

National Association of Hispanic Journalists
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
Dec. 14, 2024
9am PST/12pm EST

I. Call to Order

President Dunia Elvir

Meeting began at 12:05 EST – called to order

II. Roll Call

Secretary Jackie Padilla

In attendance:

Dunia Elvir - President

Julio Cesar Chavez Andino - VP of Broadcast

~~Jaime Cardenas~~ - VP of Online

Nancy Martinez Preyor-Johson - VP of Print

Jackie Padilla - Secretary

Pedro PJ Cabrera - Academic at-Large

~~David Cordero Mercede~~ - Region 1

Kiara Alfonsecas - Region 2

Melissa Macaya - Region 3

Samantha Rivera - Region 4

Ninette Sosa - Region 5 alternate

~~Diana Gutierrez~~ - Region 6

Johnny Cordoba - Region 7

Cristy Fajardo - Region 8

Genesis Samayoa Hidalgo - General Officer At-Large

Jose Cancela - National Spanish Officer At-Large

~~Nicole Roesler Iniguez~~ - student rep

Guests: Yaneth Guillen, Yvette Cabrera, Diane Castro Schnell , Lucy Bustamante, Ivan Briones

III. Welcome - President Dunia Elvir

IV. Approval of Minutes - Secretary Jackie Padilla. Approval of the minutes for September 07, 2024 board meeting

Jackie made a motion to approve minutes of Sept 7

Nancy seconded

No abstains or comments

The motion was approved unanimously

V. Status of Organization - Executive Director Yaneth Guillen-Diaz

Student training opportunities: In spring of 2025, Yaneth reported there will be a student summit in Chicago that is in the planning stage.

Yaneth recognized NAHJ's newest student scholarship of \$5,000 created and sponsored by Lori Montenegro.

palabra has expanded with more funding and more support. With 62 initial publications, and in total, 132 published with collaborations.

In the last three months, Yaneth informed she's been working on proposals for conferences 2026-2028 and early in 2025 the venues/contracts will be announced.

In closing, Yaneth said the 2025 budget has been balanced at net-zero with confidence that a profit will be made.

VI. Adelante Academy Presente! Update - Ex-Officio President, Yvette Cabrera
Yvette Cabrera thanked the board for the opportunity to work on the advisory board.

Yvette reminded the board that the program is part of a 5-year strategic plan with the ultimate goal of supporting our members' career growth. In November 2024 and December 2024 there were Q&A sessions to address any questions regarding the program. Those Q&A sessions were recorded for members to access. (Here are links to both of those sessions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVBmi4Zsla8> -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdrS40lkERE>) Currently there are 15 members on the advisory board who also serve as judges selecting the cohort. For 2025, Yvette said the finalists will be announced at the end of January or beginning of February with the program beginning in March.

VI. 2025 Budget Approval- VP. Digital, ~~Jaime Cardenas~~

Jaime was absent so Julio Cesar Chavez led this conversation.

Julio said the proposed budget is largely similar to 2024. He said we are expecting membership rates to increase and, as Yaneth mentioned, a projected

profit. He noted that the goal is to also establish an in-person board retreat that comes at an additional expense.

Julio moved to make a motion to approve the 2025 Budget developed by Yaneth.

Nancy Preyor-Johnson seconded the motion

Jackie conducted roll call with unanimous approval

The motion has passed

VII. Professional Chapter Louisiana Approval - Ninette Sosa

Ninette thanked Diane Castro Schnell for her efforts for this initiative. She celebrated the proposal of a new chapter in Louisiana, adding that the state deserves this newfound NAHJ and Latino representation.

Diana thanked everyone who assisted her efforts and said that this chapter is set up for success.

Dunia asked for a motion to approve the Louisiana chapter.

Ninette Sosa made the motion

Julio Cesar Chavez seconded

None abstained or opposed

The motion for an NAHJ Louisiana Chapter has passed.

VIII. University of Maryland student Chapter - Pedro Cabrera and Melissa Macaya.

Melissa Macaya noted that UMD had a very active chapter that ultimately went dormant and it's exciting to restart it. Melissa thanked everyone on staff for supporting the process.

Jose Cancela made the motion

Pedro seconded the motion

No abstains or opposed

The motion for establishment of UMD NAHJ chapter approved

IX. Excelencia Award - President Dunia Elvir

The event was in LA on December 7, 2024. Dunia said the event with NAHJ and CCNMA was a success. Yaneth said it was a spectacular event and we fundraised \$49,500. The revenue will go toward programming for students.

X. Task Force Update Report - At Large Officer, Genesis Samayoa

Afro latino task force - locked in two co chairs - Claria Cruz (DC), Pedro Rivera (New York)

Genesis informed us about the New news program launched by our Student Rep. Nicole Roesler-Iniguez (Chicago University).

Connecting with different universities (Fullerton, Northridge in SoCa)

Nancy reminded the board to put that info in google form of what their forces have done so far she provided in the google doc and anyone else in a task force or committee to contribute.

XI. New Business

Dunia credited Julio Cesar Chavez for his efforts to launch a board retreat in the fall of 2025 leading up to elections in November, reiterating Julio's point to be connected in person not just online. The retreat offers both training and team development. Julio said having a new board be elected in the fall and begin in January allows for new members to participate in training and be better prepared. There will be a discussion about reaching out to board members for scheduling to find a date range that allows the most participation.

XII. Public Questions & Comments

Jose Cancela noted concerns for a new administration and concerns for undocumented people and immigrants.

Lucy Bustamante mentioned the importance of Rapid Response Team focus on DACA and opportunities for Dreamers

XIII. Next board meeting date: March 15, 2024 at 9 a.m. PST

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:03pm.