



**MEETING MINUTES
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**August 9, 2022 – 5 p.m EDT
Conducted via Zoom**

Call to Order

Irwin Gratz, President of the SPJ Foundation Board of Directors, called the meeting to order at 5:05pm ET via Zoom.

Roll Call

SPJ Foundation Secretary Sonny Albarado called the roll. Those present at this meeting were:

Irwin Gratz, President
Hagit Limor, Vice President
Sonny Albarado, Secretary
Howard Dubin, Treasurer
J. Israel Balderas, Board Member
April Bethea, Board Member
Michael Bolden, Board Member
Jay Evensen, Board Member
Patti Gallagher-Newberry, Board Member
Matt Hall, Board Member
Evelyn Hsu, Board Member
Alex Jones, Board Member
Bill Ketter, Board Member
Jane Kirtley, Board Member
Frank LoMonte, Board Member
Claire Regan, Board Member

J. Alex Tarquinio, Board Member

Outside Grants

President Gratz briefly advised the board of the decline in the value of corpus and asked whether the board wished to proceed with a second round of outside grants. After a discussion, it was decided not to proceed with a second call for outside grants this year.

Pulliam Editorial Fellowship

The board discussed the decision by the fellowship committee not to award the fellowship this year. The board reviewed the statistics provided by committee chairman Todd Gillman that illustrated the decline in applicants in recent years. Discussion ensued about past methods of recruiting applicants, including at an editorial writers conference that is no longer held. It was agreed there would be further discussion of the issue when the board meets at MediaFest22 in Washington, D.C.

Executive Session

The board then voted to go into executive session for a personnel discussion related to the announced departure of SPJ Executive Director John Shertzer.

The board exited executive session and adjourned at 6:20 p.m. EDT.