



Board Meeting Minutes
Aug. 7, 2016
Congressional Board Room-Marriott Wardman
Washington, D.C.

President Brandon Benavides called meeting to order at 10:25 a.m.

Board Members & Staff Present: Vicki Adame, Communications/Admin. Coordinator; Brandon Benavides, President; Brian De Los Santos, Region 8 Director; Nancy Flores, Secretary; Yaneth Guillen-Diaz, Director of Membership; Mekahlo Medina, Ex Officio; Rafael Mejia, Region 1 Director; Alberto Mendoza, Executive Director; Nathan Olivarez-Giles, General At-Large Officer; Michelle Rindels, Financial Officer; Blanca Rios, Region 6 Director; Joe Ruiz, VP Online

Absent:

Rolando Arrieta, VP Broadcast; Laura Castañeda, Academic At-Large Officer; Erik Reyna, Region 3 Director; Miguel Rosa, Spanish At-Large Officer; Sebastian Vega, Student Representative

Guests:

Geraldine Cols Azócar, VP NYC chapter; Yunuen Bonaparte, senior at California State University Fullerton and NAHJ Student Project alum; Alícia de Jong Davis, NAHJ Lifetime Member, Rosa Morales, former Region 6 Director; Karina Ramirez, VP Hispanic Communicators Dallas-Ft. Worth Chapter; Joe Rodriguez, CCNMA President; BA Snyder, Veritas PR

-Board Appointment

Nathan Olivarez-Giles makes a motion to appoint Geraldine Cols Azócar as Region 2 Director. Vote passes unanimously.

-Executive Session

Rafael Mejia makes a motion to go into executive session. Rafael Mejia makes motion to leave executive session.

-Committees

The following committees were created: Executive Committee, 2018 Convention Committee, Membership Committee, Election Committee and 2016 Convention Debrief Committee

-Second Board Meeting

Brandon Benavides makes a motion to vote for location of second board meeting. Board votes unanimously to meet Dec. 9-11 in Las Vegas over Mexico City. Sponsors United Airlines and MGM can provide limited travel vouchers for board members. The second board meeting will consist of training with consultants and approval of budget proposal.

-2017 Board Meetings (April 7 & Sept. 6)

Board meetings for 2017 were set for April 7 in Miami for Hispanicize and Sept. 6 before the Anaheim convention.

-Executive Director's Report

Convention highlights include the exhibit hall selling out, exceeding sponsorship goals. The reincorporation process has been filed on our end. Joe Ruiz proposed forming a Bylaws Committee after reincorporation process finalizes.

-New Business

Board members proposed exploring possibility of creating an Archive Committee to document NAHJ history with potential interactives.

NAHJ will also explore options to support New York Times journalist Frances Robles, who is being asked to testify in a trial, as long as it doesn't interfere with the case and Robles wishes for NAHJ to move forward.

NAHJ board members will receive nahj.org email addresses.

Karina Ramirez proposes update to Spanish-language style guide.

Brandon Benavides to re-invite Republican Presidential Nominee Donald Trump to speak to NAHJ/NABJ members before election since campaign declined to speak at conference due to scheduling conflict.

Joe Ruiz motions to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourns at 12:21 p.m.