

National Press Club

Board of Governors

December 17, 2012

Joel Whitaker, Secretary

Chairman John Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Zenger Room. A moment of silence was observed in memory of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre, which occurred just four days earlier.

Present: President Theresa Werner, Vice President Angela Greiling Keane, Secretary Joel Whitaker, Treasurer Myron Belkind, Membership Secretary Nyia Hawkins, Chairman John Hughes, Patrick McGrath, Ken Mellgren, Thomas Burr, Frederica Dunn, Ed Barks, Suzanne Struglinski, Shawn Bullard, NPC Journalism Institute President Richard Dunham, John Donnelly, Immediate Past President Mark Hamrick, , Mark Wojno.

Absent: None

Staff: Executive Director William McCarren

Guests: Newly elected 2013 board members Marilyn Geewax and Joe Morton.

Upon motion by Whitaker/Dunn, the board approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

Membership

On a motion by Whitaker/Dunn, the board committee liaison report (Appendix 1) was approved. Applications for reduced dues, dues waivers and the dues assistance program also were approved.

Committee Reports

Whitaker/McGrath moved acceptance of the board committee liaison report (Appendix 2). It was approved unanimously.

Belkind noted the International Correspondents Committee charged both members and nonmembers to attend the South Africa event. The committee collected \$2,000 and after paying expenses netted \$1250. The program was outstanding and speakers were amazing, Belkind said. Gil Klein started the program, recalling his presidency in 1994 when Nelson Mandela addressed the club. Other speakers included Ambassador Edward

Perkins, the first U.S. black ambassador to South Africa, and two South African journalists.

The board's BOC Budget Review Committee -- Mellgren, Hamrick, McCarren and Bullard -- has reviewed a presentation on the Broadcast Operations Center (BOC).

Treasurer's Report

Belkind reported the club has turned the corner financially this year. We've have three straight months of excellent results thus far, and the outlook for start of 2013 looks good. For 4th consecutive year, profits will exceed \$1 mm, although we will be below budget. Belkind commended McCarren and Georgetta George, the club's controller/accounting manager, for their work on this year's budget.

November revenue up from last year. Expect profits for this year to be above \$1mm. The BOC had a good month.

McCarren decided to use a substantial portion of the 2013 capital budget to buy HD equipment to upgrade the BOC.

It also has been decided to paydown the balance of the club's debt. This decision will temporarily lower the club's reserves, but will eliminate the interest expense on the debt.

McCarren: "It has been a great pleasure working with Myron, and I appreciate his counsel and experience."

Belkind then presented the full budget for 2013, stating it was unanimously approved by the budget committee. Belkind said it is reasonable and sets challenges for management.

McCarren: This reflects what you've seen before, with more detail.

Belkind: Committee budgets are pretty much in line with the past. One committee that went over budget – for a very good reason – was awards committee. We were able to absorb the overage, because other committees were under budget.

On motion by Wojno/Burr, the board sat as a Committee of the Whole, which enables Communicator Board members to vote, and discussed the budget. The Committee of the Whole approved the budget.

Belkind/Wojno then moved the adoption of the budget for 2013, which was adopted unanimously.

Executive Director Report (McCarren)

McCarren said the Broadcast Operations Center is fully in the Club's plans for 2013 and the foreseeable future, but the Club reserves the right to close any money-losing operation that draws substantial resources. Mellgren, who is both chair and liaison to the Broadcast Committee, said, "We're looking for efficiencies and ways to address issues."

President's Report (Werner)

President Werner announced the Vivian Awards will be presented Jan. 8, 2013, and discussed upcoming Speakers Lunches.

New Business

With some governance issues now resolved, the **National Press Club Journalism Institute** is now raising money from foundations, NPCJI President Dunham reported. Belkind expressed appreciation to Dunham for the work the Institute has done in stabilizing its finances and keeping to its promised schedule to pay off the balance owed the NPC in installments.

