



Minutes
NMFOG Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, January 20, 2023
12 – 1:30 p.m.
NMFOG Office and via Zoom

Directors in attendance in person: Kathi Bearden, Sammy Lopez, Paula Maes, Karen Moses, Kristelle Siarza, Rashad Mahmood, Chris Keller and Greg Williams.

Directors in attendance via Zoom: Dede Feldman, Kathy Bearden, Chuck Pfeifer, Henry Lopez, Rebecca Valdez, Lucas Peerman Jessica Onsurez, Daniel Russell, Daniel Yohalem and Kip Purcell.

Staff in attendance in person: Melanie J. Majors. Jason Espinoza, lobbyist.

Not Present: Mary Lynn Roper, Nate Gentry.

Patrick Griebel attended part of the meeting. No other members of the public were in attendance.

A quorum of the FOG Board of Directors being present in person and online, President Moses called the meeting to order at 12 p.m. She introduced new members Chris Keller and Rebecca Valdez. Both of the new members talked about their backgrounds. Ms. Moses also announced that John Moses had resigned from the board as with the Gannet shakeup he is leaving Farmington for a job in Corpus Christi beginning Feb. 1. Also, Lucas Peerman, Secretary, has resigned from the board as he has accepted a position at the Albuquerque Journal and as there is already a Journal staff member on the board, he determined he should work on a committee, but not be a board member. Ms. Siarza made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams moved for the approval of the draft minutes from the December meeting, and Mr. Keller seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no amendments.

New Treasurer Lopez presented the financial report. The report included the quarterly financials and budget vs. actuals. NMFOG has current assets of \$393,585.50 with \$197,171.38 earmarked for the sunshine attorney in an investment account. Mr. Lopez reported \$52,970.97 in the checking account. Discussion centered on the losses in the Charles Schwab investment account as the account lost 6.4 percent of its total in 2022. On a motion by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Ms. Feldman a motion passed to accept the report. Ms. Majors was directed to send the Charles Schwab end of year report to the members. FOG ended up with \$3,055.97 in net income (?) over the 2022 budget.

Mr. Lopez presented the 2023 budget. As the original proposed budget had a deficit, Ms. Bearden made a motion to amend the budget so there was no deficit. The 2023 budget has a total of \$129,977.64 in revenues and expenditures. Ms. Siarza seconded the motion, motion carried.

Under President's report, Ms. Moses told the board about the formation a new committee focused on the public education activities of FOG. This was a suggestion from the three-year plan. Henry Lopez will be the chair.

Ms. Maes made a motion to approve the formation of the new committee and Mr. Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Moses also said that instead of waiting until August, she is organizing a nominating committee now – and asked that the committee come up with a survey of current members to learn the composition of the current board and use as a tool for the selection of new members.

As Mr. Peerman's resignation resulted in a vacancy for the job of Secretary, Rashad Mahmood was nominated to the post.

Ms. Moses also announced that Ms. Maes and Mr. Yohalem will be the at-large members on the executive committee for 2023. The executive committee also includes Ms. Bearden, immediate past president.

Ms. Siarza made a motion to approve the recommendation for the job of Secretary and the at-large members. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, motion carried.

Ms. Moses then led the discussion on the three-year plan. Suggestions include expanding the speaker's bureau, adding the public education committee. Other specifics are in the plan, which is attached.

Under Committees, Jason Espinoza gave the report, outlining the items he is watching in the session now underway. This included bills to add a new exception to IPRA concerning security systems; exempt public utility information from disclosure under IPRA; add language to a bill concerning elections; a new exemption to limit video footage at public buildings from disclosure for purposes of security; and possible changes to OMA concerning publication of meeting notices. FOG has also been asked to review information concerning legislation involving the confidentiality clause of the Children's Code. Mr. Williams also talked about a bill proposed by County Clerks concerning public access to election records, including paper ballots, absentee ballots, etc. Sen. Duhigg is also sponsoring a bill with changes to elections. Bills FOG is watching including SB 32, SB 63, SB 153, HB 93 and others.

Mr. Williams had nothing new to share for the Legal committee.

Ms. Majors said that the Executive Director's report and the Hotline Report had provided and did not need further discussion. In addition, she talked about a proposal from KW Consulting for assistance with social media management, fundraising, public relations, marketing and administrative functions. She then gave the Dixon Award report stating the event netted more

than \$20,000 for FOG including \$2,000 at the silent auction. Ms. Majors also said she has investigated the communication program SLACK and will move forward on finalizing adopting the program for FOG.

Ms. Majors asked the committee chairs to look at the 2023 calendar and begin to schedule meetings. This is one of the items that can be shared on the new program.

With no other business, Ms. Siarza moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Maes seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.