

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS FOUNDATION
January 22, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Foundation board convened on Wednesday, January 22nd at 7:05 p.m. via electronic devices.

In attendance: Irwin Gratz, Board President, Hagit Limor, Vice President, board members Kelly Hawes, Dave Cuillier, Fred Brown, Jane Kirtley, Sue Porter, Andy Schotz, Paul Fletcher, April Bethea, Frank LoMonte and Patti Newberry. SPJ Executive Director John Shertzer and SPJ Foundation Development Director Larry Messing also participated.

President Gratz brought the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. A motion was made by Kelly Hawes, seconded by Paul Fletcher to approve the grants committee recommendation regarding a special call for proposals made by the Foundation in December.

SPJ FOUNDATION GRANTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Kirtley explained the grants committee's reasons for its recommendation to fully fund the National Press Photographer's Association (NPPA) - Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press (RCFP) request and to award \$10,000 to KUOW's project involving youth journalists.

Discussion of the recommendation ensued, primarily concerning the award to the NPPA and RCFP request and whether to fund it in full, or in part.

President Gratz reported that three board members who could not attend: Evelyn Hsu, Michael Bolden, and Matthew Hall, all wished to communicate to the board their support of the grants committee proposal.

SPJ President Patti Newberry suggested that the NPPA / RCFP principles conduct a session at EIJ 2020 to review results of the project. This was met with approval from several other board members.

Newberry also indicated SPJ was considering a proposal to enroll High School journalists as members and suggested some participants in the KUOW project could be part of a pilot project

Sue Porter suggested that a member of the SPJ or Foundation board should attend some or all of the training sessions connected with the NPPA / RCFP project

After discussion, those board members in attendance voted unanimously to make the awards as recommended by the grants committee.

Foundation President Gratz thanked the grants committee for its expedited review of the applications received during the special call for proposals.

Gratz also said the Foundation officers will bring to the April board meeting a proposal concerning whether, or how to handle out-of-cycle proposals in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.