

Penn-Del AER General Assembly Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2014

DRAFT

Best Western Premier Hotel, Harrisburg, PA

Meeting called to order at 10:50 am by Christie Peel, Board President

John Hofmeister named to serve as Parliamentarian.

ATTENDANCE

Penn-Del AER Board Members, General Membership, and conference attendees

Special Guest – Lisa Lehman, NJ Commission for the Blind

Quorum established for voting members

(See Appendix 2 – General Assembly PowerPoint Presentation to support all details reported below)

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President, Christie Peel

Opened with a general welcome and introduction of the Board Members

Secretary, Helene Marano (Acting for Bonnie Dodson-Burk): Indicated the minutes from the April 25, 2013 General Assembly Meeting were posted on the website. Helene Marano made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Vince McVeigh; no discussion; call for vote; motion approved.

Treasurer's Report, Jerry Kitzhoffer: Reported the Chapter's income, expenses, and account balances. See Appendix 1 – Treasurer's Report. Jerry also indicated the report will look much different as the conference funds were not accounted for at this time. The motion was made to accept the minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Lynne Fox; no discussion; call for vote; motion approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee - Brenda Egan: Introduced the 2014 Slate of Nominations for Officers and Directors-at-Large to the President and General Membership. Bios of each nominee were posted on the website with an eBlast to members.

Brenda presented the 2014 Slate of Nominations:

Officers

President Elect – Rebecca Renshaw

Secretary – Helene Marano

Treasurer – Daniel Madrid

Directors -at-Large

West – Elizabeth Wagner

Central – All positions currently filled

East – Tina Hertzog, Kerry Lueders, Dael Cohen

Delaware – Melodye May

A call for nominations from the floor was then made three times by Christie Peel with no additional persons nominated. Vince McVeigh made the motion to close the nominations and to accept the slate of nominations as presented. Tracy Whitehead seconded the motion. A call to vote on the entire slate as presented was made, the motion was approved.

BYLAWS AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

John Hofmeister, Chair, presented the proposed bylaw changes highlighted with rational statements in the General Assembly PowerPoint – see Appendix 2.

Article 5. Section 7 Vacancies – Recommended eliminating the two year waiting period since there is a well-established nominations committee that reviews all

nominations to the Board of Directors and Officers. Checks and balances are now firmly in place.

Discussion from the floor – clarification on two year hiatus and identification of the checks and balances. John clarified both questions.

The following Bylaw wording changes were proposed:

1. Changing wording from he/she to he or she
2. Removed word “vision” from conference title

Vince McVeigh made a motion to accept the Bylaws revision as presented; Debby Holzapfel seconded; discussion; call for vote; motion approved.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Debby Holzapfel presented goals and activities of the sub-committees.

Sub-committee activity highlighted on General Assembly PowerPoint – see Appendix 2:

Public Relations

Information (Previously Newsletter/e-blasts)

Website

Legislation - Kay Macsi presented goals and activities

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Vince Mc Veigh, Chair

Sub-committee activity highlighted on General Assembly PowerPoint – see Appendix 2:

Vision Conference – Approximately 275 participants at conference.

Leadership - Don Sundell presented the goals and activities

Scholarship – Angela Humbertson presented goals and activities. The student scholarship will be presented at the awards banquet to Amy Burke.

District Meetings – Christie Peel reviewed goals and activities. The meetings have not been well attended with the exception of the Pittsburgh Area. Christie opened the floor for thoughts or comments for Board to consider for district meetings.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee activity highlighted on General Assembly PowerPoint – see Appendix 2. Jennifer Throop and Rachel Rechenwald presented membership recognition certificates from AER International for 5, 10, 20, 25 and 30 years of continuous AER memberships.

Recognition of Directors at Large who are rotating off the Board.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The following two awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet this evening:

Penn-Del AER Service Award: Dick Bosserman

ELEY Award: John Hannim

Ad-Hoc Committee

Debbie Armbruster presented goals and activities. Committee activity highlighted on General Assembly PowerPoint – see Appendix 2.

Members with any historical documents are encouraged to share with the committee.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:00 pm

Next Penn-Del AER General Assembly Meeting : April 23, 2015 at the Best Western Premier Hotel and Convention Center, Harrisburg, PA.

Next Penn-Del Board Meeting: Time and location for the summer meeting to be determined.

Respectfully submitted by,

Helene Marano, Acting Secretary

July 7, 2014