



New York State  
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**OFFICERS:**

Wayne Spence  
*President*

Kay Alison Wilkie  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Sharon V. DeSilva  
Randi DiAntonio  
*Vice Presidents*

**REGIONAL  
COORDINATORS:**

Michele Silsby  
**Region 1**

Andrew Puleo  
**Region 2**

*Vacant*  
**Region 3**

Roberta (Bobbi) Stafford  
**Region 4**

David Dubofsky  
**Region 5**

Victoria Stockton  
*Region 6 Advocate*  
**Region 6**

Virginia (Gini) Davey  
**Region 7**

Michael Blue  
**Region 8**

Diane Jaulus  
**Region 9**

Darlene Williams  
**Region 10**

Bernadette O'Connor  
**Region 11**

Nora Higgins  
**Region 12**

**TRUSTEES:**

Christopher Buman  
Jeanette Santos  
Maddie Shannon-Roberts

NYS Public Employees Federation

**Executive Board Minutes**

**August 27 and 28, 2020**

**Via Zoom and Conference Call**

President Spence called the meeting to order over conference call on August 27, 2020 at approximately 9:00 am. He invited Bruce Jagroop to recite The Pledge of Allegiance.

President Spence recited the Code of Conduct for the board, and read a list of names of members that had passed since the June Executive Board meeting, followed by a moment of silence.

Kim Partridge, Director of Special Events, outlined and explained the voting process.

**PROPOSED POLICY: GUEST ATTENDANCE AT EBOARD**

President Spence reviewed further processes for the board, and introduced the Proposed Policy for Guest Attendance at Eboard meetings to allow Council Leaders to attend with approval. President Spence entertained a motion to move the policy, and Mike Blue, Regional Coordinator, moved.

President Spence answered questions from the floor, and members spoke both for and against the motion. Debate ensued. Bobbi Stafford, Regional Coordinator, called the question. A vote was taken to close debate, and it passed.

President Spence answered further questions, and then moved to a vote to approve the Guest Attendance Policy, and it passed.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Spence entertained a motion to approve the agenda, and Nora Higgins, Regional Coordinator, moved. A vote was taken, and it passed.

## **AGENDA**

### **August 27 – 9AM – 11:30AM**

- 1) Call Meeting to Order
- 2) Pledge Allegiance to the Flag
- 3) PEF Code of Conduct
- 4) Proposed Policy: Guest Attendance at Eboard
- 5) Approval of the Agenda
- 6) Approval of the General Session Minutes
- 7) President's Report
  - a) Litigation Update
  - b) Draft Policy regarding PEF Member Meetings
  - c) PEF Retirees Agreement – Addendum
  - d) Approval: Triennial Election Committee members
  - e) Covid-19 Update
  - f) Contract Negotiations Update
  - g) Membership Engagement Report out

### **LUNCH BREAK AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### **August 27 – 1:30PM – 4PM**

- 8) Secretary-Treasurer's Report
  - a) Financial Statements 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 2020-21: 4/1/20-6/30/20
  - b) Update on Infrastructure projects: IT and HQ
  - c) Legal Costs Update
  - d) EOL Briefing

#### **August 28 – 9AM – 11:30AM**

- 9) Member Items
  - a) Kevin Jones – Constitutional Election Nomination Requirements
  - b) Kevin Jones – Trustees need to be Independent
- 10) Committee Reports
  - a) Convention Committee Report
    - i) Proposed Convention Rules
    - ii) Proposed Agenda
  - b) Ethics Committee
    - i) Proposed Revised Code of Ethics

### **LUNCH BREAK & COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### **August 28 – 1:30PM – 4PM**

- 10) Committee Reports
  - c) SW PAC Report out
    - i) 2020 Proposed State Legislative Agenda
    - ii) 2020 Proposed Federal Legislative Agenda
    - iii) 2020 Political Endorsements

- d) Delegate and Division Election Report out
- 11) Trustees Report
- 12) Regional Coordinators' Reports

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Spence entertained a motion to approve the June 2020 Executive Board minutes by unanimous consent, and it passed.

President Spence entertained a motion to approve the March 2020 Executive Board minutes by unanimous consent, and it passed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **LITIGATION UPDATE**

Barry Saltzman, Attorney for Pitta, LLP, represented PEF in the Kent et al. lawsuit. He addressed the board and summarized the resolution of that matter.

#### **DRAFT POLICY REGARDING PEF MEMBER MEETINGS**

President Spence invited any comments or questions on the policy given to board members by September 15 to Kim Partridge.

#### **PEF RETIREES AGREEMENT – ADDENDUM**

President Spence invited Bob Harms to address the board regarding the addendum. Bob Harms presented the change to the Retirees Constitution to the board. President Spence entertained a motion to approve the PEF Retiree Addendum, and it was moved. Debate ensued.

