



MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**2012
Board of
Directors**

1. Called to order: By President Papazian at 7:10 p.m. EDT via teleconference. Participating: Bob Borsari, Vance Morrison, Jerry Papazian, Bill Peard, Joe Stewart, and Shelley Thomas.

Jerry Papazian
'72
President

2. June 21, 2012 meeting minutes: Approved by voice vote.

3. Committees and Committee Reports

Beth Ambrose
'91
*1st Vice
President*

a. Executive Committee (Papazian):

Chris Cobey '67
*2nd Vice
President*

Bill Peard '02
Treasurer

Vance Morrison
'56
Secretary

Bob Borsari '58

Joe Stewart '54

Miles Taylor
'05

Shelley Thomas
'89

- i. **House Page Program:** A White Paper Proposal is being written by the Task Force (Jim Nuzzo and Kate Abbott) to restore the House Page Program in "light form," such as a summer-only program, in order to keep youth on the House Floor. An outline is in draft form. Two other organizations have approached us to assist in the House Page Program effort. The first is a The Washington Center, an organization which specializes in Washington DC internships for college-level students. This group appears to be more concerned with page-related facilities and an intern program. The second approach was suggested by former House Page Seth Andrews, who founded a charter school in New York called Democracy Prep. He has testified before congressional committees on behalf of charter schools and appears to have bipartisan support for his charter school model. He has proposed to us working to establish a charter school for House Pages based on his Democracy Prep model. He will be submitting his proposal in writing to USCPAA for consideration.

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The Board remarked that a school does not appear to solve the entire problem either. Further Board discussion followed, pointing out that both Speaker Boehner and former Speaker Pelosi both disapprove *any* restoration of the House Page program. The real cost issue probably was not money or technology but rather the "Foley problem" of inappropriate behavior by Members of Congress toward the Pages. The cost issue can be resolved but the political issue is not easy to remedy. Apparently no one in the current House leadership

wants to “baby sit teenagers.” Contracting the program – such as the internship or charter school proposals – might introduce an appealing element of deniability and provide political cover to the leadership.

- ii. **Page Documentary** (Papazian): Interviews were conducted for the documentary as recently as this past Monday; the last interviewee was Supreme Court Page Ernest Wilson, currently Dean of USC’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. The documentary is now being completed and the “longer version” may be ready for a “sneak peek” viewing at the 18 October Annual Washington-area Page Luncheon. The film has received positive reaction so far. It is planned that it will be shown as widely as possible to help restore the House Page program. As a high a quality film as possible is planned. On a related topic, many still photos and personal videos of last May’s Page Homecoming have been submitted.
 - iii. **Directory:** Work on this project continues on hold until more names and contact information is collected. The Association is out of the original Harris contract at no cost. We have nearly 11,000 total names of former pages now with 6-7 thousand with good contact information. Another directory company could probably use newer technology to continue to expand the data base.
 - iv. **Potential New Board Members:** Jerry distributed a list of potential new CPAA Board members and their known attributes. Many were the result of discussions during the Homecoming. Jerry noted the time for electing new members approaches and requested Board members to consider this list carefully, suggest other names that might be appropriate, and provide him with comments and suggestions. The list needs more Senate Pages and Pages from the 80s. Up to half of the Board is up for reelection this year, with room to add new board members.
- b. Finances:** All USCPAA finances now are done using QuickBooks accounting program and are always up to date as a result. Jerry inputted the data so we now have an accurate basis for keeping track of the Association’s finances. Currently, there is about \$12,000 on hand. The Board discussed how to place the Association on a firm long-term footing with a good financial base. Jerry announced that this would be a principal topic of a future Board meeting, preferably face-to-face and possibly during the October meeting in DC. Bob volunteered to assist in this effort. The new database system can help with keeping track of the dues renewal process by automatically sending renewal notices to

members, but will only automatically update dues from members who renew online.

c. Homecoming Committee: (Topic was not discussed)

d. Membership Committee:

i. US Capitol Historical Society: Jerry announced that Beth Ambrose had an initial conversation with the US Capitol Historical Society, and they appear to be interested in working with USCPAA. They seek to grow membership for both organizations. Establishing desirable benefits for those joining was discussed, such as membership in the Senate Credit Union or promotion items such as USCPAA ball caps for paid members. Others reminded the Board that we need to stay in touch with the entire data base of Pages, not just Association members and that there is a sense of pride in being a former Page. It was noted that each time a mailing is sent to the entire membership it costs close to \$5000, but we receive more than that in dues and donations after each mailing. While emailing newsletters would save significantly on costs, we only have valid email addresses for about 25% of our members.

ii. Newsletter: No active material for the next newsletter has yet been received. The goal is two more mailings by the end of this calendar year. There have been three newsletters total to date and the intent is to ramp up the pace. Stories will be solicited soon, especially a recap of Homecoming events and the future of the House Page program.

iii. Fundraising Appeal: The November newsletter issue will be dedicated to fund raising.

e. Regional Events: Alan Rose is organizing a Regional USCPAA event in Chicago in late October, date to be determined. It will be a good model for future regional events and Jerry plans to attend.

f. DC Area Annual Page Luncheon: This luncheon will be held at 11:30 am, Thursday, 18 October at the Holiday Inn, Rosslyn, Virginia (near Georgetown) and will be dedicated to the memory of Ken Smith (House '58) who was instrumental in organizing the first two Page Reunions - one in 2004 and the other 2008 - as well as the annual DC-area luncheons. *There is still plenty of room for more attendees.*

4. Next Board meeting: The October Luncheon will precede the USCPAA Board Meeting which is planned for a Saturday, 20 October, dinner event. The possibility of showing the Page Documentary Movie that weekend at a small local theater was discussed. The Board Meeting the following month will be held by teleconference 7pm ET/4pm PT on 15 November.

Minutes of the June 21, 2012 Meeting Of The Board Of Directors

5. Adjourned: 7:58 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Morrison
Secretary