

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS
APRIL 18, 2015
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

With President Dana Neuts presiding, the meeting of the board of directors of the Society of Professional Journalists was called to order at 9:10 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2015, at the Skyline Club in downtown Indianapolis.

In addition to Neuts the following were present: President-Elect Paul Fletcher; Immediate Past President David Cuillier; Secretary-Treasurer Lynn Walsh; Vice President for Campus Chapter Affairs Sue Kopen Katcef; Director at-Large Bill McCloskey; Director at-Large Alex Tarquinio, Campus Adviser at-Large Mike Reilly; Student Representatives Brett Hall and Jordan Gass-Pooré; Regional Directors Rebecca Baker, Andy Schotz, Michael Koretzky, Patricia Gallagher Newberry, Deborah Givens, Joe Radske, Rob McLean, Eddy Gallagher, Tom Johnson, Pia Hallenberg, Matt Hall and Tony Hernandez.

Staff members present for the meeting were Executive Director Joe Skeel, Associate Executive Director Chris Vachon, Director of Membership Linda Hall, Director of Events Heather Dunn, Membership Strategist Tara Puckey, Communications Strategist Jennifer Royer, Communications Coordinator Taylor Carlier and Awards Coordinator Abbi Martzall.

Other visitors included SDX Foundation President Robert Leger, SDX directors David Carlson, Sonny Albarado and Steve Geimann and former SPJ President Paul Davis.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Neuts provided an update on the Code of Ethics, specifically that supplemental materials for the Code were nearly ready to be posted to SPJ.org. Furthermore, the Code is being translated into several different languages. Neuts thanked Ethics Committee Chairman Andrew Seaman for his committee's work.

Neuts also provided an update on the communications process and procedures adopted by SPJ. Since Communications Strategist Jennifer Royer began in August, SPJ has been more strategic and proactive than it has been in the past. Furthermore, we are doing more communications now – specifically in the realm of advocacy – than ever before.

Neuts shared that Membership Committee Chairwoman Robyn Sekula has developed a master plan for membership, with a deeper focus on diversity. Sekula and SPJ's communications staff are working on a day when SPJ celebrates diversity via social media. It would be centered around #SPJ4ALL. SPJ would encourage all chapters to celebrate this day, likely sometime in May.

Lastly, Neuts thanked Tony Hernandez for his service on the board. Hernandez, Region 12 director, will vacate his seat on June 1 (in accordance with the SPJ bylaws) because he moved away from his region.

SPJ is currently accepting applications for a replacement, who would fill the gap until EIJ15. At that time, a new Region 12 Director would be chosen via election. The Board of Directors will conduct a meeting in May via conference call to choose the temporary replacement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

McCloskey noted that in the Sept. 7, 2014 minutes he was omitted from the list of people appointed to the SDX Foundation Board of Directors.

Upon proper motion by Baker and second by McCloskey, the board unanimously approved the minutes from Sept. 4, 2014, Sept. 7, 2014 and Nov. 18, 2014.

APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET

Secretary-Treasurer Lynn Walsh and Executive Director Joe Skeel presented an overview of the budget for Fiscal Year 2016, which begins Aug. 1, 2015.

Upon proper motion by Fletcher and second by Kopen Katcef, the board approved the budget unanimously.

CHAPTER ACTION

Puckey presented a list of chapters seeking to be chartered and one chapter to be inactivated.

Seeking Charter:

- American University – Bulgaria
- University of Massachusetts
- Nova Southeastern
- California State Polytechnic University.

Chapter to inactivate:

- Quinnipiac University

Upon proper motion by McCloskey and second by Kopen Katcef, the board voted unanimously to approve the actions.

NOMINATIONS REPORT

Neuts shared Albarado's memo regarding nominations for the SPJ board. Those declaring for the election at this point are: President-Elect: Walsh; Secretary-Treasurer: Baker and Jason Parsley; Vice President of Campus Chapter Affairs: Kopen Katcef. At-Large Director: McCloskey and Alex Veeneman; Campus Adviser At-Large: Becky Tallent; Region 2 Director: Schotz; Region 3

Director: Koretzky; Region 6 Director: Radske; Region 10 Director: No candidate; Region 11 Director: Matt Hall; Region 12 Director: Amanda Womac; Student Representatives: Dustin Ginsberg and Emily Panken.

