

NJCOE Executive Council Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2025 @ 10:00 am

Members in Attendance:

Dolores Szymanski, Pat Hollenstein, Ken Figgs, Ken King, Laurie Newell, Cheryl Simone, Michael Gorman, George Rafferty, Alease Griffith, Jay Dugan, Jay Doolan, Carole Butler, Amy Stella, Vince Przybylinski, Fidelia Sturdivant

1. Call to Order – Kenneth Figgs

President Kenneth Figgs called the meeting to order at 10:03 am, welcoming the executive council members and wishing everyone a Happy New Year!

2. Report of the Treasurer – Michael Gorman

Provided update on receipt of collection of dues and McGraw Hill Sponsorship. Paid Venue and Speaker, October 2024 meeting.

3. Report of the Secretary – Christine Vespe

Ken motioned to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2024 general meeting. *Motion was made to accept the minutes as presented-Dr. King - Moved, Carol Butler, Second. Approved unanimously.*

4. Report of the Historian – Alease Griffith

Alease informed the committee that the October 24th meeting pictures of new members were sent to Pat for the website - Pictures will be shared with members at the April meeting.

5. Report of the Awards Chair – Jay Dugan

Jay discussed there are plenty of available Pins for new members. However, Jay discussed some possible alternatives to the previous Portfolios used since they have substantially increased in price. One idea discussed was giving each new member a pen. Jay will report back on options at the next meeting.

6. Report of Membership Chair – Cheryl Simone

Cheryl announced that there are two potential new members. One candidate mentioned was already approved but will attend to be recognized. Pat reported on the status of collecting dues from members. Ken discussed awarding the Distinguished Educator Award at the April 2025 meeting.

7. **Report of Program Chairs** – Jay Doolan

Cheryl discussed scheduling Dr. Charles Simone, MD as a presenter for the April 2025 meeting. Presentation topics focused on Health and Wellness. Also, the idea of self-care, nutrition, management of stress, and benefits of exercise were all discussed as possible areas of focus. Leaving time for Q & A was requested.

8. **Report of Continuity** – Martin Smith

Dolores Szymanski asked for some suggestions for representation on the Executive Board Members from the North. Recommendations still needed for executive council for 2025-2026. Possible candidates were discussed. Recommendations are to be sent to Ken and Dolores.

9. **Report of Social Media/ Webmaster** – Pat Hollenstein/Vince Przybylinski

Vince reported all updates to the Website were made by Pat. Our LinkedIn social media feed has 106 followers. Vince will keep the LinkedIn feed updated for current and future events, including today's agenda.

10. **Report of Liaisons** - The board discussed dates of other organizations to be mindful of in 2025: NJSPA - October 15, 16 & 17; NJEA November 6-7; NJSBA Workshop October 20-23

11. **Old Business** – Ken Figgs

Tax exempt status and form still being considered.

12. **New Business/Good of the Order** -

Cheryl Simone is asking for recommendations for the Distinguished Educator Award. General session meeting dates for April 17, 2025 and October 10, 2025 were tentatively set.

Executive Council Meeting Adjourned at 11:37 am.

Minutes Submitted by: George Rafferty