

**DRAFT MINUTES
OF THE
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021, MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
UNITED STATES CAPITOL PAGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Call to Order

The video conference meeting was called to order by President Jerry Papazian at 7:01 p.m. Eastern.

Attendance

Participating in the meeting: Jerry Papazian (President), Beth Ambrose (First Vice President), Peter Darby (Second Vice President), Camilla Bosanquet (Secretary), Kate Abbott, Jeff Clark, Chris Cobey, Kelly Shea Hitchcock, Jim Nuzzo, Jason Rae, and Audrey Scagnelli.

Absent from the meeting: Michael Esposito, Sean Tucker, and Shelley Thomas.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from all meetings held on and between June 2019 to April 2021 deferred to a future meeting.

Executive Committee

Jerry Papazian, Chair

PCI Membership Directory Update

The Directory has been delivered to all who ordered one. The publishers offered us thirty (30) electronic copies of the directory for our use. Please let Mr. Papazian know if you would like an electronic copy.

Tangentially related to our Alumni Directory, Jeanne Papazian is presently working on updating the list of all Congressional Sponsors.

U.S. Senate Page Program Status Report

Mr. Papazian shared that *Roll Call* has published the news that the U.S. Senate Page Program will reopen its doors to Pages in the Fall 2021 semester. USCPAA pushed this to our Alumni via social media. USCPAA was able to provide a quote in the *Roll Call* article.

Queen B (Ellen Blakeman) Golf Tournament

Mr. Papazian reported that the *Queen B Golf Tournament* was a great success. Ellen Blakeman's sons and brother put together a wonderful event. It was generous of them to include us as a part of the fundraising campaign. Funds additionally went to "A Long Swim" (raising money for ALS) in honor of their mother's memory.

Donn Anderson Memorial Service

Mr. Papazian has made an offer for USCPAA to hold a memorial event for Donn Anderson during Homecoming 2022 (perhaps on that Thursday). Perhaps it could be held in the Congressional Auditorium. Also, Donn had purchased a plot in the Congressional Cemetery. While he is not (and will not be) interned there, we might wish to place a plaque at the plot. To do so, we would seek to raise money to purchase and gift the plaque on behalf of all of our Alumni.

Nominating Committee

We will convene a nominating committee meeting in the near future.

Future Board Meetings

- Thursday, August 19, 2021
- Saturday, October 23, 2021
- Thursday, December 16, 2021

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer position remains vacant. The President provided an update on Association accounts and expenditures. Please reference the 2021 Profit and Loss financial statement sent to all Board Members in advance of tonight's meeting. Mr. Papazian shared that he is presently covering Jeanne Papazian's salary from his own personal funds. Not many expenditures between April and June 2021. One more Lifetime Member has joined the Association.

Committees and Committee Reports

House Page Program Committee

Kate Abbott and Jim Nuzzo, Co-Chairs

The McKeon Group remains important to our strategic efforts to restore the House Page Program. Ms. Abbott and Mr. Nuzzo shared that a former Page (Naomi Hung, House Summer 2002) has volunteered to assist with Public Relations. The *House Page Program Committee* feels that it now has the two key parts of its professional consultation team lined up.

Buck McKeon would like USCPAA to draft two statements to facilitate the advancement of our effort. The first will serve as a "values statement," i.e. why Pages matter and what is our intent in reinstating the House Page Program. The second statement will be a "blueprint statement," i.e. instructions or directions as to the technical details for standing up a new House Page Program. Kate Abbott will chair the subcommittee handling the "values statement" and Jim Nuzzo will chair the subcommittee handling the "blueprint statement." Please consider joining one of these two subcommittees.

Events Committee

Peter Darby, Chair

Mr. Darby shared that approximately 50 individuals joined the "Page Talk" virtual call to hear from Daniel Holt, the Assistant U.S. Senate Historian. Mr. Holt provided an excellent discussion of his research into the first African American U.S. Senate Page, Andrew Foote Slade, who served between 1869 and 1881. The *Events Committee* aims to host its next "Page Talk" with Sam Childers, a well-known historian and author from Dallas, Texas, will convene either in late July or early August.

The October luncheon is now planned to be an all-afternoon event celebrating the 50th Anniversary of women who serve and have served as Pages. Will start at noon with a luncheon, then hold break-out sessions for in the afternoon. Mr. Darby requested Board Members recommend break-out session speakers. The closing event will reconvene participants for one single speaker. Our goal will be to provide a live virtual feed online to those who could not attend in person.

The plaque dedication (in the morning, limited attendance) at the U.S. Senate Page School will likely transpire at 10:30am. Either Julie Price or Paulette will make a short speech regarding what serving as a U.S. Senate Page meant to them. We hope that a few U.S. Senators will attend the plaque dedication and/or the luncheon event. Additionally, Congresswoman Spanberger is the only former female Page presently in Congress; we hope that she might join us for one or more event(s) during the day.

Mr. Papazian shared that he has asked our “Democracy’s Messengers” videographer (Eric Young) to join us in Washington to document the stories of our first female Pages. It is our desire and goal to secure the services of Story Corps (discussed on a previous Board call) for Homecoming 2022.

On the topic of historical preservation, Mr. Papazian updated the Board on American University’s kind proposal to archive our “paper” Page documents. Unfortunately, we have a substantial collection of Page memorabilia that does not fit this “documents-only” description. Notably, we maintain Donn Anderson’s and Jim Oliver’s collections. Moreover, we maintain a complete set of Page yearbooks. We will continue to search for a suitable home for our Page collection.

Membership Committee

Jason Rae, Chair

Mr. Rae shared that the *Membership Committee* has not met in the interim between the last USCPAA Board Meeting in April and tonight’s meeting. However, he has been working closely with our Board President on the challenge of shifting from our legacy membership scheme to a new membership scheme. While we would like to maximize new revenue, we will want to respect our Lifetime Members and preserve core benefits in line with their longstanding membership expectations.

Marketing Committee

Camilla Bosanquet, Chair

Please see the detailed *Marketing Committee* meeting minutes from June 8, 2021. Highlights of the Marketing Committee’s recent accomplishments include the: development of a merchandise delivery timeline, receipt of approval from the Board to employ 1776 as a base year for the existence of American Pages (initially as boy messengers), creation of our @uscmaa Instagram account, linkage of our Instagram and Facebook accounts, and completion of training on new coding for our website rebuild.

Ms. Bosanquet shared the Committee’s strong recommendation to dispense with PayPal in favor of Stripe, as our website consultant has argued that Stripe has a much better interface with both Wordpress CiviCRM. Subsequent research revealed that Stripe will cost the Association less than PayPal, both immediately and in the long term.

Ms. Bosanquet and Mr. Papazian are working cooperatively on creating four school/network affiliations on LinkedIn. The first is our nonprofit USCPAA connection. The other three will represent high school (“Education”) affiliations with the House, Senate, and Capitol Page schools.

The Capitol Courier Newsletter

Michael Esposito, Editor

Mr. Esposito shared that the next *Capitol Courier* will publish in the fall. Under discussion is whether to finalize the newsletter prior to or following our October 50th Anniversary events.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m. Eastern.

The upcoming meeting of the Association's Board of Directors will be held in-person at the between 9am and 12 pm on Saturday, October 23, 2021.
