



**MINUTES
OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2014
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board of Directors
2014**

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 Jerry Papazian at 7:01 p.m. EST via teleconference. Participating: Chris Cobey, Bill Peard, Vance Morrison, Bob Borsari, Jeffery Clark, Peter Darby, Ali Davis, Jason Rae, Duane Taylor, Shelley Thomas, and Sean Tucker. Jerry welcomed everybody and opened the meeting.

II. October 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes: Approved by voice vote.

III. Committees and Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Papazian):

1. House Page Program Update (Papazian): An early spring resubmission of the Charter School project request is anticipated. Duane Taylor met informally with the Chairman of the Charter School Board who spoke encouragingly about the chances of approval. He said often applicants fail the first attempt but succeed on the second try. This is to be taken as a good sign!

2. Page Documentary (Papazian): Jerry expressed his appreciation for all who donated to the *Indiegogo* call for funds to help offset the costs of editing, licensing fees for images and music. The original goal of the campaign was \$15,000, later raised to \$20,000. The total actually raised was \$21,180. Some donors desired tax deductibility of their gifts and were directed to contribute to the Association which some did, donating an additional \$7,350 to the Association Treasury. A \$5,500 loan that had been obtained from the Treasury to help pay editing expenses in documentary production was repaid which left a balance of \$1850 which was donated to the Association to cover any costs associated with the fundraising and documentary. Of special note was the \$3,800 was raised by the CPS Class of 1960 alone in memory of their classmate Duke Zeller. Jerry reported that the documentary will be completed and released in the early spring. The team will contact PBS for showing it, especially the high-profile stations in Boston and Washington, DC. The current PBS Chairman for the DC station is Sharon Percy Rockefeller; Ellen Blakeman's sponsor was Senator Percy and her contacts may be of assistance as the documentary is ready to be aired publically. It is hoped that it will be well received.

B. Finance Committee (Cobey):

1. Treasurer's Report: (Cobey): Chris, as Interim Treasurer, distributed a two-page Financial Report to the Board prior to the meeting. The current balance is about \$15,000, down about \$5,000 for last year, primarily due to the one-time costs of web site development that cost nearly \$7,000. Chris

complimented Ellen and her team for a fine job with the newly-renovated web site. Jerry pointed out that year-end collections were not reflected in the statement. Bob asked where the Indiegogo donations were reflected in the financials. Jerry explained that the documentary was not funded by the Association; that a decision was made early on that the documentary should not be produced by the Association, primarily because the cost of such a documentary (at least \$100,000 and potentially a lot more) was not in the budget of the Association, and that there was benefit to keep the documentary and the Association separate while using the documentary to help restore the House Page program. Jerry explained further that he personally had underwritten the entire cost of the documentary to date; the \$21,180 raised by *Indiegogo* would go to pay additional editing, licensing and music fees, and indeed was only a small portion of the total estimated \$100,000 plus production costs.

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

1. **Regional Events (Darby):** Peter provided a 2015 Events Planning Matrix to the Board prior to the meeting. He explained that the 2014 October Board Meeting in Washington, DC was a success and the Ken Smith Luncheon and Saturday morning tours were both well attended. He then summarized the 2015 plans as follow:

- February/March - Social media will be used to an early spring social event in the Raleigh/ Durham area (Peter and Bill Peard)
- 2nd Quarter – San Francisco regional event (Chris and Jerry)
- May – Little Rock, Arkansas Clinton Library event (Peter and Bill). This event will be more educational for the public than a social event for our alumni and will be held at the Clinton School of Public Service. Specifics for this event will need to be communicated well in advance so that attendees can plan their travel. Peter plans to send an email for this early January.
- September – Ford Presidential Library event in Michigan (probably Grand Rapids)
- September – Dallas Rangers Park event (Peter and Jeff)
- Fall – Boston event (Peter and Bill)
- Washington, DC – three or four events, including a Spring and a Fall Happy Hour, and a soccer or baseball game event in the summer (Ali, Shelley, and Miles)

The team will meet via teleconference in January. Board member comments and suggestions are welcomed. Please contact Jerry and Peter.

2. **Homecoming (Darby):** Peter announced that negotiations with both the Liaison and Hyatt hotels for the 2016 Memorial Day Weekend Homecoming continue and a contract is expected to be signed by the end of the year. The team is leaning toward the Hyatt as best choice. The team has planned for monthly teleconferences to work planning and tasking with the objective of all in place by his coming spring, a year in advance of the event.

D. Membership/Marketing Committee (Davis):

1. **Website (Davis):** Ali thanked all who provided inputs to the new web site – which has been very well received - and urged Board members to

continue to keep populating the site in order to keep up interest. Particularly desired are personal stories and information which the team would like to build up in a queue with gradual release over time, perhaps quarterly. Ali also noted Ellen has received a number of volunteers for making welcome calls to new members and she will be providing the volunteers with scripts and guidance as well as contact information for the new members.

2. Social Media (Rae/Thomas/Davis):

- The Facebook page has been updated and 2008 impressions have been noted to date. It appears to have resulted in a number of new members and donations and the team is excited about its progress.
- The Board noted that there are two other Facebook pages that relate to Capitol Pages. Consolidation is not feasible and the Association's page is clearly the most professional and popular.
- Ideas for social media improvements are still solicited.

3. Lifetime Membership Certificates (Davis/Papazian): Jerry provided the initial design and Ellen is working the logistics for printing, signing and mailing. The team probably will employ pre-printed signatures for the certificates. There are 110 Life Members to-date, with an increase seen in recent years.

E. Membership (Peard): Bill reported that the Data Base is improving while the challenge is getting members' attention to send in renewals. Efficiency is improving with sending reminder letters but some did not know their membership had expired. New members are being recruited but our communications effort has been sporadic. There are 400 current members, 110 Life, and many Joint members. A number joined in October; \$15,000 has been received in membership dues since the October Board Meeting.

F. Newsletter (Davis): The newsletter will be sent to the USPS on 19 December and should arrive in mailboxes by Christmas. This information also is on our web site. More donations are anticipated by the first of the New Year.

G. Long-Term Strategy Committee (Cobey): Chris noted that the Committee's thinking is long term and the next report will be in October.

IV. Dates for 2015 Board Meetings (Papazian): Unless otherwise required, each meeting will continue to be held on the Third Thursday of the Month. The In-Person Board Meeting will be held in 2015 on October 16th in Washington, DC, at Chris Cobey's office (same as last two years). The next meeting, on February 19th, will include election/re-election of Board Members. Jerry requested Board Members transmit to him their desires to continue serving.

V. Next Board Meeting (Papazian): **Thursday, February 19, 2015**

VI. Meeting Adjourned: 7:52 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Morrison, Secretary