REPORT OF THE SDX FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Leger shared that the Foundation is doing well financially, with a balance of about \$12.4M.

The Foundation's transition from a mostly-granting body to a mostly-operational body is going well. It is prepared to directly manage the educational programming traditionally managed by SPJ through grants.

The SDX Foundation's Programming Committee is working on a big idea to present to potential funders. That idea is to create a position that would be a "one-stop shop" for journalists needing assistance. This position could not only provide immediate guidance for journalists, but would also connect them to other entities that have good resources. This person could also serve as a trainer on issues and even parachute into areas that need help in the moment.

Leger shared that SDX Foundation board member Dori Maynard died in February, and that the board would be discussing ways to memorialize her.

When the Foundation meets the following day, it will also be discussing whether it would ask SPJ for a codified role in the hiring and firing of the executive director. Currently, only SPJ has the authority to hire and fire the executive director. With the Foundation now taking on a more equal role (managing educational programming), it will discuss if the bylaws should reflect an official role in the hiring and firing process.

STAFF REPORT

Skeel thanked Dunn for her 10-plus years of service. She will be leaving in May to spend more time with her family.

Skeel shared with the board that he submitted a proposal to UNITY for bookkeeping services. If UNITY accepts the proposals, it would be the fourth bookkeeping client for SPJ.

He also shared a training partnership with Google that is in the works. Under the partnership, SPJ and ONA would provide individuals to Google – who would then train them to become certified Google trainers. These trainers could then be used in SPJ's ongoing training programs – such as EIJ, webinars, JournCamps, regional and chapter events.

CONVENTION DATES AND CRITERIA

Skeel asked the board to provide feedback on the current criteria used when selecting dates and locations for its annual convention.

The board shared its concerns with certain months, but gave no specific direction. The general feeling was that some dates may be better than others, but the majority felt later in September was OK.

Most concerns centered around student and university schedules. Also, there was concern expressed about a spring convention – as it could compete against SPJ’s regional conferences.

Regarding criteria for selecting a city, the board supported considering properties with a higher room rate. Traditionally, staff eliminated any property offering a rate over \$200. This usually eliminated larger destination cities such as New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco and Chicago.

The board directed staff to include properties with higher room rates when making recommendations for future convention cities. It should provide data on all costs associated with attending a particular city – including travel, meal costs, etc.

ONLINE LDF AUCTION

Skeel requested board support for moving forward with an online component to the Legal Defense Fund auction. He explained that the online component would not replace the live or silent auctions currently conducted during EIJ.

The board supported moving forward.

MEETING RECORDING POLICY

A 2006 policy states that SPJ should destroy all recordings of meetings upon approval of minutes.

The SPJ board has been violating this policy since it began live streaming (and recording meetings) in 2013. Rather than violate its own policy, the board considered if it would be better to rescind the policy.

SPJ counsel Laurie Babinski provided a confidential report to the board of directors that spelled out some of the risks associated with rescinding the policy. Babinski also shared that given the Society’s dedication to transparency, it would be an understandable path.

Upon proper motion by Fletcher and second by Baker, the board voted unanimously to rescind the policy on destroying recordings of board meetings.

SPJ DIVERSITY

Neuts shared that she wants to put an emphasis on Diversity, and provided an update of some activities geared toward this. The goal is for others to see that SPJ is serious about improving diversity in newsrooms and coverage. By ingraining these philosophies at the grass-roots level, it would better our chances of meaningful change in the Society’s leadership.

- SPJ will ask representatives of other journalism associations to serve on its Diversity Committee. Those associations include, but are not limited to, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists, The Asian American Journalists Association, The Native American Journalists Association and the National Lesbian Gay Journalists Association.
- Membership Committee chair Sekula will work with a small group to develop diversity programming for chapters. This is based off her success with such programming during the Region 5 spring conference.
- The Membership and Diversity Committees will also work together to develop programming and resources. SPJ would then create a place on SPJ.org where these resources and program ideas can be housed and promoted.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM LEGISLATION

Fletcher shared an update on the Religious Freedom law recently passed in Indiana. That update encompassed similar laws recently considered by Arizona and Arkansas.

