

Minutes of the WNA Annual

Meeting Friday January 19, 2024

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm

**DoubleTree, Madison, WI and Virtual ZOOM
Platform**

The meeting of the WNA Annual Membership Meeting was called to order by Dr. Elizabeth Markham, WNA President at 12:15 pm.

Nightingale Tribute

The Nightingale Tribute was led by Kelly Kruse Nelles which included recognizing nurse colleagues who passed away in 2023.

Roll call and Declaration of a Quorum/No Quorum

Roll call was conducted by WNA Secretary, Amy Hermes. There were 37 members present and the following six WNA Board of Directors, Beth Markham, President, Jennifer Lindner, Vice President, Patrick McNally, Treasurer, Amy Hermes, Secretary, Chris Bakke, APRN Representative, Tamara Swanson, Director at large, 18 WNA members in person and 13 WNA members virtually. This did not constitute a quorum of the membership. However, the majority of the WNA Board of Directors were present and according WNA Bylaws, Article III, Section 5; had the authority to vote on all action items with member input.

2024 Standing Rules for the WNA Annual Meeting.

The 2024 Standing Rules for the WNA Annual Meeting were made available to the members that were approved by the WNA Board of Directors in anticipation of a no quorum meeting.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

2023 WNA Annual Meeting Minutes

President Markham informed the members present that the 2023 WNA Annual Meeting Minutes were approved as written on at the January 15, 2024, WNA Board Meeting. They are available posted on the WNA website under the About Us tab.

WNA Address of the President

Jennifer Lindner, Vice President of the WNA Board introduced President Markham to present her remarks. President Markham thanked all members for their continued efforts in their work with the numerous health care challenges. Stating we (nurses) are vital and more members increase our voice and the differences we can make.

Report of the Treasurer

WNA Treasurer, Patrick McNally, provided a report of the 2022 WNA Fiscal Year End. Ending Income balance \$766,029, Expenses \$723,824, with Income over Expenses being \$42,205.

Preliminary Report for FYE 2023:

- We are anticipating meeting the budget that was developed.
- Budget Variances - Income
 - Membership Dues – less than expected.
 - CEAP – better than expected.
 - CNEP (Conferences) – better than budget
 - Other Income – Less than budget (advertising, organizational affiliate member dues, grant, advocacy fund)
- Variance – Expense
 - Board and Staff – more than budgeted.
 - Bank & Service Fees – more than budgeted.
 - Technology – more than budgeted.

Assumptions for Budget Year 2024:

- Membership (conservative; Membership growth strategies in place)
- Conferences – increase net income.
- Grant will provide income.
- Staff expense – retirement will be replaced with consultant.
- Other operational status quo – but exploring if costs can be reduced related to technology.

The treasurer’s report can be found on the WNA website under the About Us tab.

Executive Director

Gina Dennik-Champion, WNA Executive Director pre-corded her report and it can be found on the WNA website.

ACTION ITEMS

WNA Bylaws Committee Report:

Gail Hanson Brenner provided the report of the Bylaw Committee, which include Marie Garwood, Linda Gobis and herself. Proposed bylaw changes were reviewed and discussed individually with a vote on the proposed changes *ad seriatim*. Approval requiring two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

President Markham called for the approval of the Board Members present. Motion carried.

Report and Recommendations on WNA Dialogue Forum: Addressing Wisconsin’s Nurse Shortage

Pam Helander, Chair of the WNA’s Workforce Advocacy, presented a recap and recommendations regarding each of the following priorities identified:

- Priority 1. Support the development of new nursing delivery models for care and support.
- Priority 2. Promote strategies that improve nurse well-being (physical and psychological)

- Priority 3. Improve Wisconsin's public health infrastructure through greater utilization of nurses.
- Priority 4. Assure the supply of nurse faculty will meet the needs and demands for nurses.
- Priority 5. Increase the public, legislators and key stakeholders' awareness of the role and responsibilities of nurses and the value they bring to health care and population health.

The following recommendations were that WNA make the nurse shortage, continue to facilitate the advancement of the strategies identified by the WNA Organizational Affiliates, and report quarterly progress.

Motion to accept the recommendations made by Chris Bakke. Seconded by Tamara Swanson.
Motion carried.

WNA ELECTION REPORT

Pat Keller, WNA Nominating Committee Representative, reported that the Nominating Committee, Marie Garwood, Pat Borgman, Pat Keller, Alexis Strong, Lindsay Burner and herself prepared a slate of officers. There were 99 WNA members that voted, and the results were as follows:

WNA Board of Directors:

President: Gail Hanson Brenner
Treasurer: Tracy Zvenyach
At Large: Roberta Pawlak
APRN Rep: Chris Bakke

WNA Councils:

Public Policy Council: Hallie Barteau, Jessica Coburn, Mary Ann Moon
Workforce Advocacy Council: Pam Helander, Christopher Wojnar, Kate Gillespie
Nursing Practice, Education and Research Council (Tri-Council): Angela Hack, Angela Kindschy, Florine Ndakuya-Fitzgerald

WNA Nominating Committee: Emilie Kreilkamp, Emma Hood, Brandon Geracie

WNA Representatives to ANA Membership Assembly Meeting: Amy Hermes, Jennifer Lindner, Rene Buenzow

President Markham. WNA President Markham administered the Oath of Office to the elected winners.

Gina Dennik-Champion, Executive Director, administered the Oath of Office to Gail Hanson Brenner.

PRESIDENT REMARKS

Newly sworn in WNA President, Gail Hanson Brenner, delivered her remarks. She thanked Beth Markham for her past support, agreeing we are vital and need to make ourselves more visible. Acknowledged WNA's 115th anniversary this and is looking forward to continuing increased

membership in WNA.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jennifer Lindner requested for the opportunity for a point of personal privilege was acknowledged. Presenting a resolution from the WNA Board of Directors honoring immediate past president, Beth Markham.

Adjournment

Motion: Move for adjournment of January 20, 2023, WNA Annual Meeting made by Tamara Swanson.

Seconded by Jennifer Lindner.

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Amy Herme

