Board of Governor Meeting Minutes From July 21, 2014

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

- Board approves award of Zimmerman Scholarship to graduating high school senior Daniel Wetter. Wetter will be studying at George Washington University in Washington D.C.

- Board approves minutes from June meeting.

- Board approves board liaison reports.

- Membership Secretary Marc Wojno presents 27 membership applications for board approval. Executive Director Bill McCarren commends board member Marilyn Geewax for drawing a new member. President Myron Belkind points out that the number of applications was triple the amount from the same month last vear. New members approved by board. Three members moved to retired category; board approves. - Membership Secretary Wojno presents details on two clubs that would like reciprocal status with the National Press Club: 1) Faisalabad Press Club in Punjab, Pakistan http://www.faisalabadpressclub.com/ 2) International Press Club of Prague, Czech Republic http://ipcpraque.org/ Board approves.

- Chairman Mellgren introduces Barbara Cochran, president of the Journalism Institute.

- Treasurer Thomas Burr reports on NPC finances. June revenue hit a record, boosted by food sales and media services. Both revenue and profit were over budget. Sales unit performed very well. The board will vote on 2015 budget assumptions in August. - Discussion on hosting events at the NPC, competitors. President Belkind says that guests often tell him that they're happy to be at the NPC, report that they're very well treated. Services, pricing, location and the club's history are among the biggest draws.

- Executive Director Bill McCarren says we're not quite in line with budget targets, but we're close. This year is looking like a healthy year. Executive Director McCarren notes that Homeland Security notified NPC that there was a ``bad'' transmission from NPC facility to a government facility. Didn't come from our equipment, but could have been from someone using our WiFi.

- President Belkind presents report. President Belkind gave committee chairs the charge of holding as many events as possible in July, August. Chairs are succeeding.

A Week in the Life of the National Press Club: This week had Transportation Secretary Fox at a lunch that filled up most of the ballroom with only a few days notice. Tomorrow have Dr. Tom Frieden, head of the CDC. In the evening, thanks to Anthony Shop and a new member tktkttk event featuring former White House CTO who has a new book on entrepreneurial technology. Wednesday night there will be an event on drones and photojournalism. Thursday night a U Street jazz band with a summer barbeque buffet. Reliable Source Manager Mesfin Mekonen proposed trying out a jazz band.

President Belkind said he was so happy to call Daniel Wetter last night to alert him that he'd won the Zimmerman award. There are three major upcoming fundraisers:

On Saturday, Sept. 6 there will be the 5K. On Sept. 13, we have the Fourth Estate award honoring Charlie Rose. The Book and Author fair will be Nov. 18.

Next week will be the annual journalism awards ceremony, organized by Awards Committee Chairman Will Lester, assisted by NPC staff. The President's award, already approved by the board, to be given to photographers Anya Niederhaus (deceased), Kathy Gannon. As of next week, Anya's work will be exhibited at the National Press Club. The scholarship winners will be there or present a video. Daniel Wetter, Charlie Eckert will send a video this year.

On Wednesday, July 16, Fourth Estate was literally full when President Belkind went to book a table for a meeting -- he got the last table for someone who was bringing a guest.

President Belkind commends new members for getting involved in the National Press Club. Thanks staff, board liaisons.

- Journalism Institute President Cochran comments on events planned for this week. There will be a bootcamp tomorrow on targeted web ads -- how do political campaigns know to find the voters they want. CEOs from Campaign Grid and DS Political will be involved. On Thursday, there's a 9:30-11a program on how to use the Justice Dept.'s files to track lobbyist registration, which will be taught by people from the Sunlight Foundation.

Scholarships, trainings come about through the Journalism Institute through events. Two big events coming up are the 5K, Charlie Rose Fourth Estate dinner on Sept. 13. We don't know yet who the speakers will be, but working on that. Treasurer John Hughes of Bloomberg News volunteers to help get Bloomberg on board to buy a table if needed. President Cochran thanked the board for approving Washington Post Executive Editor Martin Baron to the JI board. The Journalism Institute asked Deborah Potter to study training we've done. She interviewed about 40 journalists around town, wrote a report that President Cochran has just received. Aug. 4 is the next Journalism Institute board meeting.

- President Belkind comments on two upcoming Speakers Committee events:

1) Democratic Republic of Congo President to speak Friday, Aug. 1, which is almost sold out. South Africa President Jacob Zuma to speak Monday, Aug 4. This is the 20th anniversary year of Mandela speaking at the National Press Club.

- Photo Board Liaison Frederica Dunn said that the photo committee's opening reception for the photo members' September exhibit will be Sept. 3.

Aug. 18 is next board meeting. Friday, Oct. 10 is next general membership meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:52.

In attendance:

- Chairman Ken Mellgren, Associated Press (Retired)
- President Myron Belkind, George Washington University
- Vice President John Hughes, Bloomberg News
- Treasurer Tommy Burr, Salt Lake Tribune
- Secretary Andrea Snyder, Bloomberg News
- Membership Secretary Marc Wojno, Kiplinger
- Board member Frederica Dunn, Jamestown Post Journal

- Board member Alison Fitzgerald, Center for Public Integrity

- Board member Marilyn Geewax, National Public Radio
- Board member Joseph Morton, Omaha World Herald
- Board member Anthony Shop, Social Driver
- Board member Suzanne Struglinski, Baker & McKenzie
- National Press Club Executive Director Bill McCarren
- Journalism Institute President Barbara Cochran,

University of Missouri