Meeting Notes
Sept. 13, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Mike Doseck, Peggy Garnes, Michele Colopy, Terry Lieberman-Smith (ex-officio); No Greg Bokan.

*Michele continues to take the meeting notes, so Mike can focus on leading the meeting.

When Peggy and Mike joined the call, Peggy was advised her phone sounded very soft, Michele could hear her, but Mike could not.

Meeting called to order: 6:30 p.m.
Meeting adjourned: 7:01 p.m.

AGENDA
Discussion of the process to publish the Board nominee biography responses

Option 1-Seek each nominee to edit their bios

Option 2-The Nominating Committee will edit the bios

Option 3- The Nominee bios will be saved as PDFs (unless the document was provided as a PDF by the nominees), posted on the OSBA website, and a short article in the OSBA Newsletter listing the 6 questions, the nomination process, and the names of the Nominating Committee, with links to the webpage with the Nominee bios. The webpage will list the nominee’s name, the Board position they are seek, and include a link to the PDF of the bio they sent to the Nominating Committee.
After each election, the nominee info would removed, and this OSBA webpage would state “Our next election is” and list the date (Michele would suggest adding the committee’s decision tonight to the Nominating Committee SOP.)

Option 4- Any other options to present?

NOTES

One topic at tonight’s meeting:
The meeting was called due to misunderstandings, and Mike stated he is to blame for one issue in that he inadvertently sent to D. Wells all 25 of the nominating committee’s draft questions before it was narrowed to just 6 questions. Mike, has reached out to Dwight to have him complete the six questions, and Mike sent the letter Dwight should have received. Mike did give a deadline by Sept. 15th to get in the responses to only the 6 questions from Dwight. Dwight is to email them to Mike.

Mike: There is a sentence in the Regional Director and Regional Representative Letter concerning the biography—additionally this letter contains a list of questions. I think that sentence should appear in the OSBA newsletter describing the process and what we asked the nominees to provide. He stated that sentence could be misunderstood and that a few nominees used the six questions to base their biography, not to simply answer the 6 questions.

Michele: We are not responsible for how people interpret things.

Mike: It has caused some confusion, nonetheless. For the future, the directions must state “list the questions, answer each question” and I suggest OSBA create a form for this. Put on the form each question with space below that question for the answer. Mike feels this has put the Nominating Committee in a situation.

Terry: Whether it is illiteracy, or they want to do what they want to do, I would prefer that we place an article in the Newsletter, list the questions, and link to the nominees’ replies. Let’s not take up the newsletter with text we have to validate, and will be trapped in the Newsletter forever. I prefer posting the responses that have been submitted on the website with links posted in the Newsletter article about the election.

Peggy: My opinion, is the 6 questions were to create a biography. We do not have . .
Michele: Peggy we cannot hear you.

*Michele tried to advise Terry that Peggy’s phone connection was poor, Mike, with his hearing issue, could not hear Peggy at all. When Mike asked Peggy if he could hear her, Peggy talked over Mike. Then, Peggy disconnected from the call.*

Terry: After the election we can remove the current election text and links to nominee bios from the website, but we could keep the page with the date of the next election so future Board members know what positions will be open and when. The Nominating Committee will not edit or censor any of the bios. We can create a form for next year that states we want them to answer the 6 questions, maybe put a dummy one out there as an example. So nominees know how to answer it, and not misinterpret it. There is no time for re-dos by nominees.

Mike: Peggy, what do you think?

Michele: Mike, Peggy hung up. Peggy did not hear you call out to her, and she hung up. I was not interrupting her, but reminding her you could not hear her as her phone is too soft. If anyone else spoke it made her even harder to hear. I was simply trying to tell Terry to wait for Peggy as Mike cannot hear Peggy due to the poor sound of her phone. Peggy would not let me tell her we could not hear her, so she hung up.

Mike: I did not realize she hung up.

Terry: I would like to make a motion due to the uneven types of responses from the nominees that the newsletter have a committee article about the election, state what was sent out, with a link to each nominees’ pdf.

Mike: I second the motion.

All in favor. “Aye”

Michele: We are not responsible for people’s reading comprehension. We cannot please all of the people all of the time.

Mike: Even the clearest of instructions are often not understood. If we hold someone’s hand that is one way to alleviate the problem. Mike and Michele are happy to develop a form for next year.
Michele: I like the idea of a mock-up form. It is part of that hand-holding Mike spoke of.

Terry: We have what we have; it is not what we are looking for, or information the members need to see.

Michele: Even the nomination forms do not answer the 6 questions. So, to include those as well on the website, minus addresses and phone numbers, it does not provide the answers the members need to know about the skills and experience the nominees bring to the Board positions.

Terry: The only way to fix it for next time is to provide a sample or mock-up of a completed form. The questions are valuable to compare candidates for our members, especially for people they do not know. If say our treasurer candidate showed no accounting or bookkeeping or excel background, and another candidate shows accounting experience, etc. it provides valuable information to the members.

Mike: We could provide a completed mock-up so candidates see how the form should be completed.

Michele: I have a concern of providing a sample of answering the questions as some candidates may simply copy the sample.

Terry: So do it for a position not voted on, such as webmaster. So, the information is provided that the OSBA members need to know.

Michele: I like that.

Terry: Linda and Sonny are running for the same position. Did Sonny get the bio list of questions? We do not have Rod’s bio. or Sonny’s bio. And did Rod send his background check form to the insurance company?

Michele: (reviewed the list of files in the Nominating Committee files) I do not see a bio from Sonny or Rod. I know Mike sent the form to Rod for the background check.

Mike: I will work on getting Sonny and Rod’s bios, and ask Rod about the background check.
Michele: For the Newsletter article I think we need to list all names of the Nominating Committee in the Newsletter article, and the article will have the Chairperson’s Byline.

Michele: Just so we are clear on today’s discussion. Is there is an option 4 here? Does anyone have any thoughts on an option 4?

Terry: We do not want to censor, or edit. It is unfair to give more space in the Newsletter to one nominee over another who wrote a shorter bio. It is fair to provide each document as a link. Are we voting on anything else?

Mike: We think this is the best solution.

Terry: Mike we appreciate your patience and tolerance to make things better for the next committee.

Michele: Mike please call Peggy, her phone was not loud enough for you to hear. And I was just trying to remind her of that.

Michele and Mike spoke for another 6 minutes concerning the inability of Mike to hear one of the committee members on the phone, and the concerns with poor phone connections hampering communication.