

## **National Press Club Board of Governors Meeting May 19, 2014**

Chairman Ken Mellgren calls the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes from April's meeting are approved.

In addition to the liaison reports already submitted, Molly McCluskey reported that the ICC had a good month.

Membership Secretary Marc Wojno presents a list of 21 new members, including Courtney Radsch, Advocacy Director of Committee to Protect Journalists. Radsch is submitted as a journalist member, however the board agrees to discuss at a future date whether similar applicants should be approved as journalists or communicators. Radsch is approved as a communicator, pending a change in status based on the board's decision. Two members approved for dues assistance.

Treasure Tommy Burr says April had the highest monthly revenue so far this year, with profit that was higher than budgeted. Revenues is lower than in April of 2013 due to dates for spring break, as accounted for in the budget. When weather is not a factor, the club seems to be tracking to budget, which gives confidence for the rest of the year. Media services underperformed.

Executive Director Bill McCarren says the new sales team making good progress, added Christopher Hamrick as sales support. May looks like it will come in at budget or above budget, June looks strong.

President Myron Belkind says he's excited about the newsmakers and all the with flyers he sees at the front desk when he walks in. Our first-ever educators dinner was held on May 8, with the goal of recruiting educators, and through them, students. Participants were from schools including George Washington, American University, Morgan State and Towson.

Had a surge in ticket sales to about 120 seats for Senator Marco Rubio's event after he appeared on the Sunday talk shows. His appearance was organized in 6 days. Donald Trump was sold out within the first week. Jerry Zremski and Donna Leinwand are doing a great job with the Speakers Committee.

Awards dinner will be July 30. Will Lester is doing a fantastic job organizing. Fourth Estate dinner honoring Charlie Rose will be Sept. 13.

President Belkind encouraged folks to eat at the Fourth Estate restaurant, reminded people that members get a 15 percent discount. Said business there has picked up. Saturday brunches are becoming more popular.

Chairman Mellren asked if there was any old business, there was none, so we moved on to new business.

Secretary Andrea Snyder, who chairs the Scholarship Committee, presented the winner of the National Press Club's diversity scholarship, Jose Valle, of Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. Eighteen judges met at the NPC on May 10 to evaluate the NPC Diversity award applications. Jose Valle, an El Salvadorean immigrant, took 33 votes, compared with 11 for the runner-up. He is co-editor-in-chief of his school newspaper, copy editor of the yearbook and co-anchor of his schools weekly online news show. The judges were impressed with his essay and drive. Jose Valle was approved unanimously by the board.

Chairman Mellgren says the next board will next meet on June 23 and adjourns the May 19 meeting.