Werner/Hughes moved the NPC Board support a change in the JI By-Laws. The motion passed unanimously.

Election Results

Whitaker reported results of the election on Dec. 6, 2013. Angela Greiling Keane was elected President; Myron Belkind, Vice President; Joel Whitaker, Secretary; John Hughes, Treasurer; Marc Wojno, Membership Secretary.

Newly elected to the board at the Dec. 6 election were Marilyn Geewax, Jeff Ballou, and Joseph Morton.

Chairman Hughes recognized outgoing board members. Donnelly said he believes he's been on board for 11 years, Hamrick for 10. Donnelly said it has been an honor and privilege to serve. Hamrick said he enjoyed the experience, never considered it work and feels confident the board will do great things. He thanked President Werner for serving with dignity and style. Hawkins said serving on the board has "been an amazing experience."

Executive Session

On motion by Wojno/Donnelly, the board entered executive session to discuss personnel issues. After discussion, Burr/Wojno moved unanimous consent to return to the regular order of business.

Werner noted the Annual Membership Meeting will be Jan. 18, 2013, at 12 noon. A short organizational meeting of the board will follow thereafter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL WHITAKER
Secretary

Appendix 1 - Membership Applications Approved by Membership Committee

Name	Affiliation	Sponsor
<u>Journalist</u>		
Conrad Chaffee	Tokyo- Chunichi Shimbun Staff Reporter- U.S. Politics and Foreign Affairs	Shinichi Hisadome Yoichi Takeuchi <i>* Colleagues</i>
Chris Cantergiani	Scripps Howard News Service National Investigative Producer	Ben Harper Jody Beck <i>*Colleagues</i>
Margaret (Gretel) Johnson	German Press Agency Correspondent/News Editor	REINSTATE
Steven Artley	Freelance- Artleytoons Editorial Cartoonist	Angela Greiling Keane Thomas Burr <i>*Mailings</i>
Elyce Grimes	Associated Press News Production Specialist	Marc Wojno Lee Terryman <i>*Members</i>
<u>Journalist Young Member</u>		
Gabe Nelson	Automotive News Reporter-Washington Bureau Correspondent	Paul Merrion <i>*Colleagues</i>
<u>Journalist Non Resident</u>		
Giovanna Dell 'Orto Woodbury, MN	University of Minnesota Assistant Professor of Journalism	Alan Bjerga Myron Belkind <i>* Members</i>
Tecla Murphy Annapolis, MD	Outlook By the Bay Publisher/Editor	Angela Greiling Keane Thomas Burr <i>* Members</i>
Lisa Guerrero	Inside Edition	Theresa Werner

Playa Vista, CA	Chief Investigative Correspondent	<i>*Mailings</i>
Tamara Treichel Millbrae, CA	Sinomedia Int'l Group Inc. Editor, Editor-in-Chief of website	Angela Greiling Keane Thomas Burr <i>*Website</i>
Amr Mounib Heliopolis, Cairo	CMC Cairo News Company/ NIA Photojournalist	Hanan Elbadry Peggy Orchowski <i>* Members</i>
<u>Communicator</u>		
Fr. Sean McManus	Irish National Caucus Author	Angela Greiling Keane Ed Barks <i>*Website</i>
<u>Communicator - Young Member</u>		
Erin Corcoran	Children's National Medical Center Associate Director, Marketing and Communications	Thomas Burr Nya Hawkins <i>*Colleagues</i>
Kerry Duggan	U.S. Department of Energy:Office of Energy Efficiency Stakeholder/Engagement Director	Thomas Burr Nya Hawkins <i>*NPC Events</i>
Megan Benfatti	National School Transportation Association Communications and Marketing Manager	Thomas Burr Nya Hawkins <i>*NPC Events</i>
<u>Communicator News Source</u>		
Bart Fischer	Law Offices of Bart Fischer Lawyer	Peter Feltman <i>* Members</i>
Joan Coyle	American Chemical Society Lead Communications Officer-Media Relations	Anthony Shop Michael Woods <i>*NPC Holiday Party</i>
Tamara Mlynarczyk	Mazda North American Operations	Angela Greiling Keane