In short, SPJ felt the laws could legalize discrimination – specifically against the LGBT community. SPJ issued a statement regarding the Indiana situation because we are headquartered in the state.

However, he shared, SPJ is reluctant to get involved in legislation moving through other states because SPJ's focus is traditionally narrowed to Freedom of the Press and Freedom of Speech. In short, he said, SPJ can't monitor all five guarantees of the First Amendment.

Neuts and Fletcher brought this to the board because Louisiana is considering similar legislation, and SPJ plans to conduct its conference in New Orleans in 2016. Fletcher described this legislation as more toxic than Indiana's. In that, this bill would allow businesses to discriminate based on religious *and moral* beliefs.

Governor Bobby Jindal supports the legislation. However, many in statehouse (along with the convention and visitor's bureau and local business associations) oppose it.

The bill is currently in committee, and Fletcher explained that we are still early in the process.

Discussion centered around what SPJ should do now, and what actions might it take should the law as currently constituted be passed.

Fletcher explained that canceling our conference could result in losing \$300,000, because we already have a contract signed with a hotel in New Orleans. The board didn't see this as a necessary action at this point. The majority seemed to support going in 2016, but focusing programming and perhaps protests while on site.

It did discuss the option of relocating the 2016 April board meetings, which are scheduled for New Orleans.

Outside of the events planned for Louisiana, Walsh questioned if this bill would prevent LGBT journalists from doing their jobs. She shared a hypothetical in which a lawmaker may refuse to talk to a reporter if it is known that this reporter is gay.

The board agreed that Fletcher would continue to monitor the situation. But it would take action in the short term.

Upon proper motion by Walsh and second by Koretzky, the board voted unanimously to draft a letter or statement that would go to lawmakers and the convention and visitors bureau stating that if the law is passed it could lead to possible discrimination against our members and journalists.

CAREER CENTER UPDATE

Walsh provided a brief explanation of the improved career center on SPJ.org. The page now lists other job boards and resources for those seeking employment. It also houses an improved job bank, run by SPJ's third-party vendor Boxwood.

BUSINESS MEETING/VOTE TALLY POLICY

McCloskey presented a proposed SPJ Convention Voting Transparency Policy, which was drafted by SPJ's Bylaws Committee to spell out the processes and procedures for conducting opening and closing business meetings during convention.

The policy (attached to these minutes as Appendix A) is aimed at making public – in a timely manner – the election vote tallies and the results of all votes taken at business meetings. It is also intended to clarify delegate training and the role of the Election Committee (made up of the traditional sergeant at arms).

Upon proper motion by Kopen Katcef and second by Baker, the board unanimously approved the SPJ Convention Voting Transparency Policy.

IT'S THE PEOPLE'S DATA

Region 9 Director Johnson presented a 9-minute presentation on a project called "It's the People's Data." The project is aimed at taking a proactive approach, at the national level, to encourage the dissemination of government data.

Johnson asked for a general endorsement of the SPJ Board so that he may move forward on the project and seek outside funding.

Upon proper motion by McCloskey and second by Hernandez, the board voted unanimously to endorse the concept of "It's the People's Data" program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Walsh shared a brief update from the Finance Committee, which met the day before this meeting.

Out of that meeting, a small task force has been developed to investigate ways to connect SPJ with the general public and those that may support the Society's missions. One possibility is the creation of an "SPJ supporter" member category.

EXTENSION OF POST-GRADUATE RATE TO 4 YEARS

Skeel shared that based on his research, there would be no immediate benefit or drawback to extending the post-graduate rate to four years (currently three years after graduation). He also shared that he wasn't prepared to answer if SPJ should extend the rate, because he wasn't sure what the goal is for doing so.

He asked the board to consider this question: What's the point of membership? Is it revenue? Total number of members? Engagement?

Until the board could answer these questions, he couldn't answer whether extending the rate is advisable.

Upon proper motion by Baker, and second by McCloskey, the board voted to table the agenda item.

TECH UPDATE

Puckey shared that SPJ's membership database is in Phase 1 of the upgrade, which is that the software upgrade has been done on the server and staff work stations. Leaders and members should see changes to the website in the coming months.

ADVOCACY FUND

Cuillier asked the board to move \$30,000 from the Fiscal Year 2014 budget surplus to the newly created advocacy fund.

