Board of Trustees Meeting

November 13th, 2023

Virtual

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm (EST)

Angie called roll call.

Present:
Devin Alexander, Jeannette Barreto, Kevin Benjamin, Angie Benson, Lucy Christensen, Breezy Gutirrez, Dr. Brenda Jacobsen, Amber Lane, Lisa Parker, Sonya Russell, Andrea Sutherland, Executive Director: Steven J Mitchell

Guest: Michael Borowitz (Auditor)

Absent: Paxton Cavin & Sabrina Taylor

The quorum has been met.

Welcome from Devin Alexander

Motion to Approve the Agenda – Kevin, 2nd Breezy

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion to Approve July 13th & 14th BOT Meeting minutes – Kevin, 2nd Sonja

10 Approved – 1 Abstained

Motion to Approve September 11th BOT Meeting minutes – Kevin, 2nd Sonja

Audit Report –

Motion to Table until later in the meeting or at the next meeting – Sonja, 2nd Jeannette

Motion carried.

Special Election of Board Secretary-

Brenda self-nominated – No other nominees. Brenda was elected Secretary.

Executive Council Reports

Lucy Christensen, Secondary President

Amber Lane, Post-Secondary President

Audit Revisited – Michael Borowitz – (Auditing Firm)

The audit was the best outcome possible. There are no accounting anomalies. (See attached audit report.

Executive Report – Steven J Mitchell, Executive Director

The Promo Video has been released

The team is still looking at options for opening sessions for Chicago – we may need split rooms.

The dress code was presented and will go to P&P.
We hired Laquanda Paschal as a Competitive Events person.

We are currently Interviewing for the marketing position.

Committee Chair Reports –

Advocacy – Lucy Christensen – BPA resources are on the website with letters and additional documentation.

Audit – Breezy Guitterez – audit is complete for 2023

Financials – Angie Benson, packet is available. – Two questions: 1. Separating the SLC event in Oklahoma. 2. BOT Contributions – where did this number come from? Angie reached out to Ric and got definitive answers.

P&P – Lisa Parker – The Committee met on October 9th- to amend voting to be electronic instead of email voting. Working on ADA compliance training at GDS. Committee would like to add an Ethics committee- Devin taking the lead. New contest proposal guidelines – being reviewed by Patrick and Sheila. Create more collaborative lines with a chain of command. Revise CEAC handbook. Creation of a SAAC handbook. To include new Code of Ethics. We will cover dress code policy at the next meeting on Dec 4th at 4pm.

Personnel – Andrea Sutherland – committee has not met no personnel issues.

Programs – Jeanette Barreto – meet on November 6th. Nothing to be brought before the board.

SLRP – Devin Alexander – meeting in November and December to work through a 3-year Strategic and Long-term plan. The draft will be available for stakeholders at the beginning of the year or closer to NLC.

BOT Support/Partnerships- Brenda Jacobson – We continue to solicit corporations/donors for BPA for Chicago and at the National Level. Introduce Steven, and he will facilitate the conversation.

Next Meeting – January 8th from 4 pm – 6pm.

Devin – Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays

Meeting Adjourned at 5:29pm.