



**MINUTES
OF THE APRIL 17, 2014
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board of Directors
2013**

Jerry Papazian (H '71-72)
President

Beth Ambrose (H '91)
1st Vice President

Chris Cobey (H '65-67)
2nd Vice President

Bill Peard (H '02)
Treasurer

Vance Morrison
Secretary (SC '52-56)

Ellen McConnell
Blakeman (S '72)

Bob Borsari (S '57-58)

Jeffery Clark (S '69)

Peter Darby (H '83)

Ali Davis (H '91)

Jason Rae (S '04)

Joe Stewart (S '53)

Duane Taylor (H '78)

Miles Taylor (H '05)

Shelley Thomas (H '90)

Sean E. Tucker (H '84)

I. Called to order: By President Jerry Papazian at 7:02 p.m. EST via teleconference. Participating: Beth Ambrose, Chris Cobey, Bill Peard, Vance Morrison, Ellen Blakeman, Jeffery Clark, Peter Darby, Ali Davis, Jason Rae, Joe Stewart, Miles Taylor, and Shelley Thomas. Jerry welcomed everybody and announced that a lot was happening.

II. February 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes: Approved by voice vote.

III. Committees and Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Papazian/Miles Taylor):

1. House Page Program Update (Miles Taylor):

- a. Miles Taylor and Seth Andrews (House '95), who participated in the last Board meeting, submitted a 250-300 page proposal to the DC Public Charter School Board for a Washington Leadership Academy (WLA). The WLA would be operated initially for the first two years on Capitol Hill.
- b. The process included a rigorous interview and will be followed next Tuesday by a public hearing for the WLA team to testify about the written proposal. Bill Peard is helping the project team assemble strategic assets to bolster our case during the public hearing.
- c. On 19 May the Charter Board decision on the WLA proposal will be announced. Approval can be very difficult; in the past, seven out of eight proposals have been denied. If the initial proposal is denied, Seth can be designated as an "Experienced Operator" (due to his extensive prior charter school experience as founder of Democracy Prep School) and the proposal resubmitted with a greater chance of approval but a less desirable outcome, for WLA would not have stand-alone control over the school. Other contingency approaches also are prepared if needed.
- d. If the school is approved, a Fall 2015 opening is planned and, as previously announced, for DC residents and funded by DC tax dollars. Former Pages will be asked to volunteer to assist in the initial set-up of the school.
- e. Miles announced he will be working full-time on the WLA project for a while. He also announced that the project had obtained a \$500K grant from a "major foundation" – the name is close-hold until a public announcement on 28 April.
- f. The Board acknowledged Miles' and his team's contributions to date. *Miles cautioned that all of the above information was close-hold until there are public announcements and response to possible Congressional reactions can be controlled.*

- g. Later in the meeting Jerry and Miles noted that the Association Board needs to be conscious of the sensitivity of questions that might be asked if the WLA is “another Page School.” Reactions to WLA could be the opposite from what intended and reduce the ability to eventually resurrect the House Page program. It will be a difficult task for us to “thread the needle.” Further, a DC Charter School Board decision on WLA may be issued with as-yet unknown conditions.

2. **Page Documentary** (Miles Taylor): Miles reported that the documentary project is currently undergoing major editing and remains close to completion. Fine tuning – incremental progress - is underway and Bill Gates’ staff is currently reviewing the documentary. Jerry and Miles will be devoting more time to completing the process expeditiously.
3. **House Page History** (Jerry): Jerry reported that this was a very good job by the House History office and copies will be available online (PDF). Paper copies also will be available; each House Member has copies.

B. Treasurer’s Report: (Peard): Due to other business, a formal Treasurer’s report was not provided. Bill announced that the current treasury balance was about \$20K.

C. Events (Homecoming) Committee (Darby/Papazian):

1. **Regional Events** (Darby): Peter Darby announced that a lot of good things have occurred and are coming up.

