

**NMTIA
ANNUAL MEETING
January 16, 2021**

Meeting Title:	Annual Meeting	President	Lisa O’Grady
Date/Time:	1/16/2021	Minutes	Nicole Pennebaker
Location:	Online through Zoom		
Distribution List:	To be posted on NMTIA website.		
Attendees:	(See attached chat file)		
Call to Order			
Called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Lisa O’Grady			
1. Introduction of Meeting & Attendees:			
(See attached sign-up sheet)			
2. Review & Approve Agenda:			
Agenda reviewed. Removed duplicate item D "Board Elections" under Old Business and added item D "Other Items" under Announcements. Motion to approve as amended by Uwe Schroeter. Ruth Warner seconded. Motion passed.			
3. Review & Approve Minutes from 11/14/20 Meeting:			
Minutes from the 11/14/20 meeting were reviewed. Next meeting date was updated to 1/16/21. Motion to approve as amended by Dinorah Gutierrez. Amando Manuel Gonzalez seconded. Motion passed.			
4. Treasurer’s Report:			
Uwe Schroeter gave the Treasurer’s Report. The reporting period goes back to the last meeting on November 14th. There was one PayPal transfer of \$2000 in membership dues. We received \$440 in checks for dues. Expenses included the \$500 Juan José Peña Scholarship, CEU training presentation fee, and gift certificates for the holiday potluck. The current balance is \$16,091.28. Melissa Jameson moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Lou Ollivier seconded. Motion accepted.			
5. Old Business:			
<p>A. Board Elections – Board elections were done online prior to the meeting because of the Coronavirus pandemic and the guidelines limiting the size of gatherings. Ruth and Lisa reviewed the votes that were submitted to make sure everyone who voted was a member. All candidates were elected unanimously. Claudia Mansilla was elected as Vice President, Yris Chavez was elected as Corresponding Secretary, Lisa Pinceloup was elected as a Member-at-Large, and Tina Schoemaker was elected as a Member-at-Large. Melissa Jameson mentioned that the bylaws state that voting will take place at the annual meeting and wondered if they should be amended. Lisa said she believed the board voted on holding the elections online at the last board meeting. There was more voter participation this time using electronic voting, so we may want to considering using this method in the future. Lisa said we may want to amend the bylaws to include online meetings and electronic voting, when necessary. Tina Schoemaker asked if the election results could be sent out by email to the membership to introduce the new board members. Lisa confirmed that the board will send an email to let everyone know who the new board members are.</p> <p>B. Recap Holiday Potluck – The holiday potluck was held online due to pandemic. Yris and Mansilla organized games. Margarita Montalvo, Naomi Todd-Reyes, Lisa Pinceloup, and Peter Katel all won</p>			

gift certificates to local restaurants which were sent out through email. The board will keep members posted about the summer potluck and whether or not it will be in person.

- C. **Member Survey** – Five completed surveys have been submitted so far. Ruth recommended we send the survey out again today with the election results. Once we have more responses the board will start looking at the data and what support and training members are requesting.

6. New Business/Upcoming Events:

- A. **Directory** - The NMTIA print directory will be updated over the next few weeks, so if you haven't renewed your membership please do so in order to be included. The organization has decided to continue publishing a print directory because not everyone is included in the online directory and it's economical to produce. The print directory is the most complete list of our members. Tina and Ruth will be helping with the directory. If there are other folks interested in helping, please let them know by next Friday. Uwe and Amando volunteered to help during the meeting. The goal is to have it out by the end of February. Members will receive an email with their listing from last year's directory so it can be reviewed and updated, if needed. New members will send be sent an email asking what information should be included. A preliminary draft is also sent to members for a final review before it goes to print.
- B. **ATA Certification Exam 2021** – The ATA exam is not currently being offered because of the pandemic, but they will start offering it again when it's safe to gather in person. There should be a lot of demand once it opens up. Uwe is willing to proctor an exam sitting once the ATA gives the go-ahead. We should be able to hold it at APS again. Melissa asked if the test could be held with pandemic precautions in place. Uwe said NMTIA could offer a practice test on Zoom.

