

ASPA Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2021

(This meeting was held via Zoom.)

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

Call of the roll: We have a quorum.

Meeting called at: 5:36 p.m.

Chris Jones resigned, so one more Board member spot is vacant.

Motion to approve agenda. Seconded.

Motion to approve amended minutes from January 2021 as Rosaleen's first name is spelled wrong. Seconded.

Ken to complete the minutes from February 2021.

Officer Reports -

President:

- The annual report was filled out in time by March 4th and sent over to ASPA (thank you to Ken and Marisa for the help).
- Tony attended the monthly chapter section leaders' meeting on March 4th.
- It ties into the Public Service Recognition Week (PRSW) conference as they are looking for anything and everything that they do, so send them all information for any awards at any level are given out.

Treasurer:

- We got a penny in our account!
- Tony filed our chapter report for ASPA National, and they sent the verification of our bank account and send us a penny.
- We have \$1,073.90 in our account.

Secretary:

- The January minutes uploaded to Dropbox and e-mailed.

Membership Officer:

- We are still holding on with our same members.
- We have a couple of memberships that are expiring in March (Brian will reach out to the members that expire in March to make sure they renew).
- Michael Ramos is not on roster but sent payment, will have to clear it up with ASPA National.

The next membership committee meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, the 23rd, at 7 p.m.

Committee Reports:

Events Committee:

- Governance and Spokesperson event – 30 registrants
- There were seven or eight attendees from the general public, including some prospects.
- Tony will send social media blasts and we are hoping for 50 and 60 people in total for registration.
- Tony will submit questions to send to the expert panel.
- Any questions, please submit them to Tony.
- There were participation inquiries sent to three people from Brian Higgins' office, Mark Poloncarz's office and Tim Kennedy's office.
- Invitations were also sent to Mike DeGeorge from Mayor Brown's office, as well as Mark White with Crystal Peoples-Stokes's office
- Mike DeGeorge is probably not likely able to participate with the mayor's reelection campaign.
- Mark Boyd might not be likely but may join us to add diversity from our panel.

Chris Marcelllo –

- Thank you to Tony for our newsletter.
- The next ASPA Book Club meeting will be April 22nd
- Chris has not heard from anybody yet, but assuming we will.
- Tony has Family Feud in mind but received from Laurie Buonanno information about Public Service Recognition Week at Buffalo State.
- She is looking for panelists but looks like it will still go off without a hitch.
- PRSW is well under way.
- Family Feud – Tony will choose a date, but likely to be a late May/early June event, probably not in conjunction with PSRW.
- Family Feud proceeds goes towards students at Northland, so we know it is helping people most in need to get a better hold of their education and the needs of the workforce.
- Hoping to hold a Hatchets and Hops event as Axes and Ales at RiverWorks was too expensive.
- Hoping for all of this to be squared away within the next week or so.

Communications Committee:

Michael Ramos -

- Trying to have some consistent posts on Facebook to have more of a social media presence.
- The Board to check out updates and share the posts if you can.
- Michael sends out weekly clips on public administration.
- This week, we will try to start highlighting individual speakers and photos.
- If we can share something good, post away!
- Monday morning will be saved for highlighting news articles and events.
- There are not any website updates yet.

Membership Committee:**Brian Poliner –**

- There is a membership committee meeting next week, and the individuals on the committee have been working together and formulating ideas.
- Brian will receive a briefing on what they are up to next week and bring it back to the Board.

New Business:**Brian Bray –****Upcoming Elections:**

- Brian is leading the charge to make it a tradition moving forward for immediate and past Presidents to head the panel with recruiting new members.
- There is not much of an update as there are no applications yet.
- Chris Jones not continuing as member; new spot open.
- Hopefully, we get new applicants with recruitment e-mails.
- By next meeting for sure, we will have that 60-day deadline for applications and start to see who we have for pending members.
- Chris Jones's Board membership positions goes through June 2022.
- Tony can appoint an interim Board member. The Board member would be interim until next election.
- They would be on the Board until our next regular election in June.
- Tony will reach out and see if he can recruit an interim member.

PA Journal –

- Brian Poliner is still working through processes.
- He worked with the Hilbert College library staff and had some conversation with others.
- In Tony discussing PRSW planning with Laurie Buonanno, she is more than willing to help with journal, too.

Public Service Recognition Week (PRSW) –

- There was a planning meeting last Tuesday with Buffalo State professors and Brian, Makenzie and Tony.
- It was a very productive hour-long meeting.
- There are some working titles in place, and looking to do four panels: ASPA, Buffalo State, Dr. Laurie Buonanno's panel, and Buffalo State alumni
- They are thinking tentatively for the lunch break, instead of it being a lunch break, for it to be a "working" lunch break – prospective members would stay on and learn about APSA membership.
- Buffalo State is planning a run-through of awards that they give out with inductions to Pi Alpha Alpha.

Brian Bray –

Brian is spearheading ASPA's panel.

- We are going to have a panel to spearhead the ASPA Board entitled Lessons from the Frontline – Local Government Reaction to COVID-19.
- There will be a planned roundtable discussion on how local government fared in pandemic and lessons they have learned.
- Brian is open to suggestions of anybody who they think would be good on the panel – write him an e-mail if you have an applicable suggestion.
- He is looking for a keynote speaker – Mark Poloncarz is not available, so Brian is looking at Sean Ryan, an elected official, to offer the keynote speech.
- The next ASPA planning meeting will focus on finalizing most if not all speakers by the end of the month to start running the event.

Annual Awards Program

- Rosaleen volunteered to coordinate awards that we had last year with the added criteria.

Celebrating Good News

- Tony is on vacation (we are all jealous).
- Michael Hughes is deployed right now - currently sitting in Providence, Rhode Island to set up vaccination clinics.
- More and more Board members are getting vaccinated.

Motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded.

Meeting ended at: 6:25 p.m.