- On March 2nd the Los Angeles/Southern California event occurred at the Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda. He said that Jerry had done a great job with the Nixon Library. Former Pages from classes of 1954 through 2008 attended. Jerry told the Board that “all who should have come did” and the head of the Nixon Foundation (Sandy Quinn) was guest speaker. The attendees formed groups of familiar friends and toured the site. The draft Page Documentary was shown with much positive feedback.
- Jeff Clark has arranged a Rangers ball game on June 7th at the ball park in Arlington, Texas, near Ft. Worth. Because the game is on a Saturday he anticipates a large turn-out and will thank all members who helped with the event.
- An event is planned June 21st (or 28th as a back-up date) in Atlanta at the Carter Center/ Presidential Library, similar to the recent event in Los Angeles. Both dates are on a Saturday afternoon with a planned reception, museum tour, and showing of the Page Documentary.
- A Chicago event is planned for June 28th at the Pritzker Military Museum. A reception is planned along with a museum tour and showing of the Page Documentary. Political cartoonist Scott Stantis from the *Chicago Tribune* will be a guest speaker. Alan Rose, Ellen Blakeman and Jason Rae are assisting with this event.
- Shelley and Ali are arranging a DC United soccer game (vs. Seattle) event for the evening of June 28th and are considering a happy hour social event in DC later in the summer. The fall Board meeting will be held in DC, as was done last year, in conjunction with the annual Ken

Smith Luncheon and an evening social event October 17th-18th. Peter solicited Board member suggestions for the social event; the luncheon venue has been secured. Jerry thanked Chris for hosting the Board meeting again at his local law office conference room.

- New York City: A late summer/early fall event may be possible and Board suggestions were solicited.
 - Chris Cobey is looking for a suitable venue in San Francisco.
- Peter asked for more regional volunteers to help with the above events.

2. Homecoming (Darby): A Homecoming Ad Hoc Committee will be formed soon to choose a hotel site and begin planning efforts.

D. Membership/Marketing Committee (Blakeman/Davis): The committee continues work on updating the website with a designer. A joint membership mailing is in the works with the Capitol Historical Society.

E. Long-Term Strategy Committee (Cobey): The Committee will report on the recent survey on goals at the October Board meeting.

IV. Temporary Fundraising and Support Position Proposal (Peard).

- A. Issue:** Bill explained that Jeanne Papazian has been working with Jason's help as the Administrative Assistant on the Page data base and responses to numerous requests. Her success has been measured and the Association's increasing activities have outpaced the ability to respond. Mission-driven, we have many projects.
- B. Proposal:** Bill provided a handout to the Board that was crafted to provide a new position to meet the need. A 30-hour-per-week temporary position was proposed to raise \$15K-20K during a six-month contract period as well as work with the Administrative Assistant on the data base, coordinate regional events, develop newsletter content, develop strategic relationships with other organizations and explore future alumni initiatives. Total salary cost would be \$10,764. The Board would review the position at the end of the six month performance period and decide whether or not to extend the performance period. Bill volunteered that he would be in a job transition period beginning in August and that he be a candidate for the proposed position with a primary initial period of fund raising. His handout analyzed the cost-benefit aspects of his proposal relative to our budget and income with and without income produced by the new position.
- C. Discussion.** Bill departed the conference all at this point and the Board members discussed the merits of his proposal. Discussion points included the following:
- Jerry decided that the Board would make no decision on the proposal during this meeting.
 - Would the position cover all current fundraising efforts?
 - Concern about the economics (cost-benefit).
 - Experience in fundraising needed.
 - No guarantee that the effort would produce as proposed, but may need to try anyway to see.
 - Position requires Page database experience; Bill has that experience.
 - Bill probably would be required to resign his current Board position as

Treasurer.

- Need a candidate with a strong passion to increase the income.
- Need more high-dollar donors than minor contributors.
- There will be another fund-raiser in June as well as the joint mailing and we may need another newsletter soon, depending on the Charter Board/WLA decision.
- Major Association assistance to the WLA, if approved, is not anticipated.

V. Proposed Dates for 2014 Board Meetings (Papazian): Third Thursday of the Month

June 19, 2014 October 17, 2014 (Friday) DC In-person meeting
August 21, 2014 December 18, 2014

Jerry reminded all to reserve flights and hotels now if they plan to attend the October Board meeting in DC.

VI. Next Board Meeting (Papazian): Thursday, June 19, 2014

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 0800 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Morrison, Secretary