



MINUTES OF THE JUNE 21, 2012 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2012 Board of Directors

Jerry Papazian
'71
President

Beth Ambrose
'91
*1st Vice
President*

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

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1. Called to order: By President Papazian at 7:03 p.m. EDT via teleconference.

2. Roll call: Participating: Bob Borsari, Chris Cobey, Vance Morrison, Jerry Papazian, Bill Peard, Miles Taylor, and Shelley Thomas.

A quorum was present with seven of the nine Directors participating.

3. March 15, 2012 meeting minutes: Approved by voice vote.

4. Committees and Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee (Papazian):

Video Documentary: Jerry and Miles have continued working this week with Eric Young producing the documentary about the 200 year history of Capitol Page program. The initial 15 minute version was presented and well-received during the banquet at the Homecoming in May. Now, interviews to complete the 45 minute version are underway. Representative Dan Boren; Senate Historian Betty Koed; Democratic Governors Association's Ian Walton; and Black Caucus Chairman Representative Emanuel Cleaver have recently been interviewed and other interviews are planned for the weekend as well. The video is shaping up well and more interviews on the West Coast should complete the recording sessions. A rough draft will be provided for USCPAA Board review and it is planned to market the completed video with networks and studios.

Directory: Work on this project continues on hold while the contract with Harris is renegotiated and a second contractor is considered. No cost has been incurred so far. The Board agreed it will be best to professionally expand the data base and that a published commemorative directory will be a popular item with former pages.

Potential New Board Members: A list of potential new CPAA Board members is being compiled. Current Board members are encouraged to send suggestions to Jerry for consideration, including any business cards

that were collected during Homecoming and information on why that person might be an important addition to the Association board.

Homecoming Committee (Cobey/Thomas): A current estimate of over 400 people, including 300 former pages, attended this year's Homecoming events. Not all attended any one event at the same time. Chris will consolidate the comments received on the 45 Homecoming Surveys received to date and pass them on to the Board. All were useful and issues presented in the surveys were mostly predictable. Some commented on the high cost of the banquet and the lower quality of the food. Very little of a negative nature occurred, however, that was within our ability to control. Overall, the Homecoming went very well. Jerry passed on his thanks to all concerned and the Board thanked Jerry for his extraordinary efforts. Chris will prepare an article for our next CPAA newsletter and for our website. Miles pointed out that our goal for the next reunion should be to increase the numbers attending as well as their diversity. Assigning "Class Captains" to distribute responsibility for encouraging and informing attendees also was discussed.

C-SPAN Program and Photographs: The C-SPAN airing of the 24 May House Panel discussions was well received. Also, the Homecoming photos posted on the website were well-done, enjoyed, and considered to be a good investment.

Membership/Marketing Committee (Peard): See information previously provided.

- b. Finances:** A preliminary Homecoming Financial Report was provided to the Board, reflecting the best guess for income sources over the past three months. Negative perceptions from the cost of the banquet, not higher really than previous reunions, might best have been handled by folding that cost into the overall registration fee as before. At the same time, the combined cost might scare off others. The Association broke even on the dinner with revenues equaling expenses, so no additional cost was incurred by those who did not attend. The Board discussed the possibility of a black-tie-optional banquet next time, perhaps to enhance its apparent importance. Others suggested eliminating the banquet as a reunion event. Overall, it appears that Homecoming income exceeded expenses by \$6000 -7000, although some of this amount is new USCPAA memberships. The Board discussed the discrepancy between registered and estimated attendee numbers. It appears there is no way of knowing for sure without taking roll call at each event, but it is certain that not everyone showed up at every event – or even one single event. The Board discussed how the names of those attending the class dinners might be included in overall totals in the future and how some of those attending only the class dinners could be encouraged to register for the

reunion.

- c. **Regional Events:** Regional USCPAA gatherings are planned this fall in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Dallas. Jerry believes this is a good way to keep the work of the association in front of our members.
- d. **House Page Program and Concept Paper Update:** a major reunion goal was to publicize the efforts to restore the House Page program. Congressman Boren recently noted that, since the reunion, he has noticed more interest in the effort. He is trying to obtain a vote on his resolution prior to his departure at the end of this term. As of today, there are 40 committed as co-sponsors to the bill, including Ron Paul (a fiscal conservative) and a few other Republicans. There is a meeting with Representative Boren's staff this week on gathering more co-sponsors. Miles mentioned he will do all he can, but always within the bounds of his ethics constraints, while he is still in DC (until August) and will be happy to help any way he can after that time. He agrees there needs to be some "micro-targeting," but re-districting makes arguments for quantities of past Pages in Congressmen's districts more difficult now. Identifying the number of Pages per state might be useful.

Our board has been approached by Jim Nuzzo and Kate Abbott to endorse a Task Force that would propose ideas on how the House program can be restored. A Concept Paper was presented to the Board by Nuzzo and Abbott. The Board discussed the need to avoid jeopardizing the Association's 501(c)3 status and the possibility that the (non-USCPAA) "Save the Page Program" might be helpful in that regard. The best entity to move forward, other than the USCPAA, needs to be determined. The goal for a task force will be to get a proposal in good form no later than Labor Day, eager to move out within legal constraints. Prof. Jonathan Turley has agreed to be a sounding board, but not a task force member. With all this in mind, the Board voted unanimously to create a task force to report back to the Association on plans and methods to restore the House Page program. Bill suggested we rapidly identify the members of the task force, all of whom need to be dedicated to the task. Miles volunteered. The Board noted that any other alumni would be fine; they do not need to be USCPAA board members, but the team should be identified with as many stakeholders as possible by mid-July. Their immediate goal will be to produce a press announcement by the time of the first anniversary of the House Page program cancellation (August).

- e. Finally, the status of Ken Smith's declining health was acknowledged with a more official Board response planned in the future.

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

5. 2012 Board meeting dates and times: The schedule for future Board meetings continues to be the third Thursday of each month, when practicable, at 7:00 p.m. Eastern (daylight) time. The next meeting will be August 16, and an in-person Board meeting will coincide with date of the annual Page Luncheon in DC, now planned for October 19, 2012. Board assistance will be needed for that Luncheon, as well as the (evening) Board Meeting, this year.

7. Adjourned: 7:35 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Morrison
Secretary