



January 2008

PMO SIG Local Interest Group Meeting - Minutes

Main Topic: PMO Executive Council Findings - Discussion
Facilitator: Locksley Philips
Secretary: Margaret Rubick

Minutes

1. Welcome & Introductions

Participants today included:

Rosanne Adams
Solly Asapolchai
Joni Buttke
Maude Fribourg
Carol Gingold
Carol Metcalfe
Amy Myers
Locksley Philips
Margaret Rubick
Anthony Tassone

2. Member Announcements

- Job opportunities (within our companies, industries, etc.)
 - Solly asked if anyone was interested in setting up a consulting company specializing in PMO activity.
- Tools – Project, time management, specialty, ...
 - Nothing to report
- Articles of Interest
 - “Women in Project Management”, a selection on the PMI website, is hosting 3 [webinars](#) on Metrics. Today’s webinar ran into technical problems and has been rescheduled to next Wednesday. Roseanne plans to participate.
 - Margaret mentioned that she wrote an article on troubled projects for Judy Umlas (presenter in November meeting) and it was published in November’s ALLPM Newsletter.
- Other meetings/seminars of interest
 - The next breakfast roundtable is Jan 24; the next PMI meeting is at the Royal Palace on Feb 14.
 - IIL has free [webinars](#) on their website which are good for PDUs.

3. Success (or Blunder) of the Month

- Last month’s PMO SIG discussion helped Carol Gingold define her new role. Her new title is “Process Integration Manager”.

4. Problem/Challenge of the Month

- Anthony has been approached by his management to take on Change Management at an enterprise level. He will need to define his role. (He stayed to talk with Carol G)

5. Main Topic

Date: 10 Jan 2008
7:45 - 8:45 PM

Chair: Gus Sanchez
Phone: (914) 829-7750



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- Locksley kicked off the discussion with the observation that building a new generation of PM capability brings challenges. Project managers are a scarce resource and are, at times, Line of Business specific in their skills. The group discussed the difference between basic PM skills in planning and tracking, Business skills and Leadership skills.
- In interviewing for key competency, it's important to recognize the difference between someone who knows the mechanics of project management vs someone who has the maturity to discuss real issues. Locksley asked if anyone had experience with behavioral interviews – Roseanne said she was hired based on her willingness to talk about lessons learned on failed projects. Locksley also asked if anyone had experience shutting down projects. Margaret talked about her experience with them.
- Metrics discussion: multileveled. Metrics were defined as measures to determine internal project health (red, green, yellow) and also as profit and revenue. This led to a discussion on project portfolio management. Most agreed that organizations have not progressed to the point where projects are assessed at a portfolio level. It was pointed out that there can be a bookkeeping approach to metrics, but a strategic view is important. Also of importance is the idea of funding across projects and funding along with considerations of project duration: for example, some projects could be put on hold and then restarted. What came across is the importance of taking a long view or seeing the overall picture.
- In leveraging PPM tools, it was agreed that the skills must come before the tools.

Other

- Roseanne is willing to discuss the webinars, mentioned above, in the March PMO SIG.

1. The topic planned for February is: Enterprise PMO Case Study – [“Simple Solutions”](#) by Lisa DiTullio