

**MINUTES
OF THE
THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019, TELEPHONE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
UNITED STATES CAPITOL PAGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Call to Order

The telephone meeting was called to order by President Jerry Papazian at 4:03 p.m. Pacific time.

Attendance

Participating by telephone were Kate Abbott, Camilla Bosanquet, Chris Cobey, Peter Darby, Michael Esposito, Patrick Green, Jerry Papazian, Jason Rae, Shelley Thomas and Duane Taylor.

Not participating were Beth Ambrose, Jeff Clark, Kelly Hitchcock, Jim Nuzzo, Audrey Scagnelli and Sean Tucker.

Approval of Minutes

The draft of the minutes of the April 18, 2019, telephone Board meeting were approved without corrections.

Committees and Committee Reports

Executive Committee: An interim report from the alumni directory company retained by the Association report was previously provided to all board members for review and discussion. The report indicates at least one thousand new work or home email addresses identified, increasing our contact information by about 16% over our present database. The final deadline for searches and responses by the company is around November. There will be subsequent report reports. The Association will receive the final data updated in Excel form. Jason commented that we could use the updated and additional data to geotarget on Facebook.

Treasurer's Report: Reporting for Jeff, Jerry noted that the financials as of June 17, 2019 had been previously provided to all. Membership traditionally dwindles until the Homecoming year. With Homecoming and the printing and availability of the alumni directory, we expect an increase in membership next year.

House Page Program Committee: Kate noted the first full board call on the committee's work and observed that the committee is doing a fantastic job. Committee members met live in May with member offices on the Hill; however, involved offices are

not optimally coordinating with each other. The House Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress (SCMC) staff were in support, but the SCMC has only four staffers, who don't have the time or resources, with their other responsibilities and priorities, to build a coalition on this issue. The current bill, introduced in early May bill, may or may not succeed. The HPPC members are collecting data on diversity, possible duties of future House Pages, and exploring who might comprise a coalition of the willing. HPPC committee members talked with former House principal Linda Miranda, who is positive about the reinstatement possibility. Facebook reports what alums are doing; threads there report the enthusiasm of alumni to reinstate the program. The use of Survey Monkey to develop with 2-3 questions via a drop-down menu to obtain info MCSC would want on where former Pages went in life was discussed. Jerry noted that we would want to keep any queries very limited, to get whatever information the MCSC has said they want. Camilla suggested that we make clear the purpose of our survey and should not be confused with the alumni directory contact. Kate said that the HPPC members are trying to decide whether to survey and whom to survey. Jerry exhorted the board members to let Kate or Jerry know any member's ideas on such a survey.

Kate noted some pushback from some Members' offices as to the possible roles other Members might play in reinstating a program. Kate cautioned that we're building a coalition, so there should be no press yet -- the Members' efforts have not yet been coordinated. Ideally, we will build a bipartisan coalition before going public. One key item from a survey could be some indication of how many Page alumni wind up working on the Hill -- what is the nature of any "Page pipeline"? The survey could report on how the Page experience made respondents better citizens, and how the experience gave respondents a broader perspective -- the idea what once you've been a Page, public service is in your DNA.

Events Committee and 2020 Homecoming: Peter reported on the planned event in Chicago to celebrate Ellen McConnell Blakeman's life and service, and we have at least 53 reservations so far. Michael Phillips is speaker for a presentation of how Washington, D.C. is depicted in films. Jerry thanked Peter and Mike for their work, and that Ellen's mother, brother, and two sons were expected at the luncheon. Peter thanked Camilla for her website work on this event. A Sacramento event featuring Donn Anderson has been postponed; he declined an imminent event due to his health. For New York City, Don Peebles offered to host an event later this year; a hosting committee is expected be formed. Homecoming planning continues; Jerry asked board members to pass on any ideas on for programming for it. We are initiating conversations at the Supreme Court concerning an event there. Possibilities include a tour of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, and a visit to the House floor. Camilla mentioned the possibility of participation by a classmate who is a San Francisco jazz singer. Peter urged board members to contact Jerry and Peter if they are interested in serving on the Homecoming Committee. There will be a formal report at the October in-person DC meeting. Jerry reminded the board of past Homecoming speakers and reminded that the former CPS space at Library of Congress

has been repurposed as the home of the House historians, so we might be able to schedule an event in “Emerson Hall,” named after former House Page and former Member of Congress Bill Emerson.

Membership/Marketing Committee: Jason reported that the MMC has had discussions to develop a timeline for future actions, and to reconsider the concept of levels of membership and benefits for various levels. tiered memberships. The MMC will hold a call, finetune the ideas, and present a formal report at the October meeting. Doodle to be sent. Camilla reported activities on marketing, website development, and merchandising, and urged board members to contact her if they want to help on the merchandising function.

On the newsletter, Mike reported that the committee is developing story ideas, and will be reporting on efforts to reinstate the House Page program.

On class rings, Jerry reported on behalf of Jeff the frustration in dealing with the Jostens rep, and that we may have to find another ring vendor. This activity remains in progress.

Fundraising Committee: No report.

Philanthropy Committee: No report.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. Pacific time.

The upcoming meeting of the Association’s Board of Directors will be by telephone at 4:00 p.m. Pacific time on Thursday, August 15, 2019.

The annual in-person board meeting coinciding with the annual alumni luncheon is tentatively set for Friday, October 18, 2019, in Washington, D.C.