Manager, Public Affairs

Barbara Nocera
** Members*

Communicator Non-Resident

Robert Knutson
Huntington, NY

Robert Knutson & Company
President

Paul Krawzak
**Colleagues*

Baratunde Thurston
NYC, NY

Cultivated Wit
Founder

William Wallack
**Book Fair*

Lindsey Williams
Lake Orion, MI

Delphi Corporation
VP-Corporate Affairs

John Anderson
Lee Snitzer
** Members*

Brent Bowen
West Lafayette, IN

Purdue University/Journal of Aviation Technology
Executive Editor

Angela Greiling Keane
Thomas Burr
**Website*

Communicator Non Resident

Retired

Peter McManus
New York, NY

Big Mac IMK
Media Consultant

Angela Greiling Keane
Thomas Burr
**NPC Events*

Student

Asratie Teferra

Walden University
Student

Jan DuPlain
Myron Belkind
** Members*

*** denotes how they heard about joining the National Press Club.**

Appendix 2 - Board Committee Liaison Reports

NPC Committee Reports (December Meeting)

Broadcast Committee (Mellgren):

Angela and I have been discussing the future leadership of the Broadcast Committee and I am very pleased to announce during our December 6th meeting she announced that the new chair of our committee will be Mark Hamrick, who actually was the first chair of the committee prior to my term which began four years ago. Both of our co-chairs, Adam Konowe and Mike Freedman have been invited to continue for 2013 and they both accepted. It has been an honor to have chaired this committee. Mark has asked me to continue to be the committee board liaison and I will be pleased to do so.

We decided to plan another membership recruitment event in conjunction with the BOC and our Membership staff following the Inauguration. Last year's WTOP reception was deemed a success as we added several memberships during the following weeks. Fox, NPR, ABC, Reuters and CBS's Washington bureau along with their new WNEW all-news station are among those under consideration. Needless to say, the final plan will be up to Mark Hamrick.

During 2012 the Broadcast Committee has been pleased to have been able to contribute funding for the purchase of a camera tripod, portable lighting kit and a portable video recorder for use in the production of REWIND and other purposes by the BOC staff and interns.

Book and Author Committee (Barks):

Recent Book Raps: The October 10 Alvaro Uribe Velez sold out. Sixty books were sold for a \$323.40. Combined with sale of 56 tickets for \$280, the book rap yielded a total of \$603.40 for NPCJI. The November 19 Maurine Beasley luncheon held in conjunction with the History and Heritage Committee resulted in the sale of 29 books for a total of \$173.71. The format involved Beasley being interviewed by fellow NPC member Eleanor Clift.

Upcoming Events: Jake Tapper will appear on December 5 to discuss *The Outpost*. NPC member Paul Dickson appears on January 15 with his latest book, *Words from the White House*.

A number of additional book raps are being pursued. The committee is trying to work out a time for humorist Dave Barry to appear in February, though his schedule is

always tight. Representatives for Simeon Booker -- an NPC Golden Owl and 1982 Fourth Estate Award recipient -- are excited about a possible April event. Highly popular historical mystery author Steve Berry is a possibility for a May 9 appearance in the ballroom. Lastly, the committee continues to remain in touch with representatives from actress Shirley Jones for a possible book rap.

Given changes in the publishing industry, the committee engaged in a discussion of its longstanding ban on self-published books. No action was taken, though such works can always be considered on a case-by-case basis when warranted. One hurdle involves the NPCJI contract with its current bookseller, Barnes and Noble, which may have trouble with certain self-published books.

Communications and Marketing Committee (Barks):

The committee is unlikely to hold its December business meeting as its normal date is immediately before the holiday break. Programming plans for 2013 are now being discussed.

