

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS
AUGUST 30, 2009
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
WESTIN HOTEL**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

With President Kevin Smith presiding, the meeting of the board of directors of the Society of Professional Journalists was called to order at 9:07 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30, 2009, at the Indianapolis Westin.

ROLL CALL

In addition to Smith, the following were present: Immediate Past President Dave Aeikens; President-Elect Hagit Limor; Secretary-Treasurer Darcie Lunsford; Vice President for Campus Chapter Affairs Neil Ralston; Director at-Large Bill McCloskey; Campus Advisers at-Large Sue Kopen Katcef and George Daniels; Student Representatives Andrew Seaman and Tara Puckey; Regional Directors Luther Turmelle, Brian Eckert, Jenn Rowell, Jeremy Steele, Liz Hansen, Amanda Theisen, Holly Edgell, Scott Cooper, John Ensslin, Dana Neuts, Jodi Cleesattle and Sonny Albarado.

Staff members present for the meeting were Interim Co-Executive Directors Chris Vachon and Joe Skeel; Heather Porter, Linda Hall and Amy Posavac.

Others in attendance were SDX Foundation President Steve Geimann; SDX Foundation Vice President Robert Leger; SDX Foundation Board Member Fred Brown; Ethics Committee Chairman Andy Schotz; Mark Scarp and Larissa Larivee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The Executive Committee is comprised of the President; President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer; Vice President, Campus Chapter Affairs; Immediate Past President; and two at-large members elected by the board of directors.

Smith opened the floor to nominations for the two at-large seats on the executive committee.

Upon proper motion and second by Cooper and Turmelle, respectively, McCloskey and Albarado were appointed to serve on the Executive Committee.

SIGMA DELTA CHI FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The SPJ President may appoint as many SPJ board members to the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation board of directors so long as the majority of the Foundation directors are independently elected by the Foundation board. Smith announced the following one-year appointments to the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation board of directors: Limor, Lunsford, Aeikens, Ralston, Steele, Hansen, Ensslin, Albarado, Kopen-Katcef and Smith.

Upon proper motion and second by Aeikens and McCloskey, respectively, the above named SPJ board members are appointed to the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation Board.

Smith also asked the board to ratify the elections of the officers and directors of the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation.

Officers elected to one-year terms were:

- Vice President Robert Leger
- Secretary Irwin Gratz
- Treasurer Howard Dubin

Foundation directors elected to three-year terms, expiring in 2012, were:

- Clint Brewer
- Todd Gillman
- Irwin Gratz
- Alex Jones
- Bill Ketter
- Al Leeds
- Robert Leger

Upon proper motion and second by Cooper and Hansen, respectively, the board ratified the election of the officers and directors to the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation Board.

FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Finance Committee is comprised of the President; the President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer; Vice President, Campus Chapter Affairs; Immediate Past President; and two at-large members appointed by the President and ratified by the board of directors. President Smith recommends Jeremy Steele and Sue Kopen-Katcef to the committee.

Upon proper motion and second by McCloskey and Aeikens, respectively, the board ratified the appointment of Steele and Kopen-Katcef to the Finance Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS

Smith informed the board that our international journalism committee and our journalism education committee have expressed interest in working informally with the Committee to Protect Journalists on various initiatives that would help educate professionals and students about international and press freedom issues.

OURTOWN.COM

Hagit was contacted by OurTown.com about working together to reach citizen journalists. The inquiry was referred to committees to learn more about the company and then make a recommendation to the president.

Upon proper motion and second by Albarado and Edgell, respectively, the board referred the topic to the following committees for review: membership, finance and freelance.

SURVEY

At the convention meeting of the committee chairs, the idea was hatched to conduct a survey, via Survey Monkey, of the members. Each committee will submit their questions by Sept. 9 and the survey will go out soon thereafter.

SDX MONUMENT IN GREENCASTLE

At the April centennial celebration, several people noticed the condition of the SDX Memorial on the DePauw campus. The memorial needs some clean up and some TLC. Smith asked the staff to contact DePauw in order to find out what would be involved in having some volunteers come to campus one day to conduct this clean up.

PROPOSAL FROM THE DEADLINE CLUB

A proposal from the Deadline Club was presented by Region 1 Director Luther Turmelle and Deadline Club Vice President in regards to communication with national committee chairs.

A motion was made by Turmelle and Aeikens, respectively, to accept the Deadline Club's proposal which reads: Before the Executive Committee nullifies, eliminates funding for, or radically changes a national committee's project, the Executive Committee must notify the committee chair in writing (such as in an email) of the planned change. This same rule applies to the Board of Directors and the

SPJ employees in regards to a national committee's project.

Following discussion, Turmelle and Aeikens, respectively, withdrew their motion.

RESOLUTION

A motion was made by McCloskey and Limor, respectively, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas returning to our Indiana birthplace was a goal of the Society in its Centennial Year and,

Whereas a host chapter can make a difference in welcoming SPJ to a convention city and,

Whereas SPJ has felt welcomed and appreciated in Indianapolis.

Therefore, the Board of Directors congratulates and thanks the Indiana Pro Chapter for their help on the 2009 Centennial Convention and directs staff to notify the chapter leadership of this resolution.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

The list of candidates has been narrowed to eight and those eight will interview with the committee. It is the committee's goal to have an Executive Director in place by late October/early November.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The SDX Foundation board voted at its board meeting on August 29, 2009 to pay for 100% of the roof replacement to the headquarters building.

BOARD ORIENTATION

Laurie Babinski, Baker Hostetler, conducted an orientation session for the board of directors where she reviewed their responsibilities and duties of being a member of the national board of directors for the Society.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by McCloskey and Steele to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m.