

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Board Of Directors of the
U.S. Capitol Page Alumni Association**

Thursday, April 19, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Papazian at 4:04 p.m. Pacific time.

Attendance

On the rollcall, answering were Peter Darby, Tim Hill, Jerry Papazian, Chris Cobey, Jim Nuzzo, and Sean Tucker. Not answering were Elizabeth Ambrose, Jeff Clark, Jason Rae, Audrey Scagnelli, Duane Taylor and Shelley Thomas.

Jim Nuzzo

Jerry welcome new board member Jim. Jim spoke briefly on, and enthusiastically about, his joining the board.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the Board meeting for February 15, 2018, were previously distributed. On a motion by Chris, seconded by Peter, the minutes were approved as drafted without objection

Committees and Committee Reports

Nomination Committee: Three incumbent Board members decided not to apply for re-appointment (Bob Borsari, Ali Davis, and Vance Morrison) this year. In addition, Board members Ellen Blakeman passed in February, and Miles Taylor has become deputy chief of staff to Director of Homeland Security, and is unable to continue to serve because of his time commitments, though he will continue to help as able. These events create five Board vacancies.

The committee has identified two strong Board candidates: Camilla Messing Bosanquet and Kelly Shea Hitchcock. Jerry spoke with each candidate at length, and information on each has been distributed to the Board. Both candidates were strongly recommended to the Board by the committee. Chris moved approval of both candidates to become members of the Board, and Jim seconded. On a voice vote, with no objections, both candidates were named to the Board.

Committee Leadership and Membership. Jerry noted that all Board members will need to step up their efforts with our loss of experienced Board members. We

are a working board. Jerry will be in touch with individual Board members on this subject.

A DVD copy of our documentary (“Democracy’s Messengers”) has been mailed to all persons who appeared in the film, and to all supporters of the film, and to all life members.

Treasurer’s Report. Jerry reported for Jeff. The 1st quarter’s financials were previously distributed. We have approximately \$30,000 in the bank, which is about average for this point in the year. Our income is too highly reliant on memberships and donations. We need to develop continuing and new life members. We need a mailing this year on this topic.

House Page Program. The March 6 official public presentation of our documentary at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., was successful, and received much positive feedback. The McGowan Theatre where the documentary was screened has a capacity of about 250 people. Jerry was advised by an Archives representative that ours was one of largest audiences for these programs. Marcie Sims’ March 7 presentation on her book about the Page program was well-received.

Our proposal for the reinstatement of a House Page program was submitted last month to our contact in the Speaker’s Office, before the Speaker’s announced retirement. Jerry is not sure what will happen to the proposal in light of current events and will contact the Office next week if no response has been received concerning this summer’s possible pilot program.

Jim asked if a DVD copy of our documentary had been sent to the Chief Justice, and to former Pages who were or are now in Congress, among others. Jerry said he would oversee getting such copies hand-delivered, if required. That delivery method is required because of the precautions now in place for all incoming physical mail to Capitol Hill.

Events: Peter mentioned the availability on YouTube video of the March 6 Archives presentation. Going forward, we are still trying to arrange a Northern California regional event focusing on former House Page and Clerk of the House Donn Anderson. Other ideas are pending; we need more brainstorming. Our quadrennial Homecoming is a little more than two years away.

Tim mentioned that he has information on possible sites in the SF East Bay and South Bay for an event there, and that San Francisco may not be the best option.

Membership and Marketing. Jerry reported that with both Ali and Ellen now off the Board, this committee literally needs new leadership.

Class rings. Jerry reported that Josten’s will recreate CPS rings once they get six orders, which could then be ordered online. No additional information is available

on this topic now, in Jeff's absence. Separate House School and Senate School (post-1986) are available to order online from Josten's.

Ali trained Tim and Jerry about our website site development and maintenance before she left the Board, and those two are acting as temporary webmasters to update the site.

The social media report was deferred in Jason's absence.

On the association newsletter, Jerry reported that Ellen had been working on the next issue. Jerry just got boxes from Ellen's family which may contain newsletter information, but he has hasn't yet had an opportunity to review. Michael Esposito volunteered to help with newsletter, and we may use his talents on this experience. Jerry will contact Esposito on this possibility.

Open Discussion

The proposal to restore a House Page program has never been partisan. We will need to work with both sides of aisle, no matter who wins the House in November. Jerry will circulate the proposal presented to the Speaker's Office to the Board. We would welcome comments from on the proposal's content and related ideas, including residency of possible House pages. Jim mentioned Trinity College (Washington, D.C.) alumna and former Page Kathleen Abbott (House 2002). Abbott had mentioned to Jim the possibility of our program getting one or two floors of a Trinity dorm during the summer to house pages from remote areas. There could be a bus between Capitol and college. Trinity is a closed campus and has good security.

Former Page Ron Thomason (House 1971) (who appeared in our documentary) contacted Jerry after Ron received his copy of our documentary to suggest that some students from the Parkland, Florida, high school involved in the February 14 shootings be among the first House pages.

Jerry will develop and send out a Board roster and committee list when completed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm Pacific time.

The next telephone meeting of the Board will be on June 21, 2018.

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