

ASPA Meeting – April 20, 2021

(This meeting was held via Zoom.)

Present: Tony Astran, Ken Stone, Brian Bray, Chris Marcello, Gordy Stewart, Brian Poliner, Graham Bowman

We have a quorum.

Meeting called at: 5:36 p.m.

Special guest: Graham Bowman, report on ASPA 2021 Annual Conference

Minutes from 3/16/21 were approved as amended – Michael Ramos (not Hughes) is not on roster but sent payment. Seconded.

Officer Reports -

President/Communications Officer:

- There is not much to add for President but some updates as far as Communications Officer.
- We have a lot of things to update on social media between elections and upcoming conference.
- It's going to be quite busy the next couple of weeks in terms of news to our members and general public.

Treasurer:

- No update – we still have the penny, thank goodness.
- We have \$1,073.97 in our account.

Secretary:

- The March meeting minutes have been e-mailed and uploaded to Dropbox.

Membership Officer:

- There was a membership meeting last month with Brian and two others.
- The next membership meeting next Monday night and will try to hold a monthly meeting in the future.
- We did not have a lot of business but more of a social interaction.
- Brian would look at the membership roll for March.
- Brian will check for April and reach out to the April people whose membership had expired.
- We are holding steady, membership-wise.

Committee Reports -

Programming and Events: Chris Marcello

- Book Club is this Thursday, three members signed up including Laurie Buonanno.
- Tony reposted something on social media regarding programming and
- The Government Spokesperson event between last meeting and this meeting – 50 registrants, 42 were there during the event.
- It was heavily slanted towards PRSA – 20% ASPA and PRSA but it was a lot of general subjects about public administration.
- The selected book is The Divided States of America by Donald Kettl.

Communications Committee: Tony Astran

- A meeting was not held between our March meeting and April meeting.
- Tony will try to get a meeting in soon (committee members not present).

Membership Committee: Brian Poliner

- Brian will report next month about next week's meeting.
- Brian is working on membership event in June and is working on membership on annual meeting and UB meeting on membership which Tony and Brian will collaborate on.

Unfinished Business –

PA Journal:

- Since the last meeting, Brian has not done anything.
- It is very difficult to get traction during pandemic and hopeful that progress can be made.
- We can revisit this topic sometime in the summer.

Brian Bray – Immediate Past President and Nomination Committee Chairman

- Ray does not want to be reappointed and we lost Chris Jones's seat.
- Brian is going to follow up with everybody on the Board to make sure they want to be reappointed.
- Brian is trying to get the nominating committee to meet next week in time for annual meeting.
- With the position of President-Elect, if anyone is interested, shoot Brian an e-mail.
- If there are any suggestions of people, let Tony know and he can investigate it.

Annual Awards/Meeting –

- Rosaleen reminded us about the awards and description.
- The deadline is Monday, May 17th to apply for awards.
- We need to decide when our annual meeting will be.
- Tony will have an announcement up on our website/social media.
- Tony reached out to Patrick's Rooftop at 500 Pearl.

- The group must be at least 20 – but having a hybrid but in-person meeting as well.
- The location will depend on cost, because we have a limited budget.
- It may be better to have a meeting at the library or a public place.
- Another suggestion is to have the meeting from 5:30-6:30 somewhere free and then meet up afterwards for drinks/food with whoever is comfortable.
- Brian suggested the senior center in Amherst, but we will continue meeting details in e-mail chain.

Annual meeting date: week of June 14th, or June 21st

Do we want to invite a speaker?

Public Service Recognition Week –

Date: May 1, 2021

Start time: 10:15

Dr. Rivera moderating panel – look on Buffalo State’s website

Tony and Brian Bray will tag team the lunch session to talk about chapter, membership, ASPA and public administration opportunities.

Sean Ryan is going to be the keynote speaker.

WNY Feud:

- Tony was able to get ahold of Hatchets and Hops – whoever is the winner will receive a gift card from H and H.
- The event is entitled, WNY Feud: A Benefit for the Northland Workforce Training Center.
- We’d be looking for four teams of five, and whoever raises the most money gets a chance to play tournament style.
- The tournament will be on May 22nd.

Celebrating Good News

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 18th, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Motion to adjourn. Seconded.

Meeting ended: 6:44 p.m.