



## Minutes

### June Board Meeting: EIJ20 Update

📅 Thu June 25th, 2020

🕒 4:00pm - 5:00pm EDT

📍 Zoom Meeting

#### 👤 In Attendance

Fiona Conway, Ellen Crooke, Bill Dallman, Christen DeBard, Scott Diener, Vince Duffy, Sherri Jackson, Allison McGinley, Brandon Mercer, Tara Puckey, Jam Sardar, Tim Scheld, Dan Shelley, Terence Shepherd, Andrea Stahlman, Loren Tobia, David Wagner, Kathy Walker, Jerry Walsh, Julie Wolfe

#### I. **Call to Order & Welcome**

Chairman Terence Shepard called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm Eastern.

a. **Roll Call**

b. **Assignment of Minutes**

#### II. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **June 4, 2020**

**Decision:** David Wagner moved the minutes from the June 4th RTDNA/F Board Meeting be approved. Vince Duffy seconds. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

#### III. **Old Business**

a. **Murrow 2020 Updates**

*Pending time*

RTDNA Chief of Staff Tara Puckey presented an updated on the Edward R. Murrow Awards Gala

- The event space is not currently able to respect social distancing for a large gathering.
- We might see, at best, 1/5 of the normal audience size with the venue size.
- New York City is also not in advanced stages of reopening yet.
- Tara will be talking to the staff at Gotham Hall to cancel the 2020 in-person Murrow Awards Gala.
- The event will be transitioned to a virtual program. Chairman Shepard has appointed a task force to look into how this event can be held virtually. This would not only recognize the 2020 National Edward R. Murrow Awards but also celebrate the outstanding journalism which is occurring across the nation.
- A discussion took place about what the event could look like and what the revenue potential for the event could be.
- The task force will need to make a recommendation to the Chairman and the full board.

b. **Business Meeting Requirements**

*Designate the dates of our "Annual International Conference"*

ARTICLE IX

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS AND VOTING

Section 1. Annual Business Meeting

(a) The annual business meeting for members of the Association shall be held at the Annual International Conference or other place and on such date or dates as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

(b) The agenda of the annual business meeting shall be prepared by the Chairman/woman and Executive Director and approved by the Board of Directors.

(c) The Chairman/woman, Chairman/woman-elect or a board member designated by the Chairman/woman, shall preside at the Annual International Conference.

ARTICLE X

CONFERENCES

The Association shall conduct at least one (1) Annual International Conference for the general benefit of all Association members. Sites for Annual International Conferences shall be approved by the Board of Directors at least three (3) years in advance of the scheduled meeting time unless exigencies do not permit. The presiding officer at the Annual International Conference shall be the Chairman/woman or in the absence of the Chairman/woman, the Chairman/woman-elect or a member of the Board designated by the Chairman/woman.

- The Board discussed the designation of specific days and meetings as the official “international conference and exhibition” for 2020.
  - The bylaws require us to hold an opening business meeting at the start of the annual convention and exhibition. The conference is important for us to conduct elections and field nominations for board seats. A closing business meeting is also part of the bylaws where election results are announced and the transition to new board leadership takes place.
  - The opening and closing meetings were scheduled to be held during the Excellence in Journalism Conference (EIJ’20).
  - The decision has been made to cancel the in person EIJ’20 for 2020. This move was approved by the RTDNA Executive Committee and the SPJ Board.
  - As a result of the cancellation, RTDNA needs to designate a new “international conference and exhibition” per the bylaws.
  - Chairman Shepard recommended we keep the dates already established for the meetings:
    - September 10th as the opening business meeting
    - September 12th as the closing business meeting
  - Both meetings would be held virtually.

**Decision:** Sherri Jackson moved we designate September 10th-12th as the RTDNA/F Annual International Conference and Exhibition. Jam Sardar seconds the motion. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

#### c. **EIJ20 Update**

*Possible Executive Session to Discuss Legal Matter*

The Board returned from executive session at 4:24 pm Eastern.

**Decision:** Vince Duffy made a motion the RTDNA Board move into executive session to discuss a potential legal matter. Jam Sardar seconds. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote. The Board entered executive session at 4:14 pm Eastern.

#### IV. **Adjournment**

**Decision:** Vince Duffy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sherri Jackson seconds. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm Eastern.