

## Buffalo Niagara Chapter, ASPA

### MINUTES

#### (Re) Organizational Meeting – March 20, 2018 (4:30-6:30 p.m.)

Location: Health Foundation for Western and Central New York, Larkin at Exchange Building  
726 Exchange St., Suite 518 Buffalo, NY 14210

#### Attendees:

Anthony (Tony) Astran [tony\\_astran@yahoo.com](mailto:tony_astran@yahoo.com) (Roswell Park – MPA SUNY Buffalo State)

Brian Bray [BRIANCBRAY@gmail.com](mailto:BRIANCBRAY@gmail.com) (Erie County Department of Social Services - MPA Hilbert College)

Laurie Buonanno [buonanal@buffalostate.edu](mailto:buonanal@buffalostate.edu) (Professor, Political Science - Public Administration and Nonprofit Management, MBA University at Buffalo – SUNY; PhD Political Science, The Johns Hopkins University)

Kimberly German [Kimberlykrg@gmail.com](mailto:Kimberlykrg@gmail.com) (Buffalo Public Schools – MPA, SUNY Buffalo State)

Chris Jones [christopher.jones3@mail.waldenu.edu](mailto:christopher.jones3@mail.waldenu.edu) (Walden University - PhD of Political Science U of Hawaii)

Marisa Nold [marisanold@gmail.com](mailto:marisanold@gmail.com) (NYS Workmen’s Compensation Board, MPA SUNY Buffalo State)

Diane Oyler [doyle@hfwcnny.org](mailto:doyle@hfwcnny.org) (The Health Foundation for Western and Central New York - MA U of Central Florida; PhD Political Science, The University at Buffalo – SUNY)

Lou Petrucci [Petrucci65@aol.com](mailto:Petrucci65@aol.com) (City of Buffalo, MPA – Hilbert College)

Miguel Reyes-Mariano [mr45@buffalo.edu](mailto:mr45@buffalo.edu) (Erie County Department of Social Services, MPA SUNY Buffalo State)

Paul Shore [pshore@nycap.rr.com](mailto:pshore@nycap.rr.com) (NYS Workmen’s Compensation Board, MPA Rockefeller College, University of Albany, SUNY; MLS, JD University at Buffalo - SUNY)

Ken Stone [stonek@buffalolib.org](mailto:stonek@buffalolib.org) (Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, MPA California State at Fullerton)

1. Call to order and welcome. K. Stone, Interim President
2. No previous minutes to read or approve.
3. Stone thanked Dr. Diane Oyler and the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York for providing their conference room for the APSA chapter meeting. Stone briefly explained history of the chapter and the purpose of this meeting, which is a reorganization of the ASPA Buffalo-Niagara Chapter.

4. Ken asked each chapter member to introduce himself/herself and perhaps mention what aspirations they have for the local chapter. Their affiliations and earned college degrees are listed next to their names, above.

5. Bylaws - Buonanno read for the record an email she received from Lisa Sidletsky, ASPA Chief of Program Operations (dated December 05, 2017). Ms. Sidletsky's email was in response to Buonanno's query seeking the chapter's bylaws and a current membership list:

I have attached at list of current ASPA members who are part of the Niagara/Buffalo Chapter. I have also attached the most recent copy of the chapter bylaws that I have – from 2000. Unfortunately, these bylaws are incredibly out of date. I would recommend updating them at the earliest opportunity, once your chapter revitalizes. To that end, and just in case, I have also attached the most recent bylaws template. This document is for new or revitalizing chapters, to bring them up to date with IRS governance requirements.

Buonanno explained to the membership she had typed in the relevant information on the bylaws template ASPA provided and would explain the entries when the discussion preceded to the particular chapter.

Stone called for a motion:

Motion (Bray) **Adopt the new bylaws**

*Motion carried unanimously.*

## **Discussion and amendment of the bylaws**

### Area local chapter serves

Amending the bylaws, which currently reads the chapter serves “Western New York.” Buonanno pointed out that there is an ASPA chapter in Rochester. The membership agreed the accepted geographic designation for many government and business purposes are the eight counties of the NYS 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.

Motion (Astran): **Amend Chapter 1. Name and Purpose, Section 3. The Chapter shall serve the counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming.**

Motion carried unanimously.

### Officers

Discussion that ASPA requires a secretary/treasurer – either in one person or two positions. The bylaws as written provide for a secretary, treasurer, and membership officer. Oyler noted a membership officer would be a helpful addition to the extent that a membership officer would be charged with outreach, an issue to consider given the history of the Buffalo-Niagara Chapter's struggle with respect to membership. Discussion of the bylaw requirement that only the president and president elect are elected by the membership attending the annual meeting. All other officers are appointed by the board.

