

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019, MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES CAPITOL PAGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Call to Order**

The regular annual in-person meeting of the board was called to order by President Jerry Papazian at 3:00 pm Eastern time at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

**Participation**

Present were Directors Kate Abbott, Beth Ambrose, Camilla Bosanquet, Jeff Clark, Chris Cobey, Peter Darby, Mike Esposito (by phone), Patrick Green, Kelly Hitchcock, Jerry Papazian, Jason Rae, Audrey Scagnelli (by phone), Duane Taylor, Shelley Thomas, and Sean Tucker.

**Board Member Updates**

Jerry began the meeting by asking all board members to introduce themselves and share any personal and professional updates. He also distributed an updated roster of board members, and requested that any corrections be sent to him.

**Approval of Minutes**

The draft minutes of the board's August 15, 2019, meeting were unanimously approved without correction.

**Committees and Committee Reports**

Executive Committee: Jerry gave the Executive Committee report.

PCI's work to confirm and expand the database of names of former pages and their contact information is nearing completion, with a deadline of November 8.

The privacy concerns of one former Page about personal data provided to the Association were discussed.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry distributed an undated, signed copy of IRS Form 990-EZ for the Association for the calendar year 2018, and a profit and loss statement for the Association through September 2019.

Jeff reported that Josten's cannot be engaged to create replica Capitol Page School rings for interested alumni. A promising alternative source for CPS rings is

being pursued, with a goal to have such capacity with a representative available to take orders from interested alumni (especially for alumni from the classes of 1985 and earlier) at the May 2020 Homecoming.

House Page Program Committee: Kate gave the report. Most of the Committee's efforts have been behind the scenes since its last report. Members of the Committee have met with a knowledgeable and enthusiastic supporting source about best practices for a reinstated Page program. In his testimony before the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress (SCMC), former Senate Page and Congressman Tom Davis encouraged the House to reinstitute its Page program. The SCMC staff is quite interested in the reinstatement concept, though they wish to see some demonstrable support for such an action among the Members and staff. A bill was introduced by Rep. Bobby Rush in May 2019 (H.R. 2434), the "Promoting American Government Education Act" (PAGE Act), to reestablish the House Page Program, though no action has been taken on it.

A former Page and current lobbyist might be interested in assisting our efforts, if such service would be pro bono and unpaid. The board discussed ethics questions and implications to the Association's 501(c)(3) status.

The board discussed the possible development of a survey for House staffers on the value of Pages -- for example, do former Pages come back to work on the Hill, or other public service?

Events Committee and 2020 Homecoming: Peter gave the report, referencing the pre-meeting report he had distributed to the board.

The quadrennial Homecoming will be held in Washington May 20-24, 2020. We are reducing the number of lower-rate rooms, in order to avoid a situation, such as the one in 2016 when the Association was almost stuck with a \$7,000 shortfall on minimal bookings. We are considering a ban on cancellations as of two weeks before the event. There may be a class whip program as part of the Saturday dinner. For Sunday, we will probably discontinue the picnic. Peter solicited ideas for alternative events, such as tours or gatherings at the Congressional Cemetery or Arlington. We hope to provide attendees with a list of publicly-available events, such as a White House tour or a Washington Nationals baseball game. Our Homecoming experience has been that the most popular single event is that at the US Supreme Court. We may have a session on national party political convention pages, as well as a storyboard audiobooth. We are considering more formal development of mentor/mentee relationships between Association members who are interested, including a possible "speed dating" session between potential mentors and mentees.

Peter encouraged all to send him ideas, and reminded that all board members are expected to be engaged in Homecoming functions. He added that we are in need of corporate sponsors for the event. He will be setting up a Homecoming conference call.

Membership/Marketing Report: Jason and Camilla gave the report. A data sheet showing Association membership statistics over time was distributed. A Membership/Marketing report had been distributed to board members prior to the meeting.

Jason led a discussion of the value of the Association's newsletter, the Courier. Jerry noted that production of the Courier is very expensive. There was discussion of charging for the newsletter, as well as using it for career networking and mentoring purposes. In discussing possible additional levels of membership, with associated differing price levels, Jason noted the need for sensitivity in the messaging on change in membership price. We need membership signup tables and information at every event the Association sponsors. We may wish to incorporate auto-pay and auto-renew features into our membership plans with possible associated discounts. We could allow selection of various benefits at various membership levels. Benefits could include helping younger members to be initial members of the association. Jason requested board member feedback using the draft of his report.

Camilla reported that it is complicated to do updates on our website. She said that she will be posting the photos of board members taken today. The board discussed options for varying levels of activity on social media platforms. The board also discussed items to be included in our online Association store by price and nature of item, as we have a former Page who can provide many of these items to the Association.

### **Open Discussion**

No open discussions items were raised.

### **Adjournment and Next Meetings**

Jerry adjourned the in-person meeting at 6:11 p.m. EDT.

#### ***Next board meeting (telephone):***

Thursday, February 27, 2020; 7 pm Eastern / 4 pm Pacific

#### **Tentative remaining 2020 mtg dates**

(telephone at 4 pm Pacific, 7 pm Eastern, unless noted):

April 16

May 21-24 – Homecoming in Washington, DC

June 18

August 20

Friday, October 16 (in person; following annual luncheon)

December 17