

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL (ZOOM) EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION, Wednesday, August 5, 2020.

PCA President Kathy Merlock Jackson/ PCA Governing Board Chair David Moody called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM Eastern. Secretary Debbie Phillips did a roll call of members and verified that a quorum had been attained.

**Voting Members Present:** Peter Cullen Bryan, Brenda Boudreau, Amie Doughty, Beth Downey, Colin Helb, Helen Lewis, Novotny Lawrence, Kathy Merlock Jackson, Sue Matheson, Camille McCutcheon, David Moody, Debbie Phillips, David Silverman

**Voting Members Absent:** Ashley Donnelly

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Lynn Bartholome, Gary Burns, Carl Sederholm, Philip Simpson, Colleen Karn, Mary Beth Ray

**Non-Voting Members Absent:** Ann Larabee

**Opening Remarks:** PCA President Kathy Merlock Jackson and Chair David Moody welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending the emergency meeting. The purpose of the emergency meeting was to decide whether to change the original meeting dates of March 31 through April 3, 2021 of the national PCA meeting in Boston to a later date in June 2021 which could possibly allow for more time for COVID-19 issues to be resolved and a face-to-face conference in Boston to be possible.

**New Business:** Kathy Merlock Jackson and David Moody turned the meeting over to Executive Director Lynn Bartholome and Sheila Yarnell who serves as the hotel liaison for PCA and the Marriott Hotel for the Boston 2021 annual conference. Sheila Yarnell explained that the first week of June 2021 at the Boston Marriott was available and the Marriott could offer PCA the same contract agreed upon for March 31-April 3, 2021 dates to the new dates of June 2-5, 2021. Sheila explained that no cancellation fees would apply and all former hotel rates would be the same as the earlier contract.

The Board members discussed the pros and cons of changing the dates. One advantage was that a later date allowed for possibly less COVID-19 infections and restrictions. Another advantage mentioned was that the weather would probably be nicer in June than early April. One problem that was discussed was how the date change would affect the scheduled speakers Susan Faludi, and Kevin Willmott. Lynn Bartholome said she would check with Susan Faludi about the date change and Novotny Lawrence said he would check with Kevin Willmott about the date change. Board members also discussed alternate speakers in case the date change did not work for Susan

Faludi or Kevin Willmott. The Board also discussed postponing Faludi and Willmott to later conferences if the new dates would not work with their schedules. Other issues discussed by the Board were whether there were other major conferences that could conflict with the new dates and how might a later conference in June be impacted by University travel funds and travel grants.

Mary Beth Ray explained that the submission site for PCA would not open until the dates are changed (pending Board approval of the date change).

A motion was made by David Silverman to change the dates of the PCA Conference from March 31-April 3, 2021 to June 2-5, 2021. Helen Lewis seconded the motion.

**The motion passed: VOTE: 12 Yes; No 0**

Sheila Yarnell said she work with the Marriott to change the contract from March 31-April 3, 2021 to June 2-5, 2021.

**Closing Remarks:**

Kathy Merlock Jackson/PCA President and David Moody/Board Chair thanked all the Board members for their attendance and officially adjourned the meeting at 4:52 PM.