

**National Speakers Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

[Tuesday, January 19, 2021]

[Virtual - ZOOM]

CURRENT BOARD PRESENT:		
Barry Banther, CSP, CPAE Chair	Meridith Elliott Powell, CSP Vice Chair	Mary Lue Peck President & CEO
Bill Bachrach, CSP, CPAE Director	Valda Ford Director	Russ Riddle, JD Secretary
Joel G. Block, CPA, CSP Director	Anna Liotta, CSP Immediate Past President	Mike Staver, CSP Chair-Elect
Karen "Casey" Carpenter Director	Josef Martens, PhD, CSP Director	"T" Thompson, JD, CSP, Chair Board Appointee
Shirley Davis, PhD, CSP Treasurer	Troy Nash, Ed.D, JD Director	Crystal Washington, Director

CURRENT BOARD ABSENT:	
None	

NSA STAFF:	
Rhette Baughman	Director, Marketing & Communications
Nikki Harris	Director, Member Engagement
Stephanie Larsen	Chief of Staff
Jessi Leonardo	Manager, Operations
Maureen Mahoney	Director of Online Learning

ADDITIONAL BOARD ATTENDEES:	
Peter Stark	Finance Committee Member
Dan Thurmon	Past President
Stephen Tweed	Past President
Jim Pancero	Chair of NSA Foundation
Jason Dorsey	NSA Member

I. Call to Order

Chair Banther called the meeting to order at 5:01PM EST.

Chair Banther asked Director Washington to share one of the core values and its meaning to her, the board and NSA (Director Washington discussed the value of Honorable Innovation.)

II. Chair Announcements

Chair Banther stated there were no announcements.

III. Action Items

Consent Agenda:

1. Reaffirm Mission Statement, Vision, and Values
2. Reaffirm Code of Conduct and Core Values for the Board
3. December 18, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

The Consent Agenda stood without change (no directors objected or requested an item's removal for discussion)

IV. Discussion Items

A. Finance Committee Report

Chair Banther made introductory comments before giving the floor to Peter Stark, who gave a brief financial update. A short discussion was had among the board members.

B. Foundation Update

Chair Banther made introductory comments before giving the floor to Foundation Chair Jim Pancero and Stephen Tweed. They reported that the Foundation has signed a contract with an association management company to provide administrative support (in lieu of NSA staff members). They also gave a brief overview of the Foundation's 2020 expenditures and planned 2021 fund raising activities. Brief Q&A was had.

C. Headquarters Building Update

Chair Banther made introductory comments, then gave the floor to Chair Elect Staver, who reported that he accepted a \$1.2 million offer on the headquarters property and a \$25,000 earnest money deposit has been tendered by the buyer. The buyer's due diligence is ongoing, and its architects are examining the building. Board members briefing discussed the news and President/CEO reported on the plan for other shared workspace for the staff.

D. Board Nominations Update

Immediate Past President Liotta reported that the nominations process is ongoing until January 31st. Nominees will be narrowed down to five who will be interviewed in March 2021 and three new board members will be selected from those interviewed. A brief discussion was had.

E. Member Research Findings

Chair Banther and President/CEO Peck each made introductory comments, then gave the floor to Jason Dorsey, who reported on the NSA member survey results and his interpretations thereof. There was brief Q&A.

F. Governance Update

Presidential Board Appointee Thompson updated the board on his committee's progress – (1) draft "ends" are in place; and (2) he and the governance consultant updated the policy language around those ends. Committee members will review and discuss prior to presenting to the full board at the March meeting.

G. Board Chair Terms

Chair Banther introduced the possibility of two-year Chair terms for Chair Elect Staver and Vice Chair Powell (and potentially continuing two-year terms thereafter). The rationale is for better continuity of a Chair working with the President/CEO. A short discussion was had and Chair Banther asked all board members to be pondering the idea, which will be discussed in more detail at the March board meeting.

V. New Business

No new business was discussed, but President/CEO Peck quickly updated about Winter Conference.

VI. Old Business

Ratification of Chair Elect Staver's actions vis-à-vis the headquarters property:

- Motion by Chair Board Appointee Thompson
- Seconded by Director Block
- Discussion was had
- Unanimously passed by the board

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Banther made closing remarks and adjourned the meeting at 6:57PM EST.