

**National Association of Hispanic Journalists
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
Sunday July 21, 2024
9am PST/12pm EST**

Present: Dunia Elvir,, Julio-Cesar Chavez, Jaime Cardenas, Nancy Martinez Preyor-Johnson, Andres Martinez, Jackie Padilla, Pedro PJ Cabrera, Melissa Macaya,Ninette Sosa (alternate), Johnny Cordoba, Samantha Rivera, Cristy Fajardo, David Cordero Mercado (joined at 11:10 a.m. PST)

Present: David Cordero Mercado, Kiara Alfonseca, Diana Gutierrez

Guests: Yaneth Guillen, Ivan Briones, Blanca Rios, Clara Benitez Cortez

Call to order

President Dunia Elvir called the meeting to order at 9:06 am PST/ 12:06 pm EST

Roll Call

Secretary Jackie Padilla conducted roll call

I. Welcome

- A. Dunia welcomed everyone including all newly-elected officers.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. July 9, 2024 board meeting
- B. VP of Broadcast Julio Cesar Chavez Andino moved to approve the minutes.
- C. VP of Online Jaime Cardenas seconded the motion.
- D. The motion passed via roll call vote. Academic Officer Pedro PJ Cabrera, Financial Officer Andres Martinez, Secretary Jackie Padilla and Alternate Region 5 Director Ninette Sosa all abstained due to absence.

III. Ex-officio Vote

- A. VP of Broadcast Julio Cesar Chavez Andino moved to approve the ex-officio members:Yvette Cabrera, ycabrera@nahj.org
- B. Arelis Hernandez, ahernandez@nahj.org
- C. Blanca Rios, Brrios@nahj.org
- D. Geraldine Cols Azócar, gcolsazocar@nahj.org
- E. Julio explained the relevance of ex-officio: ‘Under the new bylaws, which thankfully were passed, every outgoing, every board member whose term expires remains as an ex-officio member for one month. However, since we have not had this higher turnover in the executive board, for several board terms, we're asking that the executive board members remain as ex-officio. For now, for, for one year, for various purposes...what ex-officio allows us to do is that it allows us to share board information with them legally.’
- F. Julio moved to extend the ex-officio appointments of Yvette Cabrera. Blanca Rios, Geraldine Cortez which will expire on July 31st, 2025.

- G. VP of Online Jaime Cardenas seconded the motion.
- H. The motion passed via roll call vote. Academic Officer Pedro PJ Cabrera, Financial Officer Andres Martinez, Secretary Jackie Padilla and Alternate Region 5 Director Ninette Sosa all abstained due to absence.

IV. Conference Overview - Executive Director Yaneth Guillen-Diaz

- A. Yaneth expressed her thanks for all the newly elected officers, everyone who contributed to the 2024 conference and the volunteers. She stated there were more 1,800 members who attended the event in LA. She also thanked Robert Hernandez and David Cordero who as program chairs who spearheaded the efforts to lock in 80 training sessions at the conference.
- B. During the conference, Yaneth said NAHJ was able to raise just over \$10k which will go toward the Ruben Salazar Scholarship. In regards to registration fees, NAHJ received over \$300k but noted a lot of complimentary registrations were also given out. In sponsorships, NAHJ received over \$1.3M. In exhibitors and booth revenue, NAHJ received over \$200k. Altogether the revenue totals about \$1.9M from the conference (not including donations and the silent auction).
- C. Yaneth added that there will be a thorough financial report available once all bills and payments are cleared and the information is shared with the financial officer.
- D. As for 2025, Yaneth said a date and location have not been solidified

V. Audit Update - Financial Officer Andrés H. Martínez

- A. Andres said as of July 21, there is no update to provide.

VI. Committee & Task Force Assignments - President Dunia Elvir

- A. Dunia explained that we are in the second year of our five-year strategic plan. Dunia asked Nancy to elaborate on the strategic plan (ST) Nancy explained how the ST keeps all the committee task forces on track. Nancy explained that everything we do at NAHJ is connected to the strategic plan. She said a task force chair or a person on a task force has been asked to fill out a Google form with updates on actions their respective force has taken so the board and NAHJ as a whole is aware of what is happening.
- B. Nancy asked that board members consider leading a task force or become a committee member to strengthen our efforts across the board.
- C. Dunia explained that the advisory committee is formed by regular members and board members.
- D. Dunia set a deadline of September 7, 2024 for people to vocalize what committee they'd like to be involved in.

VII. Public Questions & Comments

- A. None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Retired membership category**

1. Julio explained we have a new membership category for retirees and a price point needs to be set. Yaneth had previously recommended that it cost the same as a student membership at \$25.
 2. Julio did the motion.
 3. Nancy seconded the motion.
 4. There were no abstains or opposition.
- B. 2024-2025 Board schedule**
- C. New Corpus Christi Chapter approval**
1. (Region 5) Nancy presented the recommendation and the new chapter leader Clara Benitez-Cortez was invited to talk about this South Texas New Chapter.
 2. Nancy Preyor-Johnson did the motion.
 3. Julio seconded the motion.
 4. Jackie conducted a roll call for votes that concluded with a unanimous yes.
 5. The motion passed
- D. Dunia talked about the vacant board positions.**
1. Dunia and Ivan will let the members know about these opportunities to get as much participation as possible from the membership.
- E. Jackie asked about funding for a transcription service**
1. to keep track of every board of directors meeting. Yaneth said she would look into options and finances available in the next budget.
- F. Julio mentioned the feedback survey** for the 2024 conference and the importance of each member giving their input.
- G. Next board meeting date:** September 7, 2024 at 9 a.m. PST 12 p.m. EST

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Dunia adjourned the meeting at 11:20pm PST/1:20pm EST