

## **Virginia Chapter of NENA Business Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**November 4, 2010**

**Virginia APCO/NENA Spring Conference, The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center,  
Roanoke, VA**

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM by Chapter President Bernard Brown.

### **Presidents Report**

Bernard welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the group had decided to try something different with respect to scheduling the chapter meeting. He noted that based on attendance at this meeting that it may be better to go back to the former time for scheduling the chapter meetings.

### Special Presentations

Bernard Brown noted that we were very pleased to have Rick Galway, Vice President of NENA with us at the meeting today. He then invited Jim Davis, Pokey Harris, Jim Junkins, Nate McClure and Steve Souder to come to the front and presented each of them with a fifteen-year pin for NENA membership. Bernard noted that Gary Critzer, Floyd Green, Steve Marzolf and Elbert Newberry were not in attendance but would also be receiving a fifteen-year pin for membership this year.

### ENP Scholarship

Bernard Brown noted that the chapter had previously established the ENP scholarship fund named after former member George Thomas. He invited Pokey Harris of Washington County to come forward to be recognized as the first recipient of this scholarship.

### **Secretary's Report**

Bernard Brown noted that the next order of business was approval of the fall 2009 business meeting minutes.

Chapter Secretary Susan Rorrer noted that copies of the fall 2009 business meeting minutes had been distributed to each attendee upon arrival at the meeting for review.

A motion was made by Nate McClure to accept the minutes and seconded by Phil Heines. The motion was passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Chris Knights noted that the chapter checking account had a beginning balance of \$29,163.99 as of May 21, 2010 and an ending balance of \$16,801.31 on November 4, 2010. Chris noted that the chapter is still awaiting a reimbursement of \$547.20 from localities related to scholarship funding. He noted that a total of \$39,895.56 was used for scholarship with only \$104.44 due to be paid back to VITA. Chris also noted that the net profit for the spring conference was

\$4,010.05. The Treasurer's report noted that the ending balance includes a balance of \$10.45 in the chapter's PayPal account. He also noted that it does not include \$547.20 in outstanding invoices and does not include \$104.44 in payment reimbursement to VITA for the scholarship program.

Chris further noted that the chapter's funds do good things and that we should consider the amount of money that we hold on to. Phil Heines noted that a while back the chapter only had about \$1,000 in the bank. He cautioned the group that the financial liability of conferences is getting bigger and bigger and that while we are not in this to make money we need to have money in the bank.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Jim Davis and seconded by Julie McKercher. The motion was passed.

## **Committees**

### Constitution and By Laws Committee

Rodney Gentry, Chairman of the committee, noted that there is currently some discussion regarding changes to the By Laws. He noted the proposed changes are being provided electronically and will be distributed to committee members.

### Historical Committee

Bernard Brown noted that Karen Smallwood, Chairman of the committee was not in attendance. He noted that if anyone has any materials, photos or other items from prior years please provide them.

Jim Davis noted that Barry Martin was the first President of the Virginia chapter.

Steve Souder noted that APCO and NENA meeting together goes back to the beginning of the chapter in 1992.

### Conference Committee

Denice Marrs, Chairperson for the committee, noted that the contract for the spring conference has been signed with the hotel. She noted that the conference would be held at the Wyndham Hotel this year and that the group was attempting to keep people in the conference and away from the beach.

Bernard Brown noted that a group of 4 or 5 members had visited hotels in Virginia Beach and had selected the Wyndham.

Denice noted that there would be an additional track at the conference and also questioned whether the chapter meeting could be held prior to the opening of the hospitality suite.

Pokey Harris recommended that each of us present at this meeting commit to bringing one person who is typically not here to the spring meeting.

Richard Herzing noted we need to make announcements that the meeting is being held and that everyone is invited.

Pokey recommended the use of snail mail to send meeting notices as a reminder.

Someone (does anyone recall who?) suggested that we need to build relevancy for meetings.

#### Nominating Committee

Bernard Brown noted that if anyone knows someone who is interested in running for an office they should contact Hershel Kreis or a board member.

#### Wireless Board Grants Committee

Allan Weese noted that the Wireless Grant Committee had met to draft new guidelines for the upcoming year and to discuss conference scholarships. For FY2012, provided the draft is passed, there will be an E911 Education Grant category added to the grant program. Localities will be able to apply for up to \$2,000 in funding per year. He also noted that once approved in November the grant deadline in December will approach quickly.

Pokey Harris noted that she doesn't believe that applying for funds is a good use of staff time and that we need to emphasize the importance of training and give staff the training that they need.

Allan noted that education has been moved to a higher priority in the grant funding prioritization list. He noted that in the Continuity and Consolidation Program, training is now above retention.

Pokey noted that we need a statewide standard for training.

Hidrena Frances noted that we could use the newly added fourth track at the conference to provide certification classes.

Steve Souder noted that we will see changes in the scholarship funding. He noted that he and Bernard Brown will be in attendance at the next wireless board meeting to ask for amendments (which are to be determined) to grant guidelines and for funding for the Spring conference which falls in a gap between the current methodology for funding and the new funding methodology. Steve noted that the APCO and NENA boards would meet at 5 PM today to discuss further grant guidelines.

#### Membership Committee

Allan Weese, Chairman of the Committee, presented a map that he had created of NENA members by locality across the state. He noted that there are many members across the state however many localities are not represented.

Bill Agee noted that the map appears very similar to what has been seen in the APCO member map.

Allan noted in a membership report that the chapter had 156 members as of October 2010. He noted that membership numbers by category were as follows.

Government and Public Sector	99
Private Sector and Commercial	36
Emergency Dispatchers	21
ENP's	28

Allan provided the group with information regarding NENA's newly added group membership packages for 2011 and noted that there is a cost savings associated with the group rates.

Denice Marrs recommended that the chapter offer membership scholarships. Allan noted that would be taken into consideration.

## **Old Business**

### ENP Study Groups

Bernard Brown noted that there are currently two ENP study groups in progress.

Bernard then asked if there was any other old business.

Jim Davis noted that he wants it to be known that he wants the opportunity to review any correspondence that goes out in the future referencing or representing all members. He noted that he supports the leadership of the group but feels this is important prior to the leadership speaking for the members.

## **New Business**

Bernard Brown announced the following upcoming meetings.

APCO NENA Winter meeting	To be announced
APCO NENA Spring Conference	May 18 – 20 Wyndham Hotel, Virginia Beach
NENA National Conference	June 18 – 23 Minneapolis Convention Center
APCO NENA SIEC Fall Conference	Oct. 25 -28 Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA

Bernard read a letter from Sherry Thomas thanking the organization for their contributions to the Thomas Children's Scholarship Fund.

## Adjournment

A motion was made by Rodney Gentry to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Denice Marrs. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.