

Regular Meeting #4 Minutes - 11/18/2020, Wednesday, 6 P.M.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions in the State of RI, we were not allowed to meet in person.

Meeting place: Via Zoom/telecom.

Members present: -- 14 (11 general members, 3 associates), and one guest speaker.

Our President, Sabir (Jamal) Salih, called the meeting to order at 6 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Victor Giorgio.

Roll Call of Officers: Sabir (Jamal) Salih, President; Shaun Branch, Vice President; Barbara Bouchard, Secretary; and Sue Evans, Treasurer; Donna Machala, Legislative Representative – all present.

Executive Board members present: Victor Giorgio, Kristine Moore, and Dave Costa

Excused: Al Kesack and Jessica Sargo

Joining us tonight is Lisa Douglas, NAPS AVP Northeast

First Timers: There were none in attendance.

Shaun Branch gave the Vice President's report: Shaun said we currently have one disciplinary case to report.

Motion to accept the Vice President's report: The motion was made by Donna, and seconded by Victor. All were in favor.

Treasurer's report by Sue Evans: Sue said our expenses so far this year have been \$10,898.73. Our income is \$22,518.32 with a balance which is in the black of \$11,619.59. Our total assets are \$55,701.46.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Made by Bob Conroy, Sr. and was seconded by Jamal. All were in favor.

Barbara Bouchard gave the Secretary's Report: Barbara said as of the most recent DCO for September, we have a total of 167 members, 21 of which are associates, and 146 are general. Other than the scholarship submissions, no other mail has been received. Jamal said he has been working on the non-member list which totaled 21. There have been 8 new sign-ups which brings that total down to 13, lower than 10% of our total membership. He will keep working on the stand-outs.

Motion to accept the Secretary's report: Made by Victor and seconded by Becky, and all were in favor.

Donna Machala gave the Legislative Report: Donna received a copy of the thank you letter from Jim Langevin addressed to NAPS President, Brian Wagner, dated September 15, 2020, for our generous contribution to his reelection campaign.

The November 13th NAPS Chat (link available on our NAPS website), hosted each week by Bob Levi, NAPS Director of Legislative and Political Affairs, had Brian Wagner as his guest. Brian was asked by USPS Headquarters to participate on the National Election Task Force along with other union representatives. Brian stated we delivered in record numbers. The US Postal Service delivered 41% of total votes cast in the 2020 election. Brian gave many thanks and praises.

As far as bills and house resolutions, there hasn't been much action since my last report in September. There were three bills that had a few additional co-sponsors:

H.R. 141, Social Security Fairness Act of 2019, had four additional co-sponsors for a total of 262.

H.R. 597, MSPB Rights, had one additional co-sponsor for a total of 29.

H.R. 7015, Postal Preservation Act, had four additional co-sponsors for a total of 36.

Looking back at this year's bills involving the Postal Service, one bill became law and three passed the House and are with the Senate:

H.R. 748, CARES Act, became law on March 27, 2020.

H.R. 2382, USPS Fairness Act, passed in the House on February 5, 2020, and was received in the Senate on February 10, 2020. It is the repeal of the required prepayment of future Postal Service retirement benefits.

H.R. 2 Moving Forward Act passed in the House and received in the Senate on July 20, 2020, to provide funds to invest in national infrastructure. It includes \$25 billion to USPS to invest in innovative mail processing equipment and new delivery vehicles, including \$6 billion earmarked for "next generation" electric vehicles.

H.R. 8015, Delivering for America Act, passed the House and was received in the Senate on September 8, 2020. This bill was to restore levels of service and operations to those already in effect prior to January 1, 2020.

Motion to accept the Legislative Report: Made by Bob Conroy, Sr. and seconded by Sue. All were in favor.

Jamal introduced Lisa Douglas and asked her to speak on what is new with NAPS HQ. She said she would not be surprised if LTS is virtual in March 2021. The decision will be made on this soon.

She indicated an offer is being prepared for EAS employees, but no parameters have been released. There are several eRetirement seminars coming out, so take advantage of them. They have good information.

Also HERO profiles are being pushed. If you are interested in higher level details, make sure your profile is up-to-date.

She recently spoke with an EAS from the Newark PDC, and they were astonished at the amount of packages being processed right now.

Now that peak season is over as well as the elections, we are seeing more discipline.

Old Business: The selection of our scholarship recipient for 2020 is as follows:

1. Kelsey Pedro, daughter of Edd Pedro, HQ Business Development Specialist
2. Isabelle Narciso, daughter of Chuck Narciso, Postmaster of Barrington RI
3. Jessica Brunelle, daughter of Reina Neirinckx, SCS, N Kingstown RI

In the event the first selectee does not submit their proof of enrollment, we would move on to the second person, and so on. The selectee has ten days to submit their proof.

Jamal asked if anyone knew of any another old business.

Mr. Conroy, Sr., had made a motion at the last meeting to fund a second scholarship will need to be carried over to our February meeting due to a lack of a quorum tonight.

New Business:

Jamal said we need volunteers for two committees:

1. The Audit Committee. Donna volunteered to chair with Shaun and Bob Conroy, Jr. Sue will provide the records after she receives the last statement for 2020.
2. The Budget Committee. Sue Evans volunteered to chair this committee with Betty Di Salvia and Bob Conroy, Jr. Bob will set up a Zoom meeting, and Sue will provide the usual spreadsheets for review.

Mr. Conroy, Sr., had a motion to change the by-laws, but we do not have a quorum tonight. He will hold this until our February meeting. The change is to Article 1, Section 4 about holding meetings in person. The change will keep us in line with our National Board's policy as a result of the COVID pandemic.

Jamal said there still was a vacancy on the executive board. If anyone is interested, they should write to him and tell him why they want to participate on the eboard. Toward the end of the meeting, Anthony Alviti (who logged on late) asked if there was still an opening and what he needs to do to be considered.

Donna made a motion to give the American Red Cross Operation Holiday Cheer a \$500 donation. This donation would pay for the postage for the care packages that are sent out to those soldiers from RI who are deployed overseas right now. All were in favor, and the motion was approved. Sue will send out the letter and check.

Bob Conroy Jr said Walmart is using us for packages. They said it would be 80% machine and 20% non-machinable when in fact it is actually the opposite.

Jamal stated that everyone on the Zoom meeting tonight will be receiving a \$25 gift card soon.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Donna Machala, and was seconded by Dave Costa, at 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara A. Bouchard
NAPS Secretary

Attendees:
Jamal Salih
Shaun Branch
Sue Evans
Barbara Bouchard
Donna Machala
Dave Costa
Victor Giorgio
Kristine Moore
Anthony Alviti
Rebecca Brown
Robert Conroy, Jr.
Rich Wilson
Robert Conroy, Sr.
Betty DiSalvia