7. Announcements/Discussion Items:

- A. **Upcoming Trainings** - Lisa is working on organizing a training on ethics and remote interpretation with Josh Elliot, the Kentucky State Court interpreter supervisor. It would be helpful for those who work in the courts so they can earn ethics credits.
- B. **2022 Conference Committee** –Lisa thinks it's too risky right now to start planning the type of conference we did last time because of the uncertainty about when gatherings will be safe again. She would like to get a committee together to start thinking about what we can offer. In the interest of being cautious, as an alternative to a conference, we could offer virtual trainings once a month with local or non-local presenters. Ruth asked if that meant we're canceling the February 2022 conference or if it should be formally postponed. Melissa suggested moving the conference to fall 2022. There was interest in forming a workshop/training committee to shift responsibility off of the board. Manola felt a conference (as opposed to individual trainings) would be less costly and easier for people to attend. If we scheduled an in-person conference we could arrange it so we'd get our money back if we cancel due to the pandemic. Lisa said those issues could be addressed within the committee and noted that the NM Bar Association hasn't asked for a deposit for the use of their building in the past. Mansilla mentioned that having a virtual conference would make it possible for out-of-state people to attend and that it would be nice to offer a virtual option, even if we plan to hold the conference in person. Uwe mentioned that the ATA is planning a hybrid conference for next fall. They want to have it in Minneapolis, but are asking speakers to have a virtual option as well, just in case. Uwe felt that we should offer online trainings every other month regardless of what we do with the conference. NMTIA could subsidize, or possibly even cover the expense for our members. There was general agreement that it might be too early to cancel the in-person conference. Lisa explained that we'd need to have our conference program in place by June in order to leave enough time to apply for CEU approval and liked the idea of pushing the conference back until fall 2022. Naomi brought up the fact that the AOC used to hold conferences and took some responsibility for

helping interpreters earn CEUs. For the last several years, this responsibility has fallen on NMTIA. She wondered if some of this could be shifted back to the AOC, or whether they would be willing to give an extension due to the pandemic. Lisa said that that one benefit of NMTIA offering the conference is that we have control of the content. The current period for submitting CEUs ends on June 30th of this year, so interpreters would have until June 2023 to fulfill their CEU requirements and an extension may not be necessary. Mansilla is certified through RID (the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf) and they have already given interpreters an extension.

C. Other Items -

- Melissa - the board sent a letter yesterday to the New Mexico State Legislature because they're planning to provide interpreting during the legislative session since it will be held virtually. We don't know if they've contracted with people or if they're just planning on having ASL interpreters. The letter introduced NMTIA to them and let them know we have over 150 members who are interpreters and translators, and that the organization can provide guidance and expertise if they need. It made the board realize that we should make ourselves better known to our state government in the future.
- Melissa - PCIP (Professional Court Interpreters Project of New Mexico) took a pause over the summer and fall due to the pandemic. They're starting up again, so if anyone's interested in participating please let Melissa know.
- Manola - CNM is offering a certificate program in interpreting. It's a good program for people who are interested in becoming an interpreter, or want to pursue becoming a certified interpreter later. The next cycle begins in fall 2021. It's Spanish-English only at the moment.
- Lisa recognized Ruth for her contributions to the organization as well as Lou, Maria, and Peter for their service as board members.
- Manola wondered if NMTIA should make a statement about Martin Luther King Day and the national political situation, as other organizations have done. Mansilla said that since we serve a community that includes a large number of minorities, a statement of support from NMTIA would be nice. Melinda asked who we would be sending the letter to and what we would be expressing. Peter echoed Melinda's questions and added that the holiday is on Monday and these are complicated issues. There was general agreement that the issue was too complicated to send something out by Monday.

Adjournment: Ruth Warner motioned to adjourn. Naomi Todd-Reyes seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Next Meeting: General Membership Meeting, March 2021