**Northern Virginia AGA (NOVAGA)**

**Chapter Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 19, 2025**

**Via Teams (Meeting ID 285 459 428 356, Call-in No. / ID 1-331-305-3582, 559 790 860#)**

1. **Introductions**

Mr. Jacob MacDonald called the meeting to order at 4:02pm and began the meeting with roll call.

Please see Appendix A for status of board, committee, and other members in attendance.

1. **Review and Approval of Past Board Meeting Minutes (provided with agenda)**

Minutes were not reviewed or approved at this board meeting and would be presented at the next board meeting for consideration and voting.

1. **Board Reports**
   1. **President’s Report**

Mr. MacDonald introduced Ms. Melissa Ewing, a new attendee to the monthly meetings. Ms. Ewing introduced herself, stating that she is active in other professional organizations and served on the board. She works at Workiva, and is aligned in the federal space and is getting more involved in AGA, specifically this chapter.

Mr. MacDonald then proposed a date for the next planning meeting for April 18, April 25, or early May. The planning meeting will go through the committees to plan program events and activities for the next program year. Mr. Brian Grega mentioned that new slate of officers is due to AGA by June 22.

* 1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Ms. Murphy was absent; an update will be provided on the chapter’s finances at the next board meeting.

* Mr. Chris Horton mentioned that the KMPT sponsorship money was received.
* Mr. MacDonald asked about the status of the Virginia incorporation process. Mr. Horton stated that it is in progress and should be wrapped up by April.
* Mr. Grega mentioned that the chapter needed to vote on approving the financial statements received from Mr. Ed Rose to earn the associated points.
  + Mr. Horton motioned to approve the financial statements prepared and received from Mr. Rose. With a second from Mr. Grega and no opposition from those in attendance, the motion was approved unanimously.
  1. **NCC Representative Report**

Mr. Horton, NCC Representative, provided an NCC update.

* All NCC Representative meetings were attended this program year.
* Lead! is set for the last weekend in April, in Baltimore with Ms. Murphy and Mr. Irfan Satriadhi will be attending.
* Because attendees were reported to AGA before the deadline, the chapter earned the associated points.

1. **Committee Chairs**

Committee reports at this board meeting were briefed by the following Committee Chairs with updates also noted by Mr. MacDonald:

* **Membership Committee**

Ms. Xiaolei Wang, Committee Chair, stated that there were no updates; however, she was trying to locate the results of the survey. There was one additional person involved with Ms. Cherry Ung, but she did not know if that was Mr. Zak Kennedy or not. Mr. Kennedy stated that he would look into obtaining the results. Mr. MacDonald asked that we work to find it so it can be published in the newsletter. Mr. Grega mentioned that the survey is also needed for ACE reporting.

* **Early Careers Committee**

Mr. Chad Wilhite provided some updates about the Committee’s activities.

* + The Capitals game was held on March 18 and was a great success.
    - There were members from GAO, FDIC, and EY represented.
    - Mr. MacDonald said that the tickets were a great value, with unlimited drinks and food voucher.
    - It would be great to try this event again, but it would depend on availability as the tickets have to be made through a different path at Capital Arena.
    - Those in attendance will send pictures to Ms. Sonia Kessler for including in the newsletter.
  + The Committee will send a ‘save the date’ email in the next few months detailing some low-cost activities; suggestions to date include
    - Biking event in April. Mr. Silas York will talk planning with Mr. Rhett Raham.
    - Mini putt putt in May
    - Group hike in June
* **Education Committee**

Mr. Kevin Love, Committee Chair, provided some updates about the Committee’s activities, including the Spring Workshop which is detailed in the Program section below.

* **CGFM Committee**

Mr. Kevin Shers, Committee Chair, provided an update on committee activities.