Photo Committee (Dunn)

The Photo Committee will hold its annual holiday luncheon and mini photo contest on Dec. 12. Mike Sheras, one of the photo contest judges and a pro marketing specialist with Canon, will answer questions about any of Canon's products.

Noel St. John and his volunteer photographers have provided literally dozens of excellent images of NPC events throughout 2012 for the Club's website, the Wire, and the Archives.

Looking ahead to 2013:

--Pakistani photo exhibit and talk by Satomi Kato

--Photographer Bill Crandall will discuss taking photos in Belarus at a joint meeting of the Photo and Intl Correspondents Committees.

Freelance Committee (Dunn)

The committee will meet Dec. 14 to follow up on a panel discussion focusing on negotiation skills and to schedule a Business Freelance event in January. The potential speaker is John Burgess, who was with the Washington Post for 28 years, about 12 of them on the business desk. He recently retired from AARP, where he handled freelance assignments as an editor specializing in money and work.

International Correspondents Committee (Belkind):

The South African Night on Nov. 26 honoring the legacy of Nelson Mandela

exceeded all expectations: attendance, with nearly 300 filling the Ballroom; revenue, with about \$2,000 collected from members and nonmembers via tickets sold through EventBrite; a widely acknowledged excellent program with an opening cultural performance, video excerpts of Mandela's Oct. 7, 1994 luncheon appearance at the NPC and recollections of that day by then NPC president Gil Klein, a poignant speech by South African Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool, a panel discussion that featured three participants including the first black U.S. Ambassador to South African during apartheid and two South African journalists who covered the transition to democracy, an art exhibit and a food- and wine-tasting. Finally, Diplomatic Pouch, the email newsletter of The Washington Diplomat, devoted a 1,000-word article with photos to the event.

The committee's final Embassy Night of the year was held at the residence of the ambassador of Iceland on Dec. 5.

Book Fair (Greiling Keane):

The Book Fair held in November as a fundraiser for the National Press Club Journalism Institute faced challenges this year. With less purchasing of hard-copy books and fewer publishing houses paying for travel for their authors, both sales and profits fell compared with last year. Net profit fell to \$12,000 from \$19,000 in 2011 as sales were down close to 20%.

Sales fell from \$44,885 (1700 books total) to \$35,626 (1399 books total). Total attendance was down by about the same percentage from 625 to 500 people. Raffle tickets, Friends of the Book Fair, and entry fees were down by \$900. Sponsorship was down \$2,500. The committee and the NPCJI board are exploring ways to cut costs and increase revenue.

Fixed costs of approximately \$6,000 have remained the same.

Young Members (Burr)

With the holidays and the election, the Young Members Committee lost a bit of its momentum, but the group is trying to re-energize through the end of the year and start off some good programming heading into the January. The YMs were to hold a holiday party on Dec. 14 in cooperation with IRE, 100Reporters, the Fund for Investigative Journalism, and Wikimedia DC. YM Chairman Paul Shinkman is on the lookout for potential speakers for his piano lessons events and suggestions are welcomed.

Scholarships (Thomas Burr)

No news to report from this committee.

History & Heritage (Wojno)

The Committee held their final meeting for 2012 on December 13, where they reviewed ideas for upcoming programs for 2013.

The Committee is planning to increase the number of oral histories interviews, including continuing its work on the Library of Congress oral history project. Also, the Committee is working to expand the Club's History Web page with more "features" including a presentation on the history and cultural significance of the front page wall mats surrounding the lobby.

The Committee also discussed plans to do a 50th anniversary program commemorating the media coverage of the assassination of John F. Kennedy (including a panel discussion featuring Club members and other notable journalists).

The History & Heritage Committee is always looking for more Club members to join the group and help unearth much Club history that is still hidden, by writing features for the Wire, interviewing members for our oral history project, and producing multimedia exhibits for the Club's History Web site.

