

ASLCS Annual Business Meeting Minutes

ASLCS Professional Development Seminar
September 24, 2019
Seattle

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Patrick Harris (Ala.) and an invocation was offered by Ali Sagraves (Ohio).

President Harris thanked Bill Schaeffer, Diane Bell, Jeff Finch, and Tyler Schaeffer of International Roll-Call Corporation for their sponsorship of the luncheon and generous support of ASLCS.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 25, 2018 Annual Business Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, were presented. Bernadette McNulty (Calif.) moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Claire Clift (Nev.), and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Roll Call of the States

Paul Smith (N.H.) moved, seconded by William MaGill (Vt.), to dispense with the roll call of the states. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

President Harris recognized Brad Young to present the Treasurer's Report for the dues account. The report showed a starting balance of \$52,848.19, as of July 23, 2019. There were several disbursements made, including for the printing and postage for the Legislative Administrator, previously approved travel, and President's gifts, as well as deposits received for the remaining collection of dues. The ending balance as of September 13, 2019, amounted to \$46,378.72. Ann Marie Walp (Tenn.) moved to approve the report, seconded by Paul Smith, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

International Guests

Due to the large number of international guests and territorial participants in attendance, President Harris recognized the names of the countries and territories in lieu of the names of specific attendees. Present were representatives of Australia, Canada, Guam, Kenya, Republic of Palau, Scotland, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Wales.

Other Business

President Harris recognized longtime Executive Director of NCSL Bill Pound on the occasion of his retirement after over 40 years of service. As an expression of gratitude for his service through friendship and mentorship, he was named an Honorary Member of ASLCS, and was presented with a plaque to commemorate it. Bill Pound then discussed how ASLCS played a role in the formation of NCSL, the significant contribution the Society continues to make through its work on Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure and by having the largest number of members and participation of the professional staff associations of NCSL, and extended his sincere appreciation for the recognition.

President Harris proceeded to thank John Harrington of Propylon, Michael Greenman and Joe Giessner of Tallan, Inc., and Joel Hurwitz of Thomson Reuters for their sponsorship of ASLCS and for all they do to support the members of the Society in their respective jurisdictions.

President Harris also thanked Brad Hendrickson and the members of the Washington State Host Committee for all of their hard work in making the 2019 Fall PDS a success, and presented them with gifts in recognition of their efforts.

Nominating Committee Report

Chair Robert Haney (Texas) thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for their work in interviewing the respective nominees and recommended the following slate of officers for 2019-2020:

- Paul Smith, Clerk, New Hampshire House of Representatives, as President
- Brad Young, Clerk, Ohio House of Representatives, as President-elect
- William MaGill, Clerk, Vermont House of Representatives, as Secretary-Treasurer
- Jay Braxton, Assistant Clerk, Virginia House of Delegates, as Associate Vice-President
- Brad Hendrickson, Secretary, Washington Senate, as Elected Principal
- Ali Sagraves, Special Assistant to the Clerk/Committee Clerk, Ohio House of Representatives, as Elected Associate

Scott Kaiser (Ill.) moved that the nominations be approved as a slate as recommended by Chair Haney. The motion was seconded by Bernadette McNulty and approved unanimously.

Award Recognition

President Harris announced the 2019 ASLCS Legislative Staff Achievement Award winners as Brad Hendrickson, Secretary, Washington Senate and Erin Gillitzer, Records and Journal Clerk of the Wisconsin Senate, and Ted Blazel, Sergeant at Arms of the Wisconsin Senate, and congratulated them on their accomplishments.

President Harris recognized the importance of the Ed Burdick Scholarship to associate members of the Society and thanked Thomson Reuters for their continued financial support of it. The 2019 recipients are Heather Fahey, First Assistant Secretary, Arizona Senate, and Francisca Zabala, Legislative Clerk, California Senate.

Committee Reports

Bylaws and Standing Orders

Chair Tim Sekerak (Ore.) stated that the committee worked on minor amendments to the standing orders and that they had been incorporated and sent for publishing.

Site Selection

Chair Lee Cassis (W.Va.) thanked the members from Maine for their work with hosting the PDS in Portland in 2020, as well as the members from Oregon, who are willing to host in 2021, and Arkansas who have expressed interest in hosting in 2022.