* + Mr. Shers attended the CGFM town hall and received some good information, including the benefits for CGFM month.
  + Another study group will be scheduled soon.
  + Ms. Kessler asked whether the proclamation had been received from CGFM month. Mr. Grega stated that it should be posted to the website as well.
* **Corporate Sponsors**

Mr. MacDonald opened the corporate sponsorship discussion with a statement that last month there was a good discussion about proposed updates to the benefits and pricing. Since it was late in the program year to make a change, Mr. MacDonald recommended that the chapter will maintain focus on active events, such as the spring workshop, to be successful, and vote on the pricing, program year, and cycle of sponsorship payments for the upcoming program year.

* + The Sponsorship Committee Chair will present a budget for the committee, including pricing, benefits, etc. in addition, the budget will have some review by the Treasurer for reasonableness and impact on decision-making and transaction recording from any proposed changes.
  + Mr. Horton asked who the chair was now; Mr. MacDonald stated that it currently is vacant and a new chair is needed for the next program year.
  + Mr. MacDonald will reach out to Ms. Anu Atreya to gauge interest; Mr. Horton also stated that he is available to step in for short term.
  + Mr. MacDonald stated that he new chair will also need to be cognizant of changes coming from the changing federal landscape and resulting economic impacts.
* **Community Services**

Ms. Diana Huang, Committee Chair, was absent; Mr. MacDonald provided an update on committee activities.

* + Junior Achievement (JA) will be held next month. The first event went really well. JA teaches middle school kids how to budget, plan for family events, and additional aspects of financial literacy. Those that attended the first session had really good feedback from JA and JA provided great feedback on our participation as well.
  + There is a physical labor activity coming up in Annandale within Fairfax County. Information will be provided soon.
* **Accountability and ACE Reporting**

Mr. Grega, Committee Chair, noted that there were no significant updates to report and asked about a few topics.

* + The Citizen Centric Report (CCR) report is waiting to be reviewed and posted to the website once approved and submitted to AGA.
  + He asked about the updates to the Bylaws; Ms. Kessler mentioned she was waiting on information from Mr. Horton.
  + Mr. MacDonald mentioned that the chapter should recruit for new members as we are about 20 members away from making the TIER 3 level bonus.
* **Newsletter**

Ms. Kessler provided an update on the newsletter. Most items have been received, but the first one needed is the President’s message as it starts the layout. Mr. MacDonald has a contact that could produce the newsletter for us; he will take the lead to see what could be provided as a template.

* **Website & Social Media**

Mr. Zak Kennedy, Webmaster, provided an update on Website & Social Media.

* + Mr. MacDonald asked if the March 20th meeting was on the website; if so, need to remove and update with the new speaker information for the rescheduled date.
  + Ms. Kessler recommended updating the language from “speaker cancellation” to “speaker conflict”
  + Mr. MacDonald mentioned that the chapter should plan speakers and have back-up plans for next program year to fill unexpected conflicts so that program can still move forward.
* **Bylaws**

No updates were discussed. Ms. Kessler stated that information is expected from Mr. Horton. Both Mr. MacDonald and Ms. Kessler will follow-up with him.

* **Historian**

Ms. Neda Haghighat mentioned that clean-up of the chapter history is progressing. Missing portions are being added. She asked for original pictures from the newsletter as taking copies from the published issues are poor quality. Ms. Kessler stated that Mr. Nishit Kuroni has access to the drive with the original pictures and can provide copies to her.

1. **Program / Special Events**

Mr. Joseph Hungate and Mr. MacDonald provided a brief update on the monthly chapter meetings.

