BOG Minutes From Meeting on June 23, 2014

Chairman Ken Mellgren starts the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Board member Molly McCluskey dials in via Skype from Croatia.

Minutes from May meeting approved.

Board liaison reports approved.

Membership Secretary Marc Wojno presents 19 new journalist and communicator members approved by the Membership Committee. Board approves new members. Board approves moving two members to retired status, one member to freelance status from journalist status.

Awards Committee Chairman Will Lester discusses winning nominees, plans for July 30 awards ceremony. Had great success with a new online system, used for the first time this year. Board members Suzanne Struglinski and Marc Wojno, who judged this year's entries, praised the ease of using the online system to judge applicants. Number of entries was roughly the same, slightly up. Board applauds Will Lester and his work, approves committee's selections.

Secretary & Scholarship Committee Chairman Andrea Snyder presents freelance photographer Charles Eckert as this year's Feldman Fellowship winner. Board approves.

Treasurer Tommy Burr presents a report on the Club's finances. May was Club's best month of the year in terms of revenue. For the year, revenue and profit are behind budget, but we are making good progress and seeking to meet budget targets for the year. Vice President John Hughes presents quarterly report on 5-year strategic plan. We are in the second quarter of tracking 5-year plan.

Executive Director Bill McCarren speaks about plans for upcoming projects, including updating interiors, lighting in some rooms at the Club.

President Myron Belkind presents his report. Myron describes calling Jose Valle, a high school senior in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, to tell him he'd won the NPC's diversity scholarship. Myron calls for prompt release of Al Jazeera journalists imprisoned in Egypt. Myron describes a week in the life at the National Press Club. Highlights included were a June 14 bootcamp for journalists that included a resume doctor; an event arranged to watch the U.S.-Ghana World Cup match & hear Miss Ghana U.S.A. sing the national anthem; an event that included a drone demonstration in the lobby of the Club; and a Book and Author event that showcased author Diana Gabaldon & for which attendees waited in a line that wound around the block. Myron thanked committee chairs for arranging.

Chairman Mellgren said the Kalb Report plans to launch its 21st season at the Club on Oct. 20 with a rare appearance by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward. Tickets will become available in August or September.

President Belkind asked for the board's approval of Washington Post Executive Editor Marty Baron, a new NPC member, taking a seat on the NPC Journalism Institute's board. Board voted in favor.

Next meeting set for July 21.

Board meeting adjourned.

In Attendance were:

Board Chairman Ken Mellgren (Associate Press, retired) Board Vice Chairman Jeff Ballou (Al Jazeera English) NPC President Myron Belkind (George Washington University; AP, retired) NPC Vice President John Hughes (Bloomberg News) NPC Treasurer Thomas Burr (Salt Lake Tribune) NPC Secretary Andrea Snyder Edney (Bloomberg News) NPC Membership Secretary Marc Wojno (Kiplinger) BOG member Frederica Dunn (Jamestown Post Journal) BOG member Marilyn Geewax (National Public Radio) BOG member Molly McCluskey, via Skype (Freelance) BOG member Joseph Morton (Omaha World-Herald) Communicator BOG member Ed Barks (Barks Communications) Communicator BOG member Anthony Shop (Social Driver) Communicator BOG member Suzanne Struglinski (Baker & McKenzi) Ex-Officio Angela Greiling Keane (Bloomberg News) Ex-Officio Barbara Cochran (University of Missouri)