Joe Donahue called the question, a vote was taken, and it passed. President Spence and Renee Delgado, General Counsel, answered questions from the floor. Scott Marsland called the question, and a vote was taken on the Retirees Agreement Addendum, and it passed. Per the approval, the PEF Executive Board no longer needs to approve any changes in the Retiree Constitution.

#### **APPROVAL: TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

President Spence read the names of the Proposed Triennial Elections Committee. Zach Morton made a motion to approve the committee, and President Spence and Kristie Furman, Assistant Director of Divisions, answered questions from the floor. The Committee was approved by unanimous consent.

#### **Staff Recognition**

President Spence recognized retired/retiring PEF Staff, Jane Briggs, Priscilla Marco, Robin Cammans, Nancy Holford, and Lorraine Simpkins.

## **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE**

President Spence gave the board a short Contract Negotiations update.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

President Spence invited Geraldine Stella, Health and Safety Director, to give the board an update on Covid in New York State, including work from home, quarantine, and CDC guidelines.

## **Lunch and Committee Meetings**

The Board took a break at 11:32 am. The meeting resumed at 1:30 pm.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE CONT.**

Geraldine Stella and Katie Vorwald, Statewide Director of Field Services, continued addressing the board with Covid-19 updates, included safely returning to work, accruals, staffing issues, and telecommuting. President Spence touched on the tentative agreement for the Albany Housing Authority.

## **MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

President Spence acknowledged Vicky Stockton as Region 6 Advocate, and invited Randi DiAntonio, PEF Vice President, and Dan Carpenter, Director of Organizing, to give the membership engagement report. VP DiAntonio and Dan Carpenter reported on membership engagement updates, including challenges with Covid-19, virtual meetings, and elections.

## **SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

ST Wilkie reviewed the Financial Statements on the screen for the board, and answered several questions previously submitted by board members.

Mike Blue made a motion to approve the first quarter report. ST Wilkie answered questions from the floor, and asked the body for unanimous consent to approve. It passed.

### **UPDATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: IT AND HQ**

ST Wilkie gave several updates on the IT and HQ infrastructure projects, including renovations, data security, temporary offices at 40 British American, and interior and exterior updates at HQ.

### **LEGAL COSTS UPDATE**

ST Wilkie gave a cost summary on the expenses of current lawsuits per Rich Fletchers request.

### **EOL BRIEFING**

ST Wilkie gave a summary of the process of EOL, how it is requested, submitted and processed.

## **MEMBER ITEMS**

### **Kevin Jones – Constitutional Election Nomination Requirements**

Kevin Jones presented his member item to the board. President Spence stated that the proposed policy would not comport to PEF's Convention Rules, and ruled it out of order.

Kevin Jones challenged the ruling of the chair. Article 18 was displayed on the screen, and Renee Delgado explained that the language is clear per the Constitution.

A vote was taken, and the ruling of the chair was sustained.

### **Kevin Jones – Trustees Need to be Independent**

Kevin Jones withdrew his member item.

President Spence explained three options for potential petitioning with Covid-19 restrictions, and took questions from the floor. Discussion ensued.

### **Day 1 adjourned at 4:06 pm.**

President Spence called the meeting to order on August 28 at 9:01 am. He invited Bob Harms to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **PROPOSED CONVENTION RULES**

Jeanette Santos, Convention Committee Chair, provided the board with a brief update on the progress of the Convention preparations and presented the proposed Convention Rules.

Mike Blue made an amendment to change the Resolution deadline to October 9, instead of October 2, and at the end of 6A: "notification of the deadline is one month prior to the deadline and again two weeks prior to the deadline".

Debate ensued. John Thomsen called the question, and it passed. Renee Delgado and Jeanette Santos answered questions from the floor. A vote was taken on the amendment, and it passed.

Jim Desso made a motion to amend 10G, "The committees may amend either the resolutions or legislative agendas by majority vote (suspension of rules not required) and that amendment will be presented to the convention delegates in the amended form as though the committee had originated it. Notwithstanding the above, what will be posted for delegates will be the original resolution showing any amendments by the committee."

President Spence asked Joe Cocci, Director of MIS, to explain the technological limitations that may arise with this amendment. Debate ensued.

Bobbi Stafford called the question, a vote was taken, and it carried.

The board voted on the amendment, and it passed.

Discussion ensued and Colleen Williams, Regional Coordinator, called the question, a vote was taken, and it carried.

A vote was taken on the Proposed Convention Rules, as amended, and it carried.

### **PROPOSED AGENDA**

Jeanette Santos presented the proposed Convention agenda, and a motion was made to approve.

Joe Donahue made a motion to have department meetings and lunch from 11:30-1:30pm, and plenary from 1:30-3:30pm on Monday of Convention. There would be a break from 3:30-4pm, and department meetings from 4-6pm. Discussion ensued and Ken Ferro called the question. A vote was taken, and it passed.

Discussion ensued. A vote was taken on the amendment, and it carried.

The board took a break at 11:46am, and returned at 1:30pm.