* March Chapter Meeting
  + Mr. MacDonald stated that the March speaker had to cancel due to some professional conflicts. Refunds were issued to those that had already registered.
  + He contacted Frank Conroy, an inspector with the United States Marshals Service, who agreed to present the following week at a virtual conference.
  + Mr. Love stated that he can set up the conference.i/o in that short time frame; Mr. MacDonald will update the slide deck.
* April Chapter Meeting
  + Mr. Hungate stated that Ms. Teresa Hunter formally withdrew her name from April chapter meeting.
  + Mr. Hungate is working to fill the vacancy with the former Assistant CFO at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Sairah Ijaz.
* May and Future Meeting
  + Mr. Hungate is working to fill the vacancy for the May meeting and will provide the speaker and topic upon confirmation.
  + Regarding costs for chapter meetings, Mr. MacDonald recommended keeping costs simple at $10 and $20 for members and nonmembers. Mr. Horton asked about hard costs with conference.i/o; Mr. MacDonald will confirm with Mr. love. Mr. Horton mentioned that if the cost is low, that government employees attend for free. Mr. Love mentioned that the chapter pays by the number of events that it has and use the service. Mr. MacDonald mentioned that the low cost for federal employees would be good to increase support to the members. Ms. Kessler agreed.
  + As a comparison, Mr. Grega mentioned that he attend the Richmond chapter event that was $55 for three CPEs. Ms. Ewing asked how much is one CPE; Mr. MacDonald stated that one CPE equals just under one hour.
* Spring Workshop
  + Mr. MacDonald stated that KPMG no longer has the conflict for the room and it is now reserved for the workshop. The chapter really needs to promote this and encourage participating and recruiting for it now.
  + Mr. Satriadhi asked if there was communication to the members about the workshop. Mr. MacDonald said that he saw it on LinkedIn but not sure if it was emailed. Mr. Kennedy responded that it was emailed and combined with communications sent with the Montgomery / Prince George’s (M/PG) chapter. Mr. MacDonald said that it would be good to send another email.
  + Mr. Love stated that the early bird pricing was extended to the 15th.

1. **Open Forum**
   1. **Other topics and concerns for discussion**

* None brought to the floor.

1. **Adjourn**

There being no other business to discuss, Mr. MacDonald adjourned the meeting at 4:52pm.

**Appendix A: Board and Other Members in Attendance**

**Board Members Present: 4**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Board Member Name** | **Position** | **In Attendance** |
| Jacob MacDonald | President | YES |
| Ifran Satriadhi | President Elect | YES |
| Chris Horton | Immediate Past President | YES |
| Sonia Kessler | Secretary | YES |
| Kiera Murphy | Treasurer | NO |
| Chris Horton | NCC Representative | N/A |

**Chapter Committee Chairs Present: 7**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Member Name** | **Committee** | **In Attendance** |
| Brian Grega | Accountability / Outreach | YES |
| Raymond Urias-Rivera | Awards | NO |
| Kevin Shers | CGFM | YES |
| Diana Huang | Community Services | NO |
| Chris Horton | Corporate Sponsorship | N/A |
| Chad Willhite | Early Careers (Co-Chair) | YES |
| Rhett Raham | Early Careers (Co-Chair) | NO |
| Vacant | Leadership Development | N/A |
| Kevin Love | Education | YES |
| Xiaolei Wang | Membership | YES |
| Sonia Kessler | Newsletter | N/A |
| Joseph Hungate | Programs | YES |
| Cherry Ung | Special Events | NO |
| Zak Kennedy | Webmaster | YES |

**Other Members Present: 7**

| **Member Name** | **Committee / Position** | **In Attendance** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Katrina Samiley | Special Events | NO |
| Richard Frank | Membership | YES |
| Reza Mahbod | Board Advisor | YES |
| Silas York | Education, Special Events | YES |
| Nishit Kuroni | Assistant Newsletter Editor | YES |
| Frank McCourt | Assistant Treasurer | NO |
| Jaslin Madrigal Castro | Education, Special Events | NO |
| Christopher Choi | Early Careers | NO |
| Anu Atreya | Corporate Sponsorship | NO |
| Neda Haghighat | Historian | YES |
| Danny Lee | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Elliott Munizza | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Dylan Gilbert | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Colin Elgarten | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Veronica Nickerson | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Lindsay Berra | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Ryan P Collins | Member Volunteer | NO |
| Donna Canady | Member Volunteer | YES |
| Melissa Ewing | Member Volunteer | YES |