Board members shared a desire to create a mechanism to determine how future advocacy money would be spent.

Upon proper motion by Koretzky and second by Baker, the board voted unanimously to move \$30,000 from the FY2014 surplus into the advocacy fund and for the board to decide on a mechanism for how earnings will be spent.

STUDENT ISSUES/CONCERNS/IDEAS

Gass-Pooré shared a couple ideas on how to get high school students more involved. One idea was to create a student community to help them as they move from high school to college.

Gass-Pooré also wanted clarification on the role of the student representatives.

Neuts encouraged her to speak with Skeel and others on the board to get some ideas.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Neuts shared a memo (Appendix B) that detailed some criteria used when SPJ decides whether to issue a statement or press release. Specifically, the criteria deals with issues related to international matters and journalists' deaths.

Neuts explained that, as is the case now, SPJ will continue to take situations on a case-by-case basis. However, she asked the board to share additional criteria that might be missing from the memo.

Although no board member shared new criteria, leadership did discuss some criteria that was listed.

The board brainstormed ways to improve our communications in these areas, such as the creation of "canned" statements that could be used repeatedly – such as the issue with journalists being killed overseas.

The board also discussed the possibility of working with other journalism associations and the possibility that people will start to "tune us out" if we are not selective in the issuing of statements. Schotz suggested that when considering making a statement on an issue, the first question we should ask ourselves is "How can we make a difference?"

The discussion veered into areas related to all of SPJ's communications – such as the metrics used to track statements and the amount of time the president, other leaders and staff dedicates to communication.

Neuts thanked the board for its feedback.

NON-AFFILIATED MEMBER REPRESENTATION

Fletcher shared that 41 percent of SPJ's members are not affiliated with a chapter. However, under the Society's governance system, only chapter-appointed delegates are allowed to vote on large issues such as changes to the Ethics Code, resolutions and by-laws changes.

This means that 41 percent of SPJ's members have no voice in these matters.

Fletcher informed the board that a task force has been assembled to research the issue and, ultimately, bring forth a proposal that would ensure all SPJ members have a voice in its governance.

Work of the task force will include:

- Consider how best to provide representation at convention for members not affiliated with a chapter.
- Review different models for governance.
- Review practices of other associations and groups.
- Create a draft survey for unaffiliated members to determine their views on governance and to measure their level of interest in same.
- Consider whether and how to give a voice in governance to SPJ's communities, both at the annual convention and on the board.
- Recommend any changes to the SPJ bylaws and coordinate with members of the bylaws committee.

AWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

Neuts provided brief background on the discussion surrounding the selection of SPJ's honors and awards:

In September, the SPJ Board of Directors instructed the Executive Committee to develop a plan for choosing SPJ's awards and honors. Walsh, Schotz (Awards Committee Chairman) and Kopen Katcef created recommendations for the Executive Committee.

In January, the Executive Committee met and passed the recommendations put forth to the board for this meeting.

The recommendations are attached as Appendix C.

Upon proper motion and second by Cuillier and Koretzky, the board voted 20-2 to adopt the Executive Committee's recommendations on the first nine awards (note: all but the Wells Memorial Key).

Baker shared a recommendation from the Regional Director caucus, which was discussed by the board.

The following recommendations were then agreed upon by the board regarding the Wells Memorial Key selection.

- A list of nominees will be shared with the Board of Directors.
- The Executive Committee will take into account any board member comment and suggestions regarding the nominees.
- Following the presentation of the Wells Memorial Key during the banquet, the Executive Committee will explain why that particular winner was chosen.

Upon proper motion by Baker and second by Gallagher, the board voted 21-1 to accept the Executive Committee recommendations, with the additional steps as listed above.

Upon proper motion by Koretzky and second by Schotz, the board voted 16-5 against limiting the Executive Committee's selection to a person that was officially nominated. There was one abstention.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon proper motion by Baker and second by Hall, the board meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m. Saturday, April 18.

APPENDIX A

SPJ Convention Voting Transparency Policy

At SPJ's annual convention resolutions and bylaws amendments may be brought to the floor to be voted on by delegates. In addition, SPJ members elect national officers and directors for the coming year. To the greatest extent possible, it is Society policy to make public in a timely manner election vote tallies and the results of all votes taken at business meetings.

