



NAALJ Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
OCTOBER 5, 2020

At the start of the meeting at 4pm Webex showed 93 in attendance. At 4:10pm Webex showed 83 in attendance. At time of Election showed 71 in attendance.

- 1. President Figueroa called the meeting to Order and welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending the conference.**
- 2. President Figueroa advised those in attendance that the 2019 Annual Conference Meeting Minutes are posted on the NAALJ website.**
- 3. President Figueroa thanked everyone for their support this past year.** She specifically acknowledged the BOG and all members and the NJC for their sustaining support of NAALJ. This year was not a year anyone expected. Just as many of us have been called to serve the public and do justice a little bit differently in this new era, NAALJ too was confronted with how to serve its members and the greater judicial system. This BOG resolutely rose to the occasion. NAALJ served as a resource for ALJs and HOs throughout the nation who sought information and guidance on how to conduct hearings differently, namely remotely. We held a successful and record-setting Mid-year Online Conference. We forged relationships and shared information on events with other organizations including NCALJ and the National Association of Women Judges. We published a statement on NAALJ's website reaffirming our commitment to equal justice following the events that unfolded in Minneapolis and other portions of the country, and finally we embraced technology and converted to an Annual Online Conference despite our preference to holding an in-person conference that we have treasured for many years. In so doing, we have accomplished several things related to the Strategic Plan we adopted at last year's annual membership meeting. As we turn this BOG over to a new BOG as we do at each annual membership meeting we turn over an organization that we have come to treasure in a little bit better condition than we found it and entrust it to the new BOG to turn it over to their successor in a little bit better condition than they found it. She thanked everyone for the honor of serving as President over the past year. Finally, President Figueroa commented that she has enjoyed working with everyone, most especially the BOG and Executive Director.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Stewart mentioned that we had 125 members register for this conference, which is pretty good for a first time online annual conference. Treasurer Stewart advised the members that the NAALJ bank balance is currently \$20,289.26 and the Foundation bank balance is currently \$16,688. NAALJ is in good financial condition at this point to cover our expenses for the year. He then opened the floor for questions. There were no questions.

5. Audit Committee's Report

President-Elect Leidig presented the Audit Committee's Report. The members of the committee were President-Elect Leidig, Board Member Dick Goodwin and Board Member Bruce Culpepper. The committee reviewed documentation from 2017, 2018 and 2019 and found no anomalies. Although we did have a decrease in our account balance from 2017 to the current financial year, we are on good financial footing now and in a position to cover our expenses for the upcoming year.

6. Election

On September 4, 2020 NAALJ distributed the slate of recommended candidates for the officer positions and open Board Member positions. For president-elect the nominating committee selected Jami Webster-Hall of Illinois. She has previously served as editor of the Newsletter and her goal to increase membership aligns with President John Leidig's goal for the upcoming year. For secretary the nominating committee selected Brian Stewart of Utah. He served as treasurer this past year. For treasurer the nominating committee selected Dick Goodwin, a federal ALJ. He has been past Board Member and is active with the ABA. For the open Board Member positions the nominating committee selected Albert Colbert of California, Thomas Augustine of Iowa and Gabriel Paul of Indiana, and Michael Osbourne of Maryland. Returning Board Members are Karen Clopton of California who organized the 2019 Annual Conference; Steve Wise of Montana who does an incredible amount of work on the website and the Mid-Year Conference and other areas; Ray Kramer of New York, we have relied on his advise especially for ethical matters; and Bruce Culpepper of Florida who served on the audit committee this past year. President-Elect Leidig thanked everyone who applied and stated there were more nominations than open positions. The nominating committee included Anne Murphy, Brian Stewart, Carrie Ingram and Sharon Walker. President-Elect Leidig than opened it for nominations from the floor. There were none. Steve Wise moved to have the slate approved as presented. Peg Manon seconded the motion. At the time of the vote there were 71 attendees. The proposed slate of recommended candidates was approved by 48 "yes" votes and zero "no" votes. 23 members abstained from voting.

7. **President Figueroa thanked this year's BOG departing members** including Ana-Beatriz Kennedy who served as secretary like none other and who fulfilled those duties in a timely manner and kept us on track through many meetings this year, Anne Murphy who has been a

long-time active Board Member and has worked on our Silent Auction and continues to do so, Dawn Boucher who filled a vacancy when Nicole Proesch had to step down unexpectedly, Immediate-Past President Mary Li Creasy for her wisdom and continuing support for the past several years that we all have benefitted from, and Mary Shock who has been on our Board and active in our Newsletter and is always helpful with Board work. President Figueroa also thanked Brian Stewart who has served as treasurer for the past two years competently and will now serve as secretary. President Figueroa then swore in the new Board and virtually passed on the President's marble gavel to John Leidig.

