

**Limousine Association of New Jersey
Board of Directors Meeting
NJHA Conference and Event Center, Princeton
Wednesday January 30, 2019 * 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM.

Attendees were: President **Jason Sharenow**, First Vice President and Treasurer **Jon Epstein**, Secretary **Karen Gajda**, PAC Chair **Pete Corelli**; Directors **Anthony Azara**, **Sam Emam**, **Scott Greenwald**, **Joe Gulino**, **John Maziarz**, **Brian O'Neill**, **Michael Renehan**, **Tim Rose**, **Barry Trabb** and **Chris Weiss**; executive director **Patricia Nelson**.

Absent (excused) were Second Vice President **Jeff Brodsly** and Directors **Howard Gogel**, **David Seelinger** and **Christian Stochholm**.

Absent (unexcused) was Director **Eddie Somers**.

Also present were operator members **Shady Azer** (Concorde Worldwide, Freehold) and **Jonathan Wilner** (A. Harrington Limousine Service, Edison), vendor member **John Arone** (HUB International, Summit), Philadelphia Regional Limousine Association president **Johnny Donohoe** and **Wendy Glavin** (Wendy Glavin Agency, New York, N.Y.).

12/19/18 Board Call Minutes

A motion to approve the 12/19/18 board conference call minutes as presented was made by O'Neill, seconded by Corelli and unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Epstein advised the LANJ bank balance was \$155,481 with no outstanding payables.

Corelli said the PAC bank balance was \$1,023.

President's Report

- **January 30 General Meeting**
Sharenow referenced the agenda for the afternoon general meeting and explained the topical roundtable discussions planned for the meeting activity.
- **Board Conference Call and Meeting Schedule**
Sharenow reviewed the dates for the February – June 2019 LANJ board conference calls and meetings.

Executive Director's Report

- **Membership Status**

As of 1/28/19, LANJ has 155 members including:

- 38 paid through 12/31/19 or after
- 39 paid post-1/1/19 but pre-12/31/19
- 15 paid through 12/31/18 (still to be renewed for 2019)
- 1 paid post-1/1/18 but pre-12/31/18
- 62 paying monthly

The 155 total includes 103 operator, 17 affiliate and 35 supplier members.

- **Renewals for Annual Remittance Members**

Forty-seven companies currently pay their annual dues on the calendar year. Of these, 36 or 76.6% have renewed their 2018 memberships for 2019 to date.

Fourth renewal notices soon will be sent to those companies that have yet to remit their 2019 dues payments.

2019 Board Nominations Ratification; 2019 Officers Election

Sharenow referenced the 2018 LANJ Board of Directors roster and said directors **Jon Epstein** and **Michael Renehan** were tendering their resignations (in addition to the resignations already received and announced from **Steve Rhoads** and **Bob Schiavo**). In addition, he indicated that **Eddie Somers** no longer would have a board seat.

He then advised that two operator members would be joining the board, namely **Shady Azer** and **Jonathan Wilner**, as nominated respectively by Renehan and Epstein. In addition, Johnny Donohoe, as president of the Philadelphia Regional Limousine Association, would take an honorary board seat.

Sharenow called for a motion to ratify the slate as presented (copy attached) so the same could be presented for election at the afternoon general meeting.

A motion to ratify the slate of candidates for the 2019 LANJ Board of Directors as presented was made by Corelli, seconded by Maziarz and unanimously approved.

Sharenow then advised that the board would proceed with the 2019 officer election under the assumption that all on the ratified slate of candidates would, in fact, be elected by the membership.

- Accordingly, the officers elected for 2019 were: president **Jason Sharenow** (nominated by Epstein and unanimously approved); first vice president **Tim Rose** (nominated by Sharenow and unanimously approved); second vice president **Jeff Brodsly** (nominated by Epstein and unanimously approved); secretary **Karen Gajda** (nominated by Rose and unanimously approved); and treasurer **Barry Trabb** (nominated by Epstein and unanimously approved).

Membership Committee Report

- **Options Plus Proposal**
Epstein said Debra Tucker of Options Plus would review the dental, vision and legal services discount program being considered as a LANJ member benefit offering for the board's edification at the March 13 meeting.
- **Program Plan for March Luncheon Meeting**
Weiss confirmed that Dawson Rutter, industry leader and founder and CEO of Commonwealth Worldwide Executive Transportation, would be the keynote speaker at LANJ's March 13 general meeting which will be held at Brogan Cadillac in Totowa.
- **May Dinner/Auction Meeting**
Trabb advised that this year's dinner/auction meeting would be held on May 22 at The Wilshire Grand Hotel in West Orange.

Golf Outing Committee Report

Gulino announced the 3rd Annual LANJ Golf Outing would be held on Monday September 16 at the Cherry Valley Country Club in Skillman. He indicated it is most likely that the event will have a later start time from the previous two years. He also described a number of enhancements and contests that the club could provide and organize for the outing guests. Sharenow asked Gulino to use the Golf Outing Committee to review these considerations and make their recommendations for the board's approval.

Public Relations Committee Report

In committee chair Gogel's stead, consultant Wendy Glavin described the progress being made for LANJ's public relations program "Be Safe Rides." She requested board members' help in sharing the information and communications being generated for the program on their own social media accounts. She emphasized that the goal of the public relations effort is to reach decision-makers to make them aware of the differences between chauffeured transportation and transportation network companies such as Uber and Lyft.

Legislative Committee Report

- **Impact of Potential New York State Limousine Ban**

Sharenow said, prompted by the recent limousine accident that killed 20 passengers, Governor Andrew Cuomo wants to ban from the road all 100" + stretch limousines in the State of New York. Sharenow indicated, if such a proposal becomes law, New Jersey operators may feel the impact, e.g. should New York operators be prompted to "set up shop" in New Jersey.

- **Minimum Wage Bill**

Sharenow advised that the minimum wage bill for the State of New Jersey is expected to be signed imminently by Governor Phil Murphy. The bill provides that the current \$8.85/hour minimum wage will be made to rise to \$15.00/hour by 2024. He noted that this increase will have a profound effect on chauffeured transportation companies' pay for office staff and other non-chauffeur workers. Despite this major change, however, LANJ has been instrumental in preserving the tip credit for and overtime exemption from chauffeurs' remuneration.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Submitted by:

Karen Gajda
Secretary

Patricia Nelson
Executive Director