1. To facilitate and speed the process of counting votes on the floor at business meetings, staff should prepare video and printed training materials to familiarize delegates and alternate delegates with the standing rules of the convention and voting procedures. These materials should be available on convention web pages for viewing and downloading. Staff will also prepare training materials explaining procedures for tallying and reporting results of votes taken on the floor at business meetings.
2. About a week before the first business meeting staff will send an email including links to video and printed training materials to each delegate and alternate delegate requesting that the recipient review the materials before arriving at the convention.
3. At convention registration, staff will provide each delegate and alternate delegate a copy of the Standing Rules of the Convention and a link to the training video.
4. Consistent with Bylaws Art. 9, Sec. 10, before the first business meeting, the President of the Society will appoint an Election Committee, including a sufficient number of SPJ members who are not delegates, alternate delegates or candidates for office, to certify election results and tally votes taken on the floor.
5. Staff will provide members of the Election Committee the vote tallying and reporting training materials before the first business meeting begins, allowing sufficient time for committee members to review them.
6. At the beginning of each business meeting the Parliamentarian will explain to the assembled delegates the procedures for voting.
7. Prior to any vote, the chair or the secretary shall restate the motion or other matter being voted on, and provide clarifications in response to delegates' questions.
8. If a motion or other matter is decided by vote count or secret ballot, the Election Committee will employ the vote tallying procedures to determine the delegates' decision and will immediately report to the Chair, who will announce the number of votes cast in favor, in opposition, and in appropriate instances abstentions.
9. Before the conclusion of the final business meeting, the Election Committee will announce the results of the annual election of officers and directors, including the vote tally for each candidate.
10. Results of each vote taken by any method will be recorded in the official minutes of the meeting, posted in an appropriate place on the SPJ website, and disseminated by other means, which may include the Working Press and social media. In all instances that votes were counted, the tallies will be published.
11. Regional meetings will be conducted under the same procedures as business meetings. If votes are taken at a regional meeting, the Regional Director will announce the results to meeting participants and will report to the President and Executive Director before the final business meeting the motions on which votes were taken and results of those votes. To the extent possible, regional directors' reports will be published in an appropriate place on the SPJ website.

APPENDIX B

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 2, 2015
FROM: Dana Neuts and Jennifer Royer
SUBJ: Recommended communications for international matters and journalists' deaths
FOR: SPJ Board of Directors

Although it's usually pretty clear when SPJ should speak out, it's not so easy when it comes to international matters. The same is true of journalists' death.

For example, do we speak out about every journalist that dies? If not, where do we draw the line? Ben Bradlee is probably a no brainer. Stuart Scott? Bob Simon? David Carr? For some, the answer is "absolutely," for others, it is probably "who is that?" What rises to the level of an "official statement?" What can be handled via Twitter?

These questions started a conversation between SPJ's communications team and the president, president-elect and secretary-treasurer.

Out of that conversation, with input and research by SPJ leaders, volunteers and staff, the following criteria, checklists and guidelines were developed. We hope these will help current and future leaders in making some of those tough decisions.

We ask the board to consider the following recommendations.

Each situation should be handled on a case-by-case basis, with the following criteria to help guide us.

Checklist for statements on deceased journalists:

1. Operate from a position of restraint.
2. Did they have an impact on journalism AND democracy?
3. Were they a pioneer in the field?
4. Were they an SPJ member?
5. Did they have an impact on the general public?
6. Did they go beyond being a great journalist and an inspiration to other journalists?

If they do not meet the criteria, SPJ can still be involved in the conversation via social media.

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Any president or SPJ leader can write a blog post which could then be promoted via social media (give HQ a heads up that blog is being written and when it is posted).

Checklist for international incidents/acts of terrorism

Generally, SPJ does not issue a statement or release unless there are overriding circumstances, but the following checklist should be considered:

1. Were American journalists targeted or involved?
2. Did it happen on American soil?
3. Did it happen outside a war zone or area of conflict or otherwise “safe” place (ex. Charlie Hebdo)?
4. A systemic killing: Are journalists continually and intentionally being targeted in a certain region over a certain period of time?
5. An ongoing threat: A journalist has been murdered and there is reason to believe more will be targeted.
6. Other unusual circumstances?

