Ithaca Section Meeting Minutes 2021 No 7 Oct 13 ExCom
Prepared by Secretary, Kirk Smith

IEEE Ithaca Section Meeting Minutes
Date: Oct 13, 2021,   Time: 7:00 PM   Location: ZOOM

Attendees: Alex Specker, Mike Joyner, James Groves, Kirk Smith,

Not attending: Mike Di Brienza, Prafull Purohit, Hugh Phillips, Nicole Kerness, Guoyi Xu

Minutes from previous meet were NOT reviewed

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer reported that our account balance was $10,376.08

Ithaca Section Updates Today: Things Discussed
Ground Swell Farm At Ecovillage
https://groundswellcenter.org/
https://ecovillageithaca.org/grow/groundswell-center/

From Alex:
To recap: the IEEE HAC reps (Holly Schneider-Brown and Joan Woolery) floated an idea for our section to work with a local farm-aid organization (Groundswell) in the area of agriculture technology. We had a meeting last week and set up a meeting with Groundswell this week.
So today I met with Natalie Hughes from Groundswell (and briefly with Juliana Quaresma) at their farm next to Ecovillage. Natalie showed me around and talked about the farm and what they do and how we can possibly help out.
Nothing concrete was proposed, just general ideas. We will all think about it more and I'll meet with them next week (Thursday or Friday.) Areas that we could help with our expertise and funding are: Irrigation systems, plant monitoring, greenhouse environmental control, solar power, and other areas that will come up as we look into this. They also need some new equipment (compact tractor) and help with maintenance and training.

I'm looking forward to pursuing this and welcome any advice or help our section can muster. Once things get going, I'll reach out to the local membership for help and input and maybe can draw in more active members.
Cheers, Alex

NOTE: Groundswell is looking for a compact front loader, e.g., a Kubota
Would like a woman to help them learn machine maintenance – they are looking for this on their own.

Next Meeting:
Date and Time: November 10, 2021
Location: WebEx
Topic: Event Planning