



**ESAA Board of Directors
Videoconference
July 9, 2024**

In attendance: Kristen Apodaca, Colleen Bell, Julie Brimble, Leslie Crawford, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, John Fabelo, Rachel Fraser, Tannley Goldberg, Paula Helming, Judi Hunter, Susie Kerwin-Bush, Joanne Mistler, Anna Quigley, Coleen Raber, Cindy Rice, BJ Parsons.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM ET.

Consideration of Election Objection

- * Debbie Davis presented a letter of objection to ESAA's election process. (See Below)
- * Cindy Rice clarified several items of misinformation contained with the objection. (See Below)
- * Janet Gray was asked about the wording in the By-laws and offered clarification of the word "sent" to allow ESAA to conduct communication electronically. New Jersey law also supports electronic communication as long as members are informed, which is included on the membership form.
- * Coleen mentioned that ESAA has been sending ballots out electronically for the past 10 years, and this is the first time there has been a complaint.
- * It was pointed out that ESAA used the same election process last year with Ms. Davis having voted with no objection to the process at that time.
- * Tannley's opinion is that a separate permission for electronic balloting needed to be sent to the membership.
- * It was suggested to hire a parliamentarian at a maximum cost of \$500.
- * Each Board member was given an opportunity to speak.
- * **A Fabelo/Quigley motion was made to hire a parliamentarian at the maximum cost of \$500 to get an opinion of the interpretation of ESAA's By-Laws, and the current Board should remain in office until we get an opinion from the parliamentarian. Motion was defeated 8 – 5 -1. No: Kristen Apodaca, Colleen Bell, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, Rachel Fraser, Paula Helming, Judi Hunter, Joanne Mistler, Coleen Raber. Yes: Julie Brimble, Leslie Crawford, John Fabelo, Tannley Goldberg, Anna Quigley. Abstention: Cindy Rice.**
- * **A Fabelo/Cunningham-Roy motion was made to disregard Deb Davis's objection. The motion passed 10 – 4. Yes: Kristen Apodaca, Colleen Bell, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, Rachel Fraser, Paula Helming, Judi Hunter, Joanne Mistler, Anna Quigley, Coleen Raber, Cindy Rice. No: Julie Brimble, Leslie Crawford, John Fabelo, Tannley Goldberg.**
- * The Secretary will write a letter of response to Ms Davis with the Board's decisions.

ESAA New Board Members

- * A Helming Cunningham-Roy motion was made to accept the following Board members to be seated July 10, 2024: Julie Quirk – President, Lynda Chase – Vice President At Large, Roxanne Seale – Treasurer, Joanne Mistler – Mid Atlantic Vice President, Rachel Barnes – New England Vice President, Julie Brimble – North Pacific Vice President, Anna Quigley – South Pacific Vice President. The motion passed 10 – 4. Yes: Kristen Apodaca, Colleen Bell, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, Rachel Fraser, Paula Helming, Judi Hunter, Joanne Mistler, Anna Quigley, Coleen Raber, Cindy Rice. No: Julie Brimble, Leslie Crawford, John Fabelo, Tannley Goldberg.

Juniors issue

- * A request was presented for ESAA to mandate every regional club must offer Juniors.
- * The Board strongly recommends the regional vice presidents to encourage regional clubs to offer juniors and help them find judges in their area that will be cost effective. However, the Board feels we cannot mandate this.
- * It was recommended that a committee be formed to help regional clubs interested to launch a Juniors program and find judges.

Treasury updated balances as of 7/2/2024

○ General Account	\$14,501.27
○ MoneyMarket	\$76,955.25
○ F&M	\$14,962.14
○ Memorial	\$4,097.04
○ <u>Memorial</u>	<u>\$5,000.58</u>
○ Total	\$115,516.25
○ **NOTE: Balance reflects income from the National but does NOT reflect expenses for the National.	
○ Trophy Donations through 7/8/24 = \$1325.	

A Mistler/Hunter motion was made to adjourn passed at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Coleen M. Raber

**Coleen M. Raber
ESAA Secretary**

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Susan

July 8, 2024

I would like to file a complaint/protest regarding the election done for the ESAA this year. I checked your constitution/bylaws which states:

SECTION 4.

Annual Election. Ballots for the election of officers shall be sent by the Secretary on or before June 10th to members in good standing who may vote for the offices of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents At-

Large, and Vice-President for their respective region. Ballots are to be returned by July 10th to any individual(s) who are not, or whose households or immediate family are not candidates, selected by the Board, the results validated and tabulated and reported to the Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly notify all candidates of the election results. The remainder of the Association members shall be informed of the newly elected officers within thirty (30) days.

According to the bylaws the secretary is to send out ballots, which is by mail according to your bylaws. The bylaws do not say electronically. In the state of New Jersey they do allow online balloting as long as your bylaws state that it can be done electronically. Yours do not.

I had to request multiple times to even get a ballot and did not know the election was being done till someone asked if I voted. I was told to look in the junk mail which members should not have to search and find emails of this importance. You are eliminating members who do not use computers and do not see the emails regarding election.

Mailed information should be sent to all members to make sure they see that an election is happening. I have no problem with electronic elections as long as the constitution is followed and allowed in the state of incorporation.

I feel all members did not have the same chance to vote and especially the ones that don't use computers. I am requesting a new balloting by mail for all members so they have an equal chance to vote.

The voting may come out the same but at least it will be fair and according to the bylaws.

Debbie Davis

Dear Board,

July 9, 2024

I have just read this complaint from Deb Davis. I would like everyone to know that I find the accusation misrepresented as it pertains to her statements about requesting multiple ballots.

The election began on June 10, 2024 @ 11:18am. Deb Davis received an email at that exact time. I received no communication from Deb, either verbally or by email that she was having difficulty voting. As a matter of fact, she was one of the first to vote, casting her ballot on June 17, 2024 at 10:07am. (See Below For Election Buddy Verification)

Because Deb voted prior to the first reminder, she received no further communication from Election Buddy, for the simple reason that she didn't need any further reminders.

I kept records of all emails for anyone who had difficulty finding the email. I have screen shots of everyone I re-sent the ballot to aside from the general Monday reminders. Everything I have is time stamped and auditable.

I have searched my entire email account and have only one email ever from Deb Davis which was regarding the Top 20 raffle.

This 2024 election we had the greatest number of members voting ever:

455 ballots (58%)

The 2023 there were 335 ballots (45%)

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Rice