Kevin Jones made a motion to amend the resolution committee meetings to begin: membership at 1pm, governance at 2pm, staff at 3pm, and elections at 4pm.

Debate ensued, and Ken Ferro called the question. A vote was taken, and it carried. A vote was taken on the amendment, and it failed.

Mike Blue made an amendment to move state and federal legislative agendas from 1-3pm to 1-2pm, and resolutions from 2-3:30pm and 3:30-5pm on Sunday. Debate ensued.

Scarlett Ahmed called the question on all matters before the house. A vote was taken, and debate closed. Discussion ensued. A vote was taken on the amendment, and it carried.

A vote was taken on the Convention agenda as amended by Donahue and Blue, and it carried. Kim Partridge reviewed the agenda as amended, and the Convention Committee report was concluded.

### **STATEWIDE PAC REPORT**

Randi DiAntonio, Vice President, made a motion to amend the agenda to move the SW PAC report to the next item, Mike Blue moved, and the body agreed with unanimous consent.

## **Agenda as Amended**

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## **SW PAC REPORT**

Randi DiAntonio thanked the legislative and political staff, the PAC chairs, and everyone on those committees. She asked Pat Lyons to review the packet of legislative updates and Covid specific issues. Pat Lyons updated the board on including Covid issues, the state budget, and legislation needed to protect members. He touched on staffing issues, telecommuting and appropriate PPE.

## **State Legislative Agenda**

VP DiAntonio introduced the State Legislative Agenda and entertained a motion to adopt with unanimous consent, and it passed.

## **Federal Legislative Agenda**

VP DiAntonio introduced the Federal Legislative Agenda and entertained a motion to adopt with unanimous consent, and it passed.

## **Political Endorsements**

VP DiAntonio introduced the endorsements in four categories: New York Senate, New York State Assembly, United States Congressional, and Presidential.

She entertained a motion to accept the statewide PAC recommendations for the New York State Senate. Mike Blue made a motion to pull Senate District 45. VP DiAntonio asked for unanimous consent minus SD 45, and it passed.

She entertained a motion to accept the statewide PAC recommendations for the New York State Assembly. Nora Higgins requested to pull Assembly District 1, and Steve Nawrocki requested to pull Assembly District 145. VP DiAntonio asked for unanimous consent minus AD 1 and 145, and it passed.

She entertained a motion to accept the statewide PAC recommendations for the United States Congressional districts. Nora Higgins requested to pull Congressional District 4. She entertained a motion to accept the recommendations minus CD 4. Debate ensued. Bob Harms called the question. A vote was taken, and debate closed.

A vote was taken on the Congressional recommendations minus CD 4, and it passed.

The board returned to the seats that were pulled from each category. For the New York State Assembly, Nora Higgins made a motion to endorse Fred Thiele for AD 1, and it was accepted by unanimous consent. It was also accepted by unanimous consent that AD 145 would have no endorsement.



For the Senate recommendations, Scott Dobe made a motion to support Kim Davis for SD 45. Debate ensued. Joe Donahue made an amendment to the motion to endorse either Kim Davis or Dan Steck. VP DiAntonio ruled the amendment out of order. Martin Robinson called the question. A vote was taken, and debate closed.

A vote was taken on the motion to support Kim Davis for SD 45, and it passed.

For the Congressional recommendations, Nora Higgins made a motion to endorse Kathleen Rice for CD 4, and it was accepted by unanimous consent.

Randi DiAntonio introduced the SW PAC recommendation for the Presidential endorsement of Joe Biden, entertained a motion to accept, and Joe Donahue moved. Debate ensued.

John Thomsen made an amendment to the motion for no endorsement at this time. Debate ensued. Joe Donahue moved to close all matters before the house. A vote was taken, and debate closed.

A video of Rebecca Friedrichs speaking at the Republican Convention was played.

A vote was taken on the amendment of no endorsement, and it failed.

A vote was taken on the motion to endorse Joe Biden, and it passed. The SW PAC committee report concluded.

President Spence adjourned the meeting at 4:29 pm.

**DAY 1: DISPOSTION OF MOTIONS****PAGE**

To accept Guest Attendance Policy at Eboard, carried

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To approve the Agenda, carried

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To approve General Session Minutes, carried

30

To accept PEF Retirees Agreement-Addendum, carried

43

To approve the Triennial Election Committee, carried

73

To accept Financial Statements 1st Quarter  
FY 2020-21; 4/1/20-6/30/20, carried

179

<b>DAY 2: DISPOSTION OF MOTIONS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
To adopt Proposed Convention rules	245
-as amended, carried	247
To adopt the Proposed Agenda	330
- as amended, carried	337
- as amended, carried	377
To adopt the State Legislative agenda, carried	419
To adopt the Federal Legislative agenda, carried	425
To accept the endorsements submitted by the Statewide PAC	428
- as amended, carried	428
- as amended, carried	431
- as amended, carried	462
To endorse Kimberly Davis, carried	450