D. M. Joseph

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. and was followed immediately by a meeting of all member representatives for a report by Messrs. Daniel Yankelovich and Arthur White on findings of their extensive survey over the past two months.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman

F. H. Carman
Secretary
Plastics Committee

FHC:lb

May 9, 1963

cc: Mr. Lloyd Symington
P.S. NEXT MEETING

June 6, 1963, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs,
W. Va., Breakfast at 7:45 a.m., Directors Room.

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