Technology

Chair Josh Babel (Ariz.) thanked those who participated in the informative concurrent session hosted by the committee at this year's PDS. He stated that the committee worked on

improvements to the ASLCS Facebook page, as well as opportunities to record sessions and/or post videos on YouTube.

International Communication and Development

Chair Obie Rutledge (Ore.) stated that the updates to the international directory are complete and that the committee had successfully been able to reach out to our international colleagues to encourage their attendance at our PDS. He further stated that new attendees include participants from Scotland and Wales, which has enriched our meeting.

Legislative Administrator

Chair Ann Marie Walp (Tenn.) encouraged members to continue submitting photos and ideas for the Administrator. She then presented President Harris (Ala.) with a plaque recognizing him for his service as President, and thanked him for his leadership.

Membership and Communication

Chair Melissa Bybee-Fields (Ky.) referenced the large number of 60 new attendees at this year's PDS and thanked all of the members who volunteered to be sponsors for them. She mentioned that the concurrent session sponsored by the committee provided participants with a lot of helpful information about the Society, and encouraged members of the committee to begin thinking about ideas for the concurrent session at next year's PDS.

Support Staff

Chair Neva Parker (Calif.) discussed the Legislative Expo and the two concurrent sessions the committee would be sponsoring at the PDS. She also encouraged associate members to apply to participate in the Associate Exchange Program. Jay Jacobs (Ky.), who participated in the program, discussed the benefits of learning about another chamber's legislative process for both the participant and the host state.

Canadian-American Relations

Chair Paul Smith (N.H.) discussed the Joint Canadian American meeting recently held in Concord, New Hampshire, where the U.S. team was finally victorious in the volleyball match. He mentioned that it was a well-attended meeting with an informative program jointly prepared and presented by our Canadian colleagues and us. He also stated that he and President Harris (Ala.) had attended and represented the Society at the CATTs meeting held in Ottawa, Ontario.

Professional Journal

Chair Bernadette McNulty (Calif.) reminded attendees that the Professional Journal is now an online publication and that only a limited number of copies are printed. She referenced the ongoing work of the three subcommittees and her commitment to reach out to younger members of the Society to encourage them to have an interest in the success of the Professional Journal as well as submit information for future publications.

Program Development

Chair Tammy Letzler (Tenn.) thanked the committee members and panelists and moderators who have worked hard to make the PDS a success. She also thanked the various committees that have sponsored concurrent sessions. Finally, she thanked Butch Speer (La.) for all of his advice and assistance, and Holly South (NCSL) for her continued support.

Internal Audit Special Committee

Chair Susan Furlong (Nev.) reported that an extensive audit was conducted and the Dues Account is in good shape. She mentioned that there would be a couple of administrative items that she would be working on with NCSL and then report to the Executive Committee on those items at its next meeting.

Budget and Revenue Special Committee

Chair Susan Furlong (Nev.) stated that the committee would be reviewing their draft report for the Executive Committee later in the week and would then present the report to the new Executive Committee. She further stated that the Society's finances are in good shape and in good hands.

Roster Special Committee

Adrian Crouse (Mo.) encouraged members to visit their table at the Legislative Expo where they may check and provide any final edits for the Roster. She also thanked Sarah Schaben (Mo.) for all of her hard work and assistance with the publication of the Roster.

Strategic Planning Special Committee

Chair Tim Sekerak (Ore.) stated that the committee considered and will recommend to the Executive Committee that an initiative be undertaken to determine how to encourage the participation of our colleagues who haven't previously attended meetings of the Society. He referenced the energy brought to our meetings by new attendees and the benefit it provides to ASLCS.

President Harris proceeded to thank each of the chairs of the committees and presented them with gifts for their efforts. Additionally, he recognized the 2018-2019 Executive Committee for helping make his year as President a success and presented them with gifts, as well.

President Harris also recognized John Hollman, Chief Clerk, Illinois House of Representatives as the 2019 recipient of the Millicent (Millie) MacFarland Memorial Scholarship.

Announcements

President Harris reminded attendees that the collection drive bin for those residents of Seattle facing homelessness was located in the conference registration area, and encouraged attendees to participate in the drive.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Paul Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, Ali Sagraves seconded the motion, and the motion was adopted unanimously. The meeting stood adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Young
Secretary-Treasurer