

**Limousine Association of New Jersey
Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
Wednesday January 20, 2021 * 10 AM – 11 AM
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.

Attendees were: President **Jason Sharenow**, Treasurer **Barry Trabb** and PAC Chair **Pete Corelli**; Directors **Anthony Azara**, **Shady Azer**, **Johnny Donohue**, **Jay Erlich**, **Bill Faeth**, **Howard Gogel**, **Joe Gulino**, **Mike Marroccoli**, **Christian Stochholm** and **Chris Weiss**; executive director **Patricia Nelson**.

Also in attendance were National Limousine Association president **Robert Alexander**, owner of RMA Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation, and **Michael Fogarty**, also of RMA Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation.

Absent (excused) was Secretary **Karen Gajda** and Director **John Maziarz**.

Absent (unexcused) were First Vice President **Tim Rose**, Second Vice President **Jeff Brodsky**, Directors **Brian O'Neill** and **David Seelinger**.

12/16/20 Board Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the 12/16/20 board meeting minutes as presented was made by Corelli, seconded by Gulino and unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Trabb advised the bank balance was \$167,785.

Corelli said the PAC bank balance was \$3,190.

Executive Director's Report

- **Membership Status**

As of 1/19/21, the LANJ membership roll totaled 137, including:

- 31 paid through 12/31/20
- 49 paid through 12/31/19 but pre-12/31/20
- 2 paid post-1/1/19 but pre-12/31/19
- 55 paying monthly

The 137 total includes 83 operator, 21 affiliate and 33 supplier members.

This is the same as last reported on the 12/16/20 board conference call.

- **Dues Suspension**

In late March 2020, because of the COVID-19 crisis, the Limousine Association of New Jersey announced membership dues collection would be suspended for 90 days beginning April 1. Additionally, the pronouncement indicated the suspension would be evaluated near the end of that time to determine if it should be extended for a longer period.

That evaluation was made and the suspension of LANJ dues collection then was extended through September 30. A similar decision later was made to extend the dues suspension until December 31 and, then again, to extend it until March 31.

Important to note: This suspension means that no renewal activity has been implemented since mid-March 2020 (impacting the second and third groups of the membership roll [see above]). It also means that no credit card charges for monthly payments have been made (impacting the fourth group of the membership roll). And, now, it means that annual renewals – normally sought beginning November 1 for the coming year – are not being pursued on schedule or at all at this point.

It remains to be seen what companies on the roll continue to be viable and, of those that are, which will choose to retain membership once dues payments are once again required.

- **2021 LANJ Kick-Off Meeting**

Promotion to invite all LANJ members and prospective operator members to the 2021 LANJ Kick-Off Meeting, which will be held by Zoom on February 3, was initiated in the January 12 issue of **LANJ E-News** and will continue with frequent communications through February 2.

President's Report

- **Moment of Silence**

Sharenow called for a moment of silence to remember LANJ affiliate member Denise Cali, owner with her husband John of J & J Luxury Transportation in Allentown, Pennsylvania, who passed away unexpectedly on January 15.

- **2021 LANJ Kick-Off Meeting**

Sharenow indicated the 2021 LANJ Kick-Off Meeting, to be held by Zoom on February 3, will focus on three critical topics: 1) Port Authority's Privilege Permit - For Hire Vehicle (FHV) services fees at EWR, JFK and LGA, 2) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) forgiveness and second draw funding and 3) CERTS Act emergency relief funding to motor coach operators. In addition, the meeting will include the election of the 2021 LANJ board of directors by the operator and vendor members present at the Zoom gathering.

- **Dues Suspension Continuation**

Sharenow said the topic of reinstating dues collection from LANJ members will be addressed on the February 17 board conference call.

- **Legislative Matters**

Sharenow focused on the recently released document “Privilege Permit – For-Hire Vehicle (FHV) Services” by The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and its primary stipulations for chauffeured transportation companies and other ground transportation entities accessing John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), LaGuardia Airport (LGA) and Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR), specifically:

- **Initial fee:** \$5,000 - \$200,000 based on average number of monthly pick-ups in the last six months of operations (it now remains to be seen if this is a one-time, annual or periodic fee)
- **Per Trip Access Fee** - \$2.50 per trip for each pick-up and drop-off;
- **Required Security Deposit or Letter of Credit** – Amount equal to estimated access fees for three months of projected operations; and
- **\$5 million commercial automobile liability insurance**

The “Privilege Permit” is expected to become effective on April 1, 2021.

Sharenow said that the \$5 million commercial automobile liability insurance would be oppressive to the majority of New Jersey operators. Marroccoli commented that, in fact, it would be impossible for many...that they simply would not be able to secure such insurance and/or would not be able to afford its cost. Fogarty recommended focusing on this issue in negotiations with the Port Authority with the hope that the requirement can be eliminated.

A motion to spend up to \$5,000 (with payment at \$1,000/month for five months) to engage the New York City-based law firm Windels Marx to represent LANJ in this matter was made by Sharenow, seconded by Corelli and unanimously approved.

- **2021 LANJ Board of Directors**

Sharenow referenced the candidate slate of the 2021 LANJ Board of Directors (copy attached) and indicated that Michael Fogarty of RMA Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation had been added at Sharenow’s nomination to the 2020 incumbent list.

Sharenow then called for a motion to ratify the slate as presented so the same could be offered for election at the February 3 general meeting.

A motion to ratify the slate of candidates for the 2021 LANJ Board of Directors as presented was made by Corelli, seconded by Marroccoli and unanimously approved.

Sharenow then advised that the board would proceed with the 2020 officer election under the assumption that all on the ratified slate of board candidates would, in fact, be elected by the membership.

Accordingly, the officers elected for 2021 were president **Jason Sharenow** (nominated by Corelli seconded by Marroccoli and unanimously approved); first vice president **Tim Rose** (nominated by Azer, seconded by Marroccoli and unanimously approved); second vice president **Howard Gogel** (nominated by Sharenow, seconded by Corelli and unanimously approved); secretary **Karen Gajda** (nominated by Sharenow, seconded by Faeth and unanimously approved); and treasurer **Barry Trabb** (nominated by Corelli, seconded by Azer and unanimously approved).

New Business

A motion to donate \$500 in the name of Denise Cali to her family's choice of charities, the Lehigh County Humane Society, was made by Sharenow, seconded by Faeth and unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trabb, seconded by Stochholm and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 AM.

Submitted by:

Jason Sharenow
President

Patricia Nelson
Executive Director