Some members expressed a concern the board would be too large and perhaps unwieldy. Others noted there seemed to be a good deal of interest in the chapter – as evidenced by the doodle poll.

The membership agreed to retain Chapter II, Section 3. “The Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Officer shall be appointed by the Board and shall serve at its pleasure.”

### Annual Meeting

ASPA requires the annual meeting take place in either May or June of each year. Discussion ensued about the advantages and disadvantages of each month. Buonanno noted May is a difficult month for student and faculty members of the chapter due to MPA project defenses and commencement.

Membership agreed to retain “Chapter V. Meetings, Section 2. The annual meeting shall be held in June unless otherwise specified by the Board.”

### Board Composition

The membership discussed the board composition. It was agreed to retain the number of board members listed in the bylaws (four board members elected every two years) for a total of eight (8) board members.

**Motion** (Bray) Strike Chapter III, Section 2 “which shall consist of the Chapter officers, the *two most recent Past Presidents*” **and replace with** “which shall consist of the Chapter officers and the most recent Past President.” Motion carried unanimously.

Bylaws read:

Section 2. The governing body of the Chapter shall be the Chapter Board of Directors (herein "Board"), which shall consist of the Chapter officers, the most recent Past President, and (8) Board persons, (4) to be elected each year for two years. The Board shall supervise and control the affairs of the Chapter and its actions shall follow the general policies of the Society. The President shall serve as presiding officer of the Board.

### **4. Date for the annual meeting**

ANNUAL MEETING June 12<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM, Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, Conference Room.

### **5. April meeting date**

The Buffalo-Niagara Chapter meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 PM. Same location as this meeting. Buonanno will send a doodle poll for RSVP.

### **6. Nominations and elections for board members.<sup>1</sup>**

Anthony Astran 2020 – Stone nominated. Buonanno seconded.

Brian Bray – 2020 Buonanno nominated, Petrucci seconded.

Laurie Buonanno – 2019 Oyler nominated, Petrucci seconded.

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<sup>1</sup> Seconded indicated only for certain circumstances such as nominations. According to Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) (11<sup>th</sup> edition), the name of the seconder of a motion should not be recorded in the minutes. The mover’s name is recorded because the Buffalo-Niagara chapter has not indicated a more collective approach at this time.

Chris Jones – 2020 Buonanno nominated, Petrucci seconded

Marissa Nold 2020 – German nominated, Bray seconded

Diane Oyer 2019 –Laurie Nominated, Stone seconded.

Lou Petrucci – 2019 Bray nominated, Oyer seconded.

Miguel Reyes-Mariano - 2019 Astran nominated, Oyer seconded.

**Motion (Bray):** Move this slate for the Buffalo-Niagara Chapter Board and to close nominations.

Slate elected unanimously.

4. Officer elections (president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, membership officer) – Potential officers will inform Stone by May 11<sup>th</sup>. Email from Stone to the membership on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Officers will be elected (president/president-elect) and appointed by the board (secretary, treasurer, membership officer) at the June 2018 annual meeting.

Descriptions of officer positions: Stone will check with ASPA for descriptions. He will then convene the board to discuss responsibilities before circulating officer duties to the chapter membership.

5. Community Partnerships

The membership discussed APSA's requirement that its chapters sponsor at least four program activities per year, including the annual meeting business meeting (see Chapter V, Section 1).

Oyer presented a chapter co-sponsorship opportunity for 2018 Health Foundation of Central and Western New York – "Alliance for Stronger Families: The State of the Nonprofit Sector." The Health Foundation has pre-approved sponsorship. There is no cost to the chapter. Likely in the fall of 2018. The chapter membership was amenable to co-sponsorship. Oyer will bring more information about the event to the April chapter meeting.

Buonanno passed out flyers for the Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW), which SUNY Buffalo State's Public Administration and Nonprofit Division (Department of Political Science) is hosting on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Science and Mathematics Complex. (ASPA encourages its chapters to celebrate PSRW and links to chapter activities from this website: <http://www.aspanet.org/ASPA/ASPA/About-ASPA/In-the-Community/Public-Service-Recognition-Week.aspx>.) The membership agreed to co-sponsor SUNY Buffalo State's PSRW's celebration/conference. There is no cost to the chapter. Buonanno indicated Buffalo State will update its website to reflect co-sponsorship and the printed program will reflect this as well. Several board members indicated they will be attending the event.

6. Motion (Bray) to adjourn. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by L. Buonanno (3/24/2018)