



**RTDNA/F Board of Directors
Post-EIJ19 Meeting Agenda
Saturday, September 7th, 2019 – 3:00 p.m. Central**

Chairman Terence Shepherd calls the meeting to order at 3:09 pm Central Time.

Board Members Attending in Person: Terence Shepherd, Jerry Walsh, Andrea Stahlman, Chip Mahaney, Lauren Olsen, Fiona Conway, Vince Duffy, Jam Sardar, Loren Tobia, Blaise Labbe, Sheryl Worsley, Kathy Walker, David Wagner, Brandon Mercer, Sherri Jackson, Tim Scheld and Scott Diener and Janice Gin.

Board Members Attending By phone: Alison McGinley, Julie Wolfe, Ellen Crooke and Alisha McDevitt.

Staff Attending: Dan Shelley, Kate Switchenko, Tara Puckey, Karen Hanson and Kate McGarity.

Others in Attendance: Scott Libin and Bill Roswell

Chairman Shephrd assigns the minutes to Jerry Walsh.

Janice Gin moves the board adjourns as the Association and reconvene as the Foundation.
Jam Sardar seconds. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Foundation Chairman Walsh reports his initial focus will be on the upcoming First Amendment Dinner in March 2020. He asked for members of the board to assist by suggesting honorees as soon as possible.

Chairman Walsh appoints Vincent Duffy as Foundation Vice Chair

Sheryl Worsley moves the Foundation Trustees appoint Kathy Walker as Secretary/Treasurer.
Janice Gin seconds. Motion approved by a unanimous vote.

Sheryl Worsley moves the Foundation Trustees appoint Janice Gin as a Trustee for the Foundation (2-year term). Blaise Labbe seconds. Motion approved by a unanimous vote.

Kathy Walker moves to adjourn as the Foundation and reconvene as the Association. Sheryl Worsley seconds. Motion approved by a unanimous vote.

Chairman Shepherd asks for nominees to fill 3 open positions on the Executive Committee. Blaise Labbe, Sheryl Worsley, Chip Mahaney and David Wagner were nominated by Board Members. Sheryl moves to close nominations. Jam seconds. Each candidate was allowed to address the Board and talk about why they should be considered for election to the Executive Committee. Election was conducted by secret ballot. Past Chairmen Scott Libin and Bill Roswell tabulated the votes. The following were elected to serve for 1-year on the Executive Committee:

- Sheryl Worsley
- Chip Mahaney
- David Wagner

Chairman Shepherd offered his Chairman's Report to the Board. He reported on priorities for 2019-20. This included addressing several challenges including the convention, membership and fundraising. He told the Board the meeting schedule for the upcoming year will be released soon. He also intends to keep the same committee structure from the previous year. Committee assignments, including the chairs for the committees, will be announced soon.

The Board moved into the executive session to discuss a personnel matter – Executive Director remained and the staff was excused. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

The Board returned from executive session. Staff returned to the meeting.

Brandon Mercer made a motion to direct the Governance Committee to look at language change to the bylaws to establish a President and Executive Director for the Association and Foundation. Janice Gin seconds. Motion approved by a unanimous vote.

Executive Director Dan Shelley offered his report to the Board. He began by expressing his thanks to the Board for the discussion in executive session.

Dan reviews a resolution to Support the Fallen Journalist Memorial to Discusses the Fallen Journalists Memorial Resolution. The resolution was provided to Board Members in advance of the meeting. The resolution is as follows:

Whereas, Four American journalists and one staff member of the *Capital Gazette* newspaper were shot and killed in Annapolis, Maryland, on June 28, 2018; and whereas, according to the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker, the archive of record for threats to press freedom in the U.S. of which RTDNA is a founding partner, notes that at least 27 journalists have been physically assaulted in the United States thus far in 2019;

and whereas, the bipartisan Fallen Journalists Memorial Act of 2019 (H.R. 3465 and S. 1969) authorizes the newly established Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation (FJM Foundation) to raise funds and work with appropriate entities to site and build a memorial to pay tribute to the journalists who have died while performing their jobs;

and whereas, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Act follows the legal framework established by Commemorative Works Act (CWA) of 1986 for the placement of commemorative works on federal land in the District of Columbia. It prohibits the use of federal funds and requires the Foundation to follow a process to ensure that the memorial is appropriately designed, constructed and located, and that sufficient funds are provided to the National Park Service (NPS) to maintain the memorial.

and whereas, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation (FJM Foundation) will work to enact legislation, raise funds and build a Fallen Journalists Memorial on federal land in Washington, D.C. that will pay tribute to journalists who have died while performing their jobs. The FJM Foundation will operate under the auspices of the National Press Club Journalism Institute (NPCJI), which is the non-profit affiliate of the National Press Club;

and whereas, the Radio Television News Directors Association, d/b/a the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA), duly registered as a 501(c)(3) corporation in the state of Delaware, is one of the preeminent press freedom professional associations and is the world's largest professional association devoted exclusively to advocating on behalf of broadcast and digital journalists;

therefore, let it be resolved that on this seventh day of September 2019, the RTDNA Board of Directors has unanimously adopted this statement of full support for the Fallen Journalists Memorial Act and the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation and will work, to the best of its ability, to assist in the passage of the Act and all subsequent efforts by the Foundation to secure funding and help determine a suitable location for the Memorial.

Loren Tobia moves the board adopt the resolution. Janice Gin seconds. Motion approved by a unanimous vote.

Executive Director Shelley requests the Board move into Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter – staff can remain. Sheryl Worsley moves the Board moves into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Blaise Labbe seconds. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Board returns from Executive Session.

Executive Director Shelley continued his report and called on Deputy Executive Director Kate Switchenko to discuss EIJ'19. Kate asked for any feedback from the Board. A conversation took place regarding the long lines on Thursday for registration. Also, some Board Members felt a few of the sessions could have used a larger room. Overwhelming, the Board was appreciative to the staff for their hard work in marking EIJ'19 a huge success.

Executive Director Shelley continued his report and called Director of Strategic Initiatives Tara Puckey. She briefed the Board on the project to update the Association and Foundation website – RTDNA.org. Tara handed out a document to the Board which contains a look at the current work. Board broke up into groups to offer feedback on the look and feel of the design options. Tara and the staff took the feedback and will report back to the Board later in the year. The website redesign remains on target.

Executive Director Shelley concluded his report by stating the RTDNA Offices will be closed on Monday and Tuesday (September 9th and 10th) of this coming week. He will be available if any issues develop which need attention.

Association Treasurer Loren Tobia offered his report. The PNC reports were issued for the Association and Foundation. They show:

- a. On the Association side, we closed the month at \$436,000 – 15% increase year to date.
- b. On the Foundation side, we closed the month at \$1.78 million – up \$5,000 for the month.

Chairman Shepherd called on the Committee Chairs to offer their reports:

Finance Committee Chair Janice Gin stated there is nothing new to report from the Finance Committee.

Awards Committee Chair Jam Sardar circulated several proposals and changes to the Board in advance of the meeting related to the 2020 Edward R. Murrow Awards competition. The first was a proposal to split the Network Documentary Category into two categories:

Broadcast length – up to 60 minutes in length

Feature length – over 60 minutes in length

A discussion took place among the Board Members.

Vince Duffy moved RTDNA separates the network documentary category into two separate categories as proposed. Tim Scheld seconds. Motion is approved by unanimous vote.

The Board Members discussed the removal of Social Media Category from the 2020 Murrow competition. A discussion with the Board Members took place.

Vince Duffy moved to remove the Social Media Category from the Murrow Competition. Scott Diener seconds. With a show of hands, the motion is rejected by the board. The category will remain.

The Board Members also discussed removing the Sports Category. There was no support to make a motion to remove the category. The category will remain.

Chairman Shepherd asks the Awards Committee to review the criteria in the Multimedia Category.

Programming Committee Chair Brandon Mercer reported 5 Webinars have been produced and hosted by RTDNA during the past year. This was the most Webinars the Association has ever provided. He thanked the Board Members who helped with specific sessions this year.

Moonshot Committee Chair Kathy Walker stated there is nothing new to report from the Moonshot Committee.

Governance/Membership Committee Chair Chip Mahaney stated there is nothing new to report from the Governance/Membership Committee.

Diversity Committee Chair Kimberly Wyatt was not present and did not provide a report.

Ethics Committee Chair Tim Scheld discussed the committee's work on several guideline areas. Those proposed guidelines included:

- Identifying Commentary in News Coverage
- Preventing the Spread of Fake News
- Journalists Using Social Media and Blogs

Several items were offered as feedback to the guidelines and a healthy conversation took place on changes.

Chip Mahaney moves the Board gives the Ethics Committee the right to revise the documents as discussed by the Board and then publish. Blaise Labbe seconds. Motion is approved by unanimous vote.

Nominating Committee Chair Jerry Walsh stated there is nothing new to report from the Nominating Committee.

Under New business:

Loren Tobia moved that the Board adopts the Board committee structure from the Walsh Administration to the Shepherd Administration. Janice Gin seconds. Motion is approved by a unanimous vote.

Jam discussed minority journalism groups attending our meetings and inviting participation. States several have not been active with our Board recently.

Under Old business:

Janice asked about a list of potential projects and ideas the Board developed one year ago at EIJ'18. She wanted to know if any can still be good ideas for the Association and Foundation. Chairman Shepherd asked Executive Director Shelley to provide him with the list developed at EIJ'18.

Jam Sardar make a motion to adjourn. Vince Duffy seconds. Motion approved by unanimous vote. Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm Central Time.