Staff will have a general comment ready for when we do not issue a statement, such as, “SPJ condemns any action in which a journalist is targeted for doing his or her job...”

For international incidents, staff has the authority to respond directly to those reaching out that clearly do not rise to the level of SPJ making a statement. Explain that we typically do not make statements on international issues, and direct them to other experts such as the Committee to Protect Journalists, Reporters Without Borders and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

The International Community can act as it sees fit – blog, social media post, etc., which may be retweeted or promoted via SPJ’s social media.

SPJ may choose to participate in conversation via social media.

MONITORING NEWS 24/7

Lastly, we ask for the board’s help when it comes to monitoring the nightly news cycle.

The president, president-elect, executive director, communications strategist and communications coordinator are all monitoring news as much as possible, while also attempting to do the other duties of their day jobs. Of course, they also all have personal lives.

There may be times when they are not immediately aware of something breaking. Having the extra eyes and ears of board members is helpful in making sure nothing falls through the cracks – ensuring SPJ is as timely as possible on matters it wants to speak about publicly.

How the Board can help:

- When you become aware of a situation you think SPJ may want to speak about or monitor, first check Twitter (@spj_tweets). That is where any statements, retweets or conversation will likely happen first.
- If you are personally Tweeting about it and you think SPJ would be interested, tag @spj_tweets and/or the president, president-elect, executive director, communications strategist and communications coordinator if possible.
- Send a “Just a heads up in case you haven’t seen this...” email to the above mentioned leaders and staff.

APPENDIX C

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 2015
FROM: Joe Skeel, Executive Director
SUBJ: Awards recommendations
FOR: SPJ Board of Directors

The SPJ Board of Directors instructed the Executive Committee to develop a plan for choosing SPJ's awards and honors. Below are the recommendations that were voted on by the Executive Committee in January.

The Committee's discussion and recommendations were a response to the recommendations of task force leaders Lynn Walsh and Sue Kopen Katcef. Their original report to the Executive Committee follows this memo.

Lastly, following both memos is a compilation of comments collected by SDX Foundation President Robert Leger. He sought input from past Wells Key winners regarding the selection process and shared those with SPJ's Executive Committee in January.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon proper motion and second by Fletcher and Kopen Katcef, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award read as follows:

The recipient will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the SPJ Journalism Education Committee and the two Campus Advisers-at-Large.

The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by McCloskey and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Ethics in Journalism Award read as follows:

The recipient will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the SPJ Ethics Committee. The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

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The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by McCloskey and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Fellows of the Society read as follows:

Recipients will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee. The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

Friendly amendment: Change that nominations will rollover for five years.

Addition: Add wording from bylaws that “not more than three people can be selected.”

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Historic Site in Journalism read as follows:

The recipient will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the American Journalism Historians Association. The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

Friendly amendment: Change that nominations will rollover for five years.

Addition: Require something with submission that the plaque will be placed on the property.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Sunshine Award read as follows:

The recipient(s) will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the SPJ FOI Committee. The recommendation(s) will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Howard S. Dubin Outstanding Pro Member Award read as follows:

The recipients will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee. Recommendations will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the David L Eshelman Outstanding SPJ Campus Adviser Award read as follows:

The recipient will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the two Campus Advisers-at-Large and the two Campus Representatives. The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Julie Galvan Outstanding Campus Member Award read as follows:

The recipient will be recommended by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the two Campus Advisers-at-Large and two Campus Representatives. The recommendation will be presented to the SPJ board for approval.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Kopen Katcef and Walsh, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Regional Director of the Year Award read as follows:

The recipient will be chosen by the SPJ Executive Committee with input from the two Directors-at-Large and headquarters staff.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Walsh), three members voted no (Cuillier, Radske and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.

Upon proper motion and second by Fletcher and McCloskey, respectively, the committee voted that the selection process for the Wells Memorial Key read as follows:

The recipient will be chosen by the SPJ Executive Committee.

Friendly amendment: The process will be implemented in 2016.

Friendly amendment: Change that nominations will roll over for 10 years.

Call to question passed.

The motion passed. Three members voted yes (Fletcher, Kopen Katcef and Radske), three members voted no (Cuillier, Walsh and McCloskey) and President Neuts broke the tie with a yes vote.