8. **New President Leidig thanked the outgoing BOG members** including Ana Kennedy who did an excellent job as secretary with some of the most detailed notes he has seen in any organization, Anne Murphy who continues to work on the Silent Auction as she has for many years and before that she contributed so much to the Board through her efforts and in spirit, Mary Shock who has served as a colleague at Maryland OAH for the past six-and-a-half years. President Leidig thanked Mary for her guidance when he first became an ALJ. President Leidig also thanked Dawn Boucher who filled in for another colleague from Iowa who could not complete their Board term. Finally, President Leidig thanked Mary Li Creasy who really helped guide him to want to be part of NAALJ Board because she is a past President from Florida who did a fantastic job and ran a fantastic conference in St. Petersburg a few years ago. President Leidig commented he is honored to be chosen to serve as President for this upcoming year. In the upcoming year President Leidig has two goals. First, to increase membership. He has set a goal to have 50 new members within the next six months and hopes we are able to reach that goal. Second, President Leidig hopes to increase NAALJ's collaboration efforts with other organizations such as the ABA and NAWJ. President Leidig asked if any of our members are involved in other organizations to let NAALJ know so we can increase our collaborative efforts. President Leidig also wanted to let members know that Immediate-Past President Figueroa did an intense amount of work trying to allow us to have an in-person conference this year. The in-person conferences is his favorite event of the year. Our conferences have allowed him to visit places he might not have otherwise visited. For example, NAALJ has held conferences in Portland, St. Petersburg, San Francisco, and New York. President Leidig hopes we can resume in-person conferences next year and NAALJ hopes next year's will be in Washington D.C., but everything remains in flux at this time because of Covid-19 so members should keep an eye out for their emails for updates on next year's conference. President Leidig also thanked Judge Brinbaum who is this year's Fellowship Award. Her presentation serves as a great model for a member who is interested in writing a scholarly article for our journal. Finally, President Leidig thanked Executive Director Tina Schott for all of her work and effort as she wears many hats and helped get us to this point where we were able to seamlessly transition to an online conference. Tina is the newsletter designer, conference organizer, ebay specialist, helps Steve Wise with the website, gets This Month in Administrative Law, and without her the organization would not be where it is today and as good as it is today. President Leidig thanked the sponsors Thomson Reuters and NJC, all of the presenters at the

annual conference especially his colleagues Denise Schaeffer and Michelle Cole and Joseph Sawyer for serving as the Webex Host from NJC for the virtual conference.

9. **Silent Auction** – At this point in our live annual conference we would typically head to our Silent Auction which is always a fun and well-received event. However, due to circumstances this year holding a virtual conference we are unable to do so. Nevertheless, we have an online Silent Auction we will be able to hold. Anne Murphy, Tina Schott and Jami Webster Hall have planned this year's event. Anne stated the Silent Auction is scheduled for 6pm October 24 through 6pm October 31 on Ebay. Anne thanked Tina Schott for her work in setting up the Silent Auction and working with Ebay. Anne reminded members that information has been sent out and forms are available on the NAALJ website. Also, members should note that Ebay does not allow alcohol to be sold but Tina contacted Ebay and got the okay to sell gift cards for alcohol. Anne further reminded members that the Silent Auction is very important because it funds the Foundation which in turn assists funding the annual meeting and offers scholarships and other awards including challenge grants for people to attend the annual conference. It is the 501c3 arm of NAALJ. So, it is extremely important to participate and by having in on Ebay for one week it expands what we can offer and the bidding too. Some suggestions for items include books, clothing, and State baskets. Next, Jami shared ideas of items that can be donated. Jami loves the Silent Auction because it is a fun part of the conference. Jami suggested a law school umbrella, a Coach lanyard, and artwork. Already NAALJ has been notified that there will be 2 Hawaiian baskets and an Illinois basket. Jami also encouraged members who either can't or don't want to donate an item to strongly consider participating by bidding and the best thing to do now to prepare is to set up an ebay account because it will be needed to bid. Tina explained that NAALJ chose Ebay because they now have a charity site that does not charge any fees so it's totally free for non-profit organizations. Additionally, the Silent Auction will be open to all of Ebay so it will be open to 14 million people. Also, if an item does not sell during our 7-day window it will remain on Ebay for an additional 8 weeks. Tina reminded everyone that on the NAALJ website is a PDF fillable form for donating items. Once again bidding starts at 6pm on October 24 and ends 6pm on October 31. If there are any questions just contact NAALJ.