



MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2013 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 Papazian at 7:04 p.m. EST via teleconference. Participating: Ellen Blakeman, Jeffery Clark, Chris Cobey, Peter Darby, Vance Morrison, Jerry Papazian, Bill Peard, Jason Rae, Duane Taylor, Miles Taylor, Shelley Thomas, and Sean Tucker. Jerry acknowledged a quorum for the meeting and welcomed all participating Board members.

II. April 18, 2013 Meeting Minutes: Approved by voice vote with the following correction: Delete the entry in paragraph 3.d regarding Ellen Blakeman and a golf tournament.

III. Committees and Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee (Papazian):

House Page Program Update (Miles Taylor): There is an article in the *National Journal* that provides an update of the status of the House Page program. The article spoke to the Senate Page program, noting there are no plans to end it and that the Senate Pages are useful and gainfully employed. Also noted, encouragingly, was the fact that Speaker Boehner still is committed to finding a way to engage young people in the work of the House. The Democracy Prep School project has not seen much movement, primarily a strategic pause due to the large transition the school now is undergoing - but they remain "110% committed" to applying to become a charter school in DC this fall. This is the best proposal encountered to date. *Jerry requested in previous meetings that the Board keep this information close-hold during the ongoing negotiations.*

Page Documentary (Papazian/Miles Taylor): The documentary should be finished in a couple more weeks and ready by August. Miles will be back in DC by then and sees a good opportunity to "storm the Hill" this fall by showing the documentary DVD to potentially sympathetic Congressmen and staffers. Ellen noted that this will be necessary to communicate with members and staffers on where we stand and what we now are doing. Miles noted the Democracy Prep briefings this fall to the Hill leadership also are key to this outreach function.

b. Finance Committee:

Treasurer's Report (Peard/Papazian): Total current Assets in the bank are about \$25,000, not counting funds raised during the recent fund raising event in DC or the cost of the Joint Membership mailing (see below).

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

1. Boston Regional Event (Darby): The New England regional event was held in Boston on Sunday (6/2) between 3 and 5pm. Several alumni helped with the event that attracted 32 attendees, whose Page experience ranged from the 1950s through nearly every decade, and the most recent Page was from 2011. Introductions were followed by a showing of the latest version of the Page documentary video, then 30 minutes of questions and answers. The event closed an hour later than planned.

Ellen noted that Chicago wants to host a summer regional reunion, possibly in conjunction with a Cubs game. She will coordinate with Peter via email on how to organize the event.

Peter announced his committee plans a July meeting that will be coordinated via email. He said a fall Dallas event is under consideration as well as California area events in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Jerry plans to join the July committee meeting.

2. DC Fundraiser (Papazian and Peard): This event was held 11 June at Board Member Joe Stewart's home on Capitol Hill. Organized by Beth Ambrose, Aaron Chang ('88) and Joe, the suggested donation to attend was \$250. About 25 alumni attended and we raised \$5,000. A special thank you to Joe who kindly provided the food, drinks and hospitality. The event was a huge success.

d. Membership/Marketing Committee:

1. Joint Membership Mailing (Peard): Fifteen responses have been received to-date from the very recent large mailing. Full postage was used to enable the Post Office to return undeliverable letters, updating the data base. Several hundred of the letters have been returned so far. The letter solicits traditional membership for \$50 for USCPAA only, \$75 for USCPAA plus U.S. Capitol Historical Society (USCHS) Joint Membership, and \$500 for Life Membership that includes membership in both organizations. All will receive Page pins, with special pins and hats for Life Members. Jerry noted that this mailing is important to the USCHS who have already budgeted for another such mailing next year. Jerry recently sent a membership packet to all Life Members along with their pin and hats and plans to shortly send letters to all lapsed members, along with their pins as former members, requesting they rejoin. Finally, Jerry announced that the head of the Senate Page School has invited USCPAA to attend their end-of-semester school ceremonies in the LBJ Room in the future to hand out membership brochures.

2. Committee Report (Blakeman/Davis): Ellen reported that she is using Target Smart Communications, a service to match email addresses with our member data base. Bill Peard noted that our data sometimes is very old and the service may need to develop new methods/software to extract current data. The cost for the service is \$350 for what we are

now doing and also would be \$350 each for extracting current telephone numbers and postal addresses. Ellen plans to see how the first effort goes before expanding into the other two areas. She sent a draft letter for lapsed members to Jerry and plans are underway to have the data base generate computerized renewal emails at the appropriate time to all members. Ali Davis is distributing a survey to members and non-members this fall to determine what they want and expect to get from joining the Alumni Association.

In another action, USCPAA Board members will be asked to send letters to non-members, who were contemporaries and who they know, suggesting they join. Miles noted that Oxford University has a very successful fund raising strategy for high-end donors using hand written letters that elicits a high degree of participation because recipients are flattered to receive hand-written letters and seem to feel compelled to respond. Jerry said the Board will need targeted data base/address information for sending their letters; plans are pending on how and when this will occur. Ellen will coordinate with Bill Peard. Finally, Ellen announced the committee will flesh out ideas such as enhancing the Association's website and newsletter with items such articles about Page's personal, most significant memories and also plans to focus more on graduating Senate Pages.

- e. **Long-Term Strategy Committee** (Cobey): Chris circulated the latest report from his committee to the Board via email the day before this meeting. Summarizing, he noted that Ali was distributing the survey on what members and non-members want from USCPAA. Also discussed was a mentoring function and plans to contact former House members to record their memories of their favorable experiences with House Pages on the job. Chris reported the first committee meeting was well-run and a good meeting.

IV. Other Issues:

- a. **Ken Smith Luncheon – 18 October 2013** (Morrison): The Board was queried on whether those familiar with the DC area Regional Fall Luncheon (Ken Smith Luncheon) were content with the same venue and format as previous events or were changes in order. Members who commented were unanimously in favor of retaining the same format, location and time as luncheons have been since Ken Smith began them in preparation for the 2004 CPS Reunion ten years ago. Vance has reserved the room and will initiate arrangements accordingly. The Event and/or DC Committees are requested to assist as they are able. **Jerry noted that the October informal Board of Directors meeting is planned to be held during a dinner that evening (Friday, 18 October), location and time to be determined.**
- b.
- c. **Nationwide Networking Meetings** (Peard): Bill explained the concept, used by other organizations such as his law school, of having simultaneous networking gatherings at different locations across the

country. More information on this idea may be forthcoming in the future.

V. Future Board Meeting (Papazian): Meetings will be held the Third Week of each Month on Thursdays, 7pm Eastern Time/4pm Pacific Time.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2013.

VI. Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 p.m. EDT.

DRAFT