

ASPA Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2021

(Held via Zoom)

Present: Marisa Nold, Ken Stone, Tony Astran, Brian Bray, Brian Poliner, Chris Jones, Gordy Stewart, Makenzie Docteur, Michael Ramos, Ray Wagner, Chris Marcello, Michael Hughes, Rosaleen Nogle

Meeting called at: 5:34 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda. Seconded.

Motion to approve November 17, 2020 meeting minutes. Seconded.

Call of the roll. We have a quorum.

Officer Reports -

President:

- Annual conference coming up. Chapters can have a business meeting. The conference is going to be virtual but there will be options to have breakout rooms for chapter business and hosting meetings.
- Tony will not attend conference but if anyone has any ideas, to let him know so he can inform ASPA.
- There is a check-in meeting that they send to national leaders that ASPA tries to do once a month. The next one is on February 4th. Tony is unable to attend, so McKenzie will attend in Tony's stead.
- ASPA daily listing of things other chapters are doing; Tony will pass along.
- Things are ramping up in the new year.

Communications Officer:

- There are web updates to make - Tony is making updates to our web, which he'll report to the Communications Committee.
- Tony put up a note about the public administrators who carried out the electoral ballots after Capitol riots to say a thank you to public servants (without getting too political).
- There is more to come with social media.

Treasurer:

- We have \$1,073.96 in our account as of January 26, 2021.

Membership Officer:

- We have two new members of the four from Hilbert College.
- Two other members are expected.
- Tony checked our roster; there is a possible other student that is interested in becoming a member.

- Maybe we can send welcome e-mails, informing new members of our chapter and new meetings.
- There are a lot of good opportunities with Brockport's MPA program
- Brian offered to subsize the entries that have come in.

Secretary:

- The 11/17/20 minutes were uploaded to Dropbox.
- Tony will upload those minutes to ASPA website.

Committee Reports:

All three committees have met separately.

Program Committee:

Chris Marcello:

- Ideas are percolating.
- Program committee – new professional programming for professional development: fun bucket and professional bucket.
- More concrete ideas – program committee meeting – same time, next week, February 4th at 7:00 for a program committee meeting
- Possibly meeting on February 9th at 7:00 so we have a meeting prior to next Board meeting.
- Tony will put out an e-mail blast to join the respective committees.
- Book club – Chris will get a few suggestions from folks and put out a book out this weekend to read.
- Thursday, March 25th as target date for first book club
- Family Feud as a fundraiser that we want to flesh out at next meeting.
- Northland possibly for one fundraiser, but Tony will put out an outline for different fundraising opportunities.
- Professional development piece – having a speaker or program.
- Young professional program – new professionals or students currently in MPA programs or other programs.
- Six-week timeline to read book but Chris Jones suggested to do it quarterly or give it two months.

Communications Committee:

Tony Astran:

- Met last night with Ray and Rosaleen and Michael
- This was the Inaugural communications committee meeting.
- There was an idea to create a resource section on websites for jobseekers.
- The members sent links for jobseekers they have available, and they came through for exam preparation and things like that.
- Tony will create a new page to make it easy to navigate.
- They discussed the things to do and things they can do – one big stream being social media.

- Have weekly topics and discussions to show value on why to follow us on social media and what we can provide.

The e-mails can include:

1. Tips and tricks, like Civil Service Savvy Workshop
2. Current events that are timely and relevant
3. Membership benefits
4. Sharing ASPA National social media posts

- The goal is to keep our content calendar fresh and timely possible.
- Committee members to be administrators to our membership page, as well, so they can edit and add posts.
- There is a lot more content to meet about membership, but the membership committee will meet again on February 9th at 7:00.

Membership Committee:

Brian Poliner:

- The first meeting was more of an informal get-together and get to know each other opportunity.
- There were not many actions at the meeting, but it was a foundation to expand membership opportunities.
- We have our scheduled meeting scheduled for next Tuesday.
- We can flesh out action items going into the spring.

Unfinished Business:

- Open Board member position: Was hoping that Felicia would join the Board and fill the open spot.
- Open spot is going until June (elections)
- We would have five spots as opposed to four open, plus President-Elect.
- Any ideas or thoughts on that, let Tony know.

Great Lakes Journal:

- Nothing new – it has been difficult with COVID and running programs.
- Has not made any headway with Hilbert librarian.
- Once COVID pandemic subsides, Brian will be able to move forward.
- At a standstill right now.

Public Services Recognition Week is unknown if it will still occur in April.

Miscellaneous Items:

- Even how rough everything politically and pandemic wise last year, we can still forge ahead in this ASPA year with some exciting initiatives.
- More calmness in the political world, hopefully we now focus on policy rather than drama.
- Good Neighbor Network – recognized for National Center for Healthy Housing, Michael Ramos heads it, will be put up on social media for recognition.

- How Stuff Works published ten worst snowstorms and Buffalo is NUMBER TWO!! 😊

Next meeting: February 16th at 5:30 via Zoom

Motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded.

Meeting ended: 6:15 p.m.