

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SANITARIANS, INC.

Prestigious Recognition for Environmental Health Professionals

Board of Directors and Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday September 15, 2021

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Memoria **Collins / Bradley**

Chairman Collins called the Annual Business Meeting to order at 4:11 pm ET. Board meeting was not called to order as there was not a quorum (6) of board members.

Board members present

Brian Collins – Chair

Vince Radke – Vice chair

Eric Bradley – Interim Secretary

Robert Powitz

Gary Noonan – Treasurer

Absent

Wendell Moore – Past Chair

James Balsamo

Jason Finley

Michele Samarya-Timm

Wendy Fanaselle

Tim Murphy

Chairman Collins notified membership of the passing of Diplomate George M. Nakamura (DAAS #537). Cards/gifts can be sent to:

Maxine Nakamura
950 Pocatello Ave
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

A moment of silence was held.

II. Minutes Discussion **Collins**

Chair Collins asked Board Members to review the pending Board Meeting minutes on the website and see where your name is listed as having made comments. Please provide Collins/Bradley with those comments in writing by October 1, 2021 to be included in the minutes so all the pending minutes can be approved at the next meeting.

III. Financial Reports **Bradley**

Interim Secretary Bradley reported on financial accounts held by the Academy. Total Academy assets as of 9/14/21 are \$109,837.40. Treasurer Noonan has been transferring funds to Interim Secretary Bradley over the past few months. The

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checking account in Georgia has \$49,987.27 and the checking account in Iowa has \$59,850.10. The Cd's that the academy held were liquidated earlier in 2021 and

added to the funds in the checking account. The Todd Award fund has \$8000.00. The Academy purchased an annual Zoom Pro Account for \$149.90 for board and membership meetings. It was discussed that the Financial Committee should determine how much should be invested in CD's.

IV. Principal Officer Reports

Collins / Radke/ Bradley

Chair Collins reported that the Board met virtually in December 2020, February 2021, May 2021 and July 2021. The Annual Business meeting was held virtually in September 2020 and a general membership meeting was held virtually in March 2020. Over the past year, ten committees were appointed and provided with objectives. Three Board of Director seats were filled (two appointed and one by election). A diversity, equity and inclusion policy was created and approved. Gary Noonan's name was submitted and approved to be a Diplomat Emeritus and Dr. Dave Dyjack's name was submitted and approved to be an Honorary Diplomat. The Academy signed letters of support for the Environmental Health Workforce bill (HR 2661) and Food Safety Coalition for advancing most recent food code. The Academy met its commitment to NEHA for submitting two articles a year for publication in the *Journal of Environmental Health*. A contract for administrative support was signed to assist with posting items on the website and helping with meeting minutes. An Interim Executive Secretary was appointed.

Vice-Chair Radke reported that he served as a member of the AAS credentialing committee, AAS working group to review the definition of Sanitarian, AAS Diplomat Laureate committee, and interim chair of the financial committee. Radke also serves on NEHA's policy and by-laws committee.

Interim Executive Secretary Bradley reported that he served as a member of AAS credentialing committee, AAS financial committee and the AAS constitution and by-laws committee. Bradley has spent a lot of time over the past few months talking with Gary Noonan about duties of Secretary/Treasurer, opened new checking account, and began updating websites and accounts with his information. Discussion was held on what to do with four boxes of old diplomate applications that Gary Noonan has. A vote will be held on what to do once a quorum is reached.

V. Election

Board

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Chair Collins reported that Executive Secretary Welford Roberts requested a leave of absence for personal/professional reasons and it was approved. Board Director Bradley was asked and appointed as Interim Executive Secretary. When a quorum is

available and if Bradley is elected Executive Secretary and Treasurer, his Board of Director seat will be open. If this happens, a letter of interest will be sent to membership and plan to make an appointment at the December Board Meeting. For anyone on this meeting, please send a letter of interest to Interim Secretary Bradley.

VI. Committee Reports

Chairs / Co-Chairs

Finance – Radke

Conducted internal review of AAS accounts. Committee was Radke, Gary Noonan, Eric Bradley, Wendy Fanaselle, and Jason Finley. Meeting was held on August 6, 2021. Minutes of the meeting are available upon request. Dates for review of the AAS financial records were July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021. The committee found that all financial records and accounts present fairly and accurately the financial position of the AAS. Committee thanks Gary Noonan for his long and distinguished service to AAS. Financial committee will meet to determine funds for CD's.

Board member Jason Finley called in at 4:47 pm ET. Chairman Collins called the Board meeting to order at 4:49 pm ET.

V. Election

Board

Chair Collins reviewed Secretary/Treasurer as detailed above. Chair Collins opened the floor for nominations. No other nominations. Diplomate Bradley elected to Executive Secretary & Treasurer.

VI. Committee Reports

Chairs / Co-Chairs

Credentialing – Finley

One candidate has been asked for additional information, one has 95% of items ready to submit, and one has paid the application fee, but not submitted the information for review. Since September 2020, there have been three new diplomats.

Awards – no report

Scholarships – no report

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Diplomate Laureate – Powitz

Charles Hart became a Diplomate Laureate. Chair Collins asked members that qualify to apply for Diplomate Laureate status. Diplomate Finley asked membership to reach out to those in their networks that meet the requirements for Diplomate and try to get them to apply. Diplomate Laureate Powitz discussed updating education and publication requirements for Diplomate and Diplomate Laureate. