

**Meeting of the full Board for RTDNA/F
Sept. 9, 2017, Anaheim Marriott**

Attending: Jerry Walsh, Loren Tobia, Scott Diener, Brandon Mercer, Janice Gin, Scott Libin, Vincent Duffy, David Wagner, Fiona Conway, Chip Mahaney, David Louie, Mark Kraham, Ed Esposito, Jam Sardar, Kathy Walker, Sheryl Worsley, and Ellen Crooke by phone.

Executive Director Report: Mike Cavender was absent due to Hurricane Irma.

Incoming Ex. Dir report: Dan Shelley

Dan introduced Eric from RIAS who gave an overview of the program and expressed appreciation of the partnership with RTDNA. He described the consulting relationship that Mike Cavender may undertake with RIAS. There is a new program RIAS is trying to create that would pay for travel for student journalists.

Dan introduced Kate Switchenko who announced that pre-conference registration was 1653 – 943 were paid – total attendance is probably more than 2017. Exhibitors get additional comp registrations which is why that number is high because we sold out the exhibit floor. We are going to issue convention registration refunds to those who ask due to Hurricane Irma, but not Paul White tickets. This is similar to what SPJ and NAJA are doing. It remains unclear whether NAHJ will offer refunds. Dan thanked the staff for doing an outstanding job at the Convention.

Chair Report: Scott Libin – Scott formally greeted and welcomed Ellen to the board. Ellen introduced herself and said she is humbled to be on the board. Dan also congratulated Kimberly Wyatt who won but could not be with us because she is covering Hurricane Irma. He also mentioned that Sean McGarvy lost his election but indicated that he will stay involved and run next year.

Scott and Dan explained the committee structure. Dan recommended that we have a full nominations committee – made up of the past three chairs, as has been our practice in the past.

Scott explained that he would like to combine Membership and Governance committees. He said they need to be combined as we look to revamp our membership structure.

Ed Esposito recommended that we create an audit committee to exist in addition to the finance committee.

Scott made a motion that we combine Membership and Governance committee. Ed Esposito motioned that we accept the recommendation of the chair. Jam Sardar seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott said he would accept nominations to the executive comm.

Dave nominated Jam, Brandon seconded.

Ed nominated Sheryl and Brandon Seconded.

Ed nominated Chip and Sheryl seconded.

Sheryl nominated Janice and Sheryl seconded.

Loren moved that we close nominations, and Chip seconded.

Those elected to the executive committee: Chip, Sheryl and Janice.

Dan reviewed some of the other policies – including if a board member misses three consecutive board meetings, he/she vacates their seat on the board. Janice asked as chair of the Governance committee that those policies be listed and proven from past minutes.

Chair Elect report from Jerry Walsh. Convention planning meeting for next year took place. There were many good ideas in that discussion.

The Association moved to meet as a FOUNDATION.

The board elected Kathy Walker as RTDNF Secretary/Treasurer and David Louie as RTDNF Trustee.

The Foundation voted to return to meeting as the Association. The Association returned.

Treasurer's report – Loren Tobia: Convention was a profitable venture this year. Work on the budget is underway. Travel for next year will likely be increased due to Dan's travel for VFA.

The Board went into executive session to discuss legal matters.

VFA committee – Dan said we are doing everything we possibly can given our current resources. To take our efforts to the next level requires significant funding. Next steps will be to create a nationwide PR-campaign and come up with materials to help stations be more transparent to the public, also to reach out to individual members of Congress to demonstrate what responsible journalism is and its value. We have potential funding sources out there.

Ellen said her company has done deep research on how to rebuild trust with their audience. They learned the best way to gain trust is to be trustworthy. The audience also responds very positively to transparency about how the story was done.

On Friday, Oct 20 at the National Press Club building, we will be in partnership with other organizations to have a panel with first amendment attorneys and news directors as a webinar for colleges and universities across the country about what journalists' rights are in the field covering a story.

Jerry said in the messaging of this campaign it is critical how we frame the message we are trying to get across.

Jam wondered if all the money raised would be devoted to VFA efforts? Dan said

it is too early to know that yet. Dan described efforts to gain revenue for VFA efforts.

Governance Committee – Gin - We were down 60 votes from last year in our election. We had a competitive chair elect race last year. Janice said she thought opening the elections early was successful.

Digital Committee – Worsley – Sheryl noted the hard work of Barefoot PR at the conference. T-shirts were a wild success. We have fewer than 10 left. We made roughly \$1000 on the t-shirts.

Awards Committee – Dan – we passed the new terms and conditions earlier this Year.

Moonshot Committee – Kathy recommended that we have another strategic planning process for next year. Dan said he thought that was a good idea. Loren Moved we adjourn, Vince seconded.