

**ASPA Buffalo Niagara Chapter**  
**Board Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2020**  
(This meeting was held via Zoom.)

Officers/Board Members Present: Tony Astran, Brian Bray, Makenzie Docteur, Chris Marcello, Mike Ramos, Chris Jones, and Ken Stone.

Guest: Dr. Malcolm Oliver, Associate Dean, Excelsior College, (ASPA District I Candidate)

Meeting called: 5:35 p.m. We have a quorum.

Motion to approve the agenda: Ken Stone; Chris Jones seconded; passed.

**Special Guest:**

- Tony provided a brief history of our chapter and its current status. Dr Oliver introduced himself; asked about our chapter's activities/concerns; and discussed his candidacy for ASPA District I.

Motion to approve the 10/20/2020 Board meeting minutes: Ken Stone; Chris Marcello Seconded; passed.

**Officer Reports:**

**President/Communications Officer:**

- Tony's working to increase our presence on social media. Info provided re Dr. Rivera's recent publication online and presenting Wednesday 11/18. Promoted ASPA webinar on resume writing. Reported on planned ASPA national conference to again be virtual, with a Call for Papers Dec 11<sup>th</sup> deadline. ASPA elections wrapping up soon, Dec 4 deadline to vote.

**Treasurer:**

- Ken submitted our financial report, we have \$1,073.96 in the bank, all obligations have been paid, no previously approved commitments are outstanding.

**Secretary:**

- Tony reported the minutes were uploaded to Dropbox.

**Membership Officer:**

- Tony passed on Brian Poliner's report that he has 5 new membership applications from the Hilbert cohort. Tony offered his assistance if needed. Tony will set up a zoom meeting with Brian to discuss further.

**Committee Reports:**

**Programming:** Chris Marcello reported the committee met via zoom on 11/10. Chris, Tony, & Brian Bray. Discussed events the chapter could do this year, possible book club. Send ideas to Chris. Also discussed a potential service project, tougher to do under the circumstances. Tony suggested a "Family Feud" type trivia fundraiser, possibly City of Buffalo trivia. He has run this game before and would be happy to take that on. Chris indicated his support for the idea. Northland Workforce Training Center as a possible beneficiary.

For next year: programs for students and current members. Planning another committee meeting in December, Chris will send a meeting invite.

**Communications:** Tony reported the committee hadn't met yet. Plans a meeting for anyone interested soon. Mike Ramos indicated he would like to participate.

**Membership:** Brian and Tony will chat later this week.

**Unfinished Business:****Open Board Member Position –**

- Open Board member position discussed. Tony has not heard from Dr. Ceesay; Mackenzie says she's really busy with her departmental duties. Possibly reach out to City Hall? The pandemic complicates this effort.

**Journal Update -**

- Brian reported via email to Tony that the journal is moving along. Hilbert's Library is interested in hosting.

## Celebrating Good News

- Ken reported “surviving our budget hearing” and received good feedback. Some optimism expressed on the election outcome.
- Chris Jones said he now has fiber out his way (Heartland), from Spectrum, a major improvement!
- Tony’s work landed a number of interviews for work, centered around the Great American Smokeout.

**Next meeting: Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.** Ken noted he set this meeting up as a recurring meeting in Zoom, so the same link we used today will work:

Topic: ASPA Buffalo Niagara Chapter Board Meetings

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99967517922?pwd=QXRzeVVsTS9MbWFySG43bjJsSWtEQT09>

Meeting ID: 999 6751 7922

Passcode: 879300

One tap mobile

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Ken will send out an outlook invite and reminder shortly before the meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Ken Stone; Mackenzie Docteur Seconded.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45 p.m.