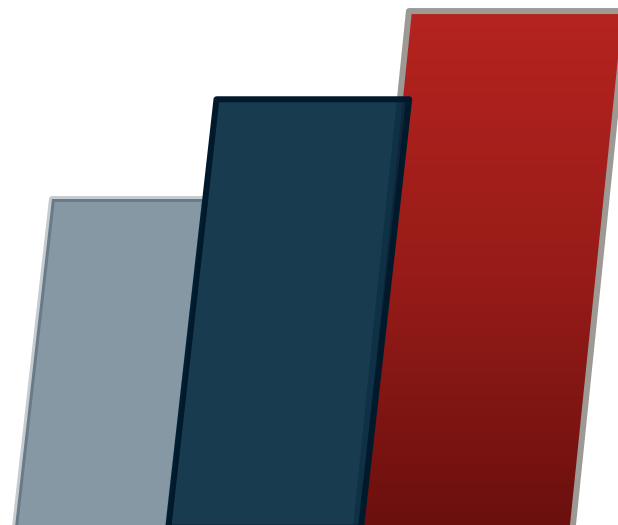




National Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes March 11, 2025

Our mission at Business Professionals of America is to develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.





National Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes March 11, 2025

Call to Order

Board Chair, Devin Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM ET.

Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Secretary, Andrea Sutherland conducted the roll call, and a quorum was established.

Present: Devin Alexander, Breezy Gutierrez, Andrea Sutherland, Athena Frank, Layan Ahmed, Terry Carrera, Kelly Munro, Kimberly Goodman, Owen Hamilton (joined at 6:11 PM ET), Amy McClure, Brenda Menahan (joined at 6:21 PM ET), Lisa Parker, Victoria Pinarreta

Guests: Patrick Schultz, Kelly Williams, Jonathan Smith, Kristina Kerns, Michele Gordon, Ric Cowles

Approval of Agenda

Athena Frank moved to approve the agenda as presented. Amy McClure seconded the motion. Chair, Devin called for a no objection vote to approve the agenda as presented. There were no objections and the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes

Chair, Devin introduced the approval of the January 14, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Athena Frank moved to approve the minutes and Amy McClure seconded the motion. Devin called for a no objection vote to approve the minutes. There were no objections and the minutes were approved.

Executive Council Reports

Layan Ahmed and Victoria Pinarreta presented a joint report on behalf of both divisions. They highlighted initiatives completed for CTE month and BPA Week. They shared that offers had traveled for State Leadership Conferences. They shared they were working on reviewing Ambassador Torch Resumes, and have completed 200 so far with the March 14th deadline approaching.

Interim Executive Director/BOT Chair Report

Chair, Devin shared that NLC registration has been open for a week with over 900 registrants so far. He stated this is great when compared to the year over year registration number. He shared 77 judges had been recruited for NLC already.

Owen Hamilton joined at 6:11 PM ET.

Chair, Devin stated that Layan Ahmed, Victoria Pinarreta, Kristin Kerns and he would be traveling to Washington SC for the National Policy Seminar to advocate for CTSOs, and BPA.

Committee Reports

Advocacy

Co-Chair, Victoria Pinarreta shared that the committee had met to discuss initiatives for NLC, and had drafted a proposal for an advocacy BPA Cares award. Additionally, she highlighted that Layan Ahmed and she had traveled for the ACTE conference.

Audit

Chair, Breezy Gutierrez shared that audit has been finalized with positive results and no concerns. The audit is filed under 2024-2025 on Board Effect.

Finance

Chair and Treasurer, Athena Frank shared that the committee met to review the financial reports and Treasurer Report prior to the meeting and had no concerns. She shared we had an operating surplus of \$196,376. Financial statements through January are available via BoardEffect. She advised the next scheduled meeting is Friday, April 25th at 5:30 PM ET.

Policies & Procedures

Chair, Lisa Parker shared items were taken to SAAC on February 25th and will be discussed during the committee's next meeting on April 15th.

Brenda Menahan joined at 6:21 PM ET.

Personnel

Chair, Andrea Sutherland shared that the committee would meet on April 1, 2025.

Programs

Chair, Brenda Menahan shared that the committee met on January 21st to review old business.

Strategic & Long-Range Planning

Chair Breezy Gutierrez shared that there were no updates and that the committee felt that the next Executive Director should contribute to this process.

Executive Director Hiring Committee

Board Chair, Devin read a report on behalf of the committee. It stated that the committee was in the final stages of the thorough process. He shared that a Stakeholder Q&A would take place. Board members will be provided a link to obtain questions on behalf of their stakeholders to be asked during the Q&A session. Lastly, he stated that the committee would request a special meeting in April to make their final recommendation.

Old Business

NLC 2027 Developments

Chair, Devin made a statement that we value the perspectives of the folks involved and are grateful we could take actions to protect the organization. He thanked Jonathan Smith and Owen Hamilton for their work in sourcing 10 potential sites for NLC 2027, to address the concerns with the Gaylord Rockies. Jonathan Smith presented contract proposals for Anaheim, Houston and Milwaukee.

Victoria Pinarreta made a motion to continue sourcing the Houston 2027 contract, dependent on the successful re-negotiation of the Colorado contract. Lisa Parker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. A vote was taken with a result of ten in favor, one opposed, and Owen Hamilton and Devin Alexander abstaining.

Student Leadership Summit

Jonathan Smith shared a presentation on the Student Leadership Summit, highlighting attendees, the purpose of the event, participation metrics, and attendee feedback. Chair, Devin highlighted that this discussion is the result of a Policies and Procedures review, requiring the Board to make a determination on the future of this event. The Board reviewed Financial Structure, I. C. 4.a. of the *Policies and Procedures* manual, which states, "All national conferences shall be self-supporting with expenses not to exceed income.", to determine if the policy needed to be changed, or how the conference could be hosted in compliance with the current policy.

Victoria Pinarreta shared that the event grew substantially in 2024 and stated that a hybrid option would result in a loss of connection during the event. Layan Ahmed stated this is an investment into our student leaders and that profit would come with more growth. It was highlighted that the SLS income was \$12,600 with an expenses total of \$29,238, which resulted in a net loss of \$16,638. It was stated that in order to make a profit, this would directly increase the costs for students. The Board of trustees decided to align the conference to policy and refer the matter back to the National Staff.

Corporate Proposal

The Corporate Proposal was reviewed and current statuses for each section was provided.

New Business

Victoria Pinarreta notified the Board of Trustees that the Secondary and Post-secondary bylaw amendments submitted by Massachusetts, had been reviewed and approved by the Executive Officer Team. She states these amendments consisted of changing capitalization, striking “National” and replacing it with “Executive” in “National Officer”, and updating the Executive Officer Candidate Handbook.

Adjournment

Chair, Devin called for a no objection vote to adjourn the meeting. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM ET.