Books and Brunch (Wojno)

The Committee held its final meeting for the year on Saturday, Dec. 15 at the Fourth Estate Restaurant. At that meeting, the Committee selected the Pulitzer Prize winning book, "Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire That Saved America" by Timothy Egan for its upcoming February meeting. The next Books and Brunch meeting will take place at the Fourth Estate Restaurant on Saturday, Jan. 19, where the Committee will review, "Train Dreams" by Denis Johnson.

House & Bar (McGrath)

The Committee expressed its intention to join with other Club members and Committees in supporting the kickoff of the 100th anniversary celebrations of the Suffragists March on Washington... beginning with a reception at the Club on Feb. 28th.

Executive Chef Susan Delbert informed the Committee that the bar in the 4th Estate Restaurant had to be closed, because the lack of a sink puts it in violation of City codes. The bar was set up primarily to satisfy members who use the Club on Saturdays... when the Reliable Source is closed. 4th Estate Restaurant patrons... seated at tables, will continue to be able to order alcoholic drinks.

Some Committee members thought that the new name tags for staff and members of the Board of Governors were poorly designed... that the members names were too small, while "The National Press Club" was unnecessarily large, given that Club patrons are well aware of where they are. It was suggested that the name tags be redone making member and staff names larger.

Member Bob Weiner pointed out that the Committee...quite some time ago... had urged the Board of Governors to put a sign in the lobby telling visitors about the Broadcast Operations Center on the 4th floor. He repeated his call that that should be done.

Fellowship Committee (McGrath)

Because of the serious illness of Chairman Art Wiese, former fellowship co-chair John Cosgrove has agreed to step back in as interim Chairman pending Art's recovery.

Newsmakers (Bullard):

Scheduled:

The Cypriot ambassador will discuss the current European Union presidency of Cyprus at 2 p.m. **today**.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad (D-ND) will discuss the latest on the "fiscal cliff" at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.

Emily's List President Stephanie Schriock at 10 a.m. Jan. 7.

An originally proposed Newsmaker was set up for Speakers -- L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaragosa plans to discuss U.S. immigration policy at a luncheon on Jan. 14.

In the works:

Ralph Nader and Peter Schweitzer, president of the Government Accountability Institute, plan to announce the launch of Americans United to Rebuild Democracy (probably soon to be re-branded "The Clean Government Alliance"), which will be "dedicated to forging an alliance between conservatives, progressives and all citizens in between for fundamental election and anti-corruption reform for the United States."

Transportation Security Administration chief John Pistole.

Federal Drug Administration Commissioner Margaret Hamburg.

Representatives of Public Citizen to discuss their strategy aimed at overturning the Citizens United Supreme Court decision and help foster campaign finance reform.

A U.S. House campaign retrospective and agenda outlook with key Democratic and Republican leaders.

Dean Baker, co-founder of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, to discuss his perspectives on the best way to deal with the fiscal crisis and the deficit.

A discussion of November post-referendum national drug policy with ex-drug czars Barry McCaffrey and others.

Invitations have been extended to the newly elected female members of Congress.

As previously reported:

A group of officials is being invited to discuss the upcoming presidential inauguration, including security, entertainment and other aspects of the goings-on in Washington that week. This Newsmaker is likely for early January.

A committee member is working on scheduling a Newsmaker with a speaker from the American Society of Civil Engineers to discuss U.S. infrastructure needs.

Scottish diplomats are being pursued to discuss next year's referendum on Scottish independence.

Two U.S. senators will jointly introduce an immigration reform bill in February and would be interested in making the announcement together at a Newsmaker.

The Lithuanian ambassador is interested in doing a Newsmaker on his country's plans for its European Union presidency which begins in January. A high-ranking official, such as the president or prime minister, from Vilnius might be in DC in January and could be the speaker.

A Newsmaker is proposed to discuss the latest on the issue of athletes doping, in the wake of the Lance Armstrong scandal.