



**MINUTES  
OF THE JUNE 19, 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 (S '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 7:00 p.m. EST via teleconference. Participating: Beth Ambrose, Chris Cobey, Bill Peard, Vance Morrison, Ellen Blakeman, Bob Borsari, Jeffery Clark, Peter Darby, Ali Davis, Jason Rae, and Shelley Thomas. Jerry welcomed everybody.

**II. April 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes:** Approved by voice vote.

**III. Committees and Committee Reports**

**A. Executive Committee (Papazian):**

1. **House Page Program Update (Papazian):** Not surprisingly since we are not experienced in the process, the DC Charter School Board did not approve the WLA proposal. Miles Taylor and his team will revise the proposal accordingly and reapply for a charter in October. A better outcome is anticipated. The \$500K grant announced at the last meeting will be available to fund the efforts as WLA continues to seek approval.
2. **Page Documentary (Papazian):** Jerry reported that the documentary project remains close to completion. Reviewing and some feedback continues while the team is working on licensing approval for the pictures.

**B. Treasurer's Report (Peard):** The current balance of the account is \$20,500. We anticipate several large expenditures during the upcoming months, notably an upcoming "joint membership" mailing to the entire page list of roughly 5,500 addresses, upcoming expenses to finalize the new website, remaining expenses related to the page documentary film, and this month's regional events. Despite the expenses, the Treasurer anticipates that in the coming months we will recover our expenditures and will emerge from the summer with roughly the same balance in the account.

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

**Regional Events (Darby):** Peter Darby announced that a lot continues to happen with the Association's regional events.

Past Event - Peter and Jeff hosted the Rangers Baseball event in Dallas on Saturday June 7th. 25 attended with half being alumni represented by classes from 1954 to 2008. Half of alumni traveled over 3-4 hours to attend event.

Upcoming Events - Bill will be hosting an event in Atlanta on Saturday June 21st at the Carter Presidential Library and Museum with 40

attendees anticipated. This will be the first-ever regional event in the south east and similar format as the Nixon Library event in March with a social gathering, presentation of documentary and tour of museum.

Ellen and Alan Rose will be hosting an event on Saturday June 28th at the Pritzker Military Library in Chicago. Event will feature guest speaker Scott Stantis, political cartoonist for the Chicago Tribune along with showing of documentary and tour of museum. Ali and Shelley are hosting a DC United event with a pre-game social gathering before the game on Saturday June 28th.

- An event is being planned by Chris Cobey in Northern California hopefully with current California Supreme Court Justice and former House page Goodwin Liu as the speaker.
- The Annual Association (In-person) Board of Directors Meeting will be held Friday, 17 October in Chris Cobey's office spaces (as was done last year), following the annual Ken Smith Memorial Luncheon. Jerry encouraged all Board members to attend. The usual dinner gathering will follow that evening. Jerry requested that Board members provide recommendations for an event to be held on that Saturday, similar in scope to the Congressional Cemetery tour last year. Someone suggested that the Washington Monument is open once again after several years of repairs following the earthquake in DC. We will arrange a special rate at one of the local hotels for those coming from out of town.

**2. Homecoming (Darby/Papazian):** The next Homecoming is scheduled for the 2016 Memorial Day weekend and will require a lot of work. Jerry believes there will be higher interest for this event than the last Homecoming. We have reached out to former House Page Aaron Chang ('89), a professional event planner who suggested the recent, successful Nixon Library regional event, and who is preparing a proposal to provide his services if we are interested. The Board will be offered the opportunity to review the proposed agreement. Jerry considers that his services will be worth more than their cost. Beth concurred that Aaron is very professional and an excellent choice. Jerry explained that the Homecoming Committee would continue to be in charge of the event's content and structure; Aaron would work hotel matters and event locations. Both the Capitol Hill Hyatt and Liaison Hotels have been reserved and the committee will choose among these two. We plan to get a good deal on rates this far in advance. As always, lots of help will be needed.

**D. Membership/Marketing Committee (Blakeman/Davis):**

- 1. Website:** The committee is redesigning the website so that it will have helpful navigation features and action buttons for potential members considering joining. Interior pages for various features are also being considered.
- 2. Social Media:** The committee also believes that the Association is not fully using social media capabilities. Jason and Shelley will be a subcommittee to investigate this issue and others are encouraged to participate.
- 3. Newsletter:** The next newsletter is planned to be published and distributed in August or September. We have lots of great news about regional events

now but still need ideas for articles on other topics. Jerry encouraged the committee to proceed since it was assumed originally that this edition would contain lots of information about the charter school but we now need to press on.

4. **Database** (Peard): Bill advised that data base quality is improving but it is difficult to obtain data on those who were summer-only Pages. On the other hand, data now exists of 95% of those who attended the Page Schools. Contact information is incomplete on some and this has been the primary effort recently. About 50% of the names now have some sort of contact information such as phone numbers or parent's addresses. A professional search service was recently employed to help and provided some new addresses. Phone calls and Jeanne's continued hard work also are helping. Data flow is improving and we now have 11-12,000 names. The data is being scrubbed to preclude duplicate mailings

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** (Papazian).

A. Bill Peard departed the conference call at this point and the Board members discussed the merits of his proposal. Jerry noted that the proposal had been raised at the last Board meeting and that since then he had talked with several Board members about its merits. He has also been busy with non-Association matters but explained that, with the charter school reapplication this fall, we will probably need fund raising help. The proposed task would cost the Association about \$11K for a six-month task period. The risk versus the possibility of increasing our membership and raising funds is not too great. Bill Peard would perform his task with a focus on database management, fund raising, and increasing membership. He would resign from the Board and would operate under a written agreement of expectations. The ensuing discussion raised the following points:

- Some were initially hesitant but more persuaded now if the Board can monitor progress and have an assessment in 2-3 months
- Others were reluctant but could agree if there were clear numerical goals to assess progress
- Could/should benchmarks be established for varying % of funds raised?
- Focus should be more on fund raising than administrative work
- We need to assess value-added
- Since we are a volunteer organization, it is unusual to select a Board member and pay him (even after resignation)
- Bill has credibility as a former Page

B. **Motion:** Following the discussion, Jerry proposed that the Board move forward with the proposal as discussed and the terms of agreement will be submitted to the Board for its approval by the next Board meeting. Work would begin this coming August. **A Board member made the proposal a motion, it was seconded, and then unanimously approved.**

#### V. **Proposed Dates for 2014 Board Meetings** (Papazian): Third Thursday of the Month August 21, 2014

October 17, 2014 (Friday) DC In-person meeting  
December 18, 2014

**VI. Next Board Meeting (Papazian): Thursday, August 21, 2014**

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 0750 p.m. EDT.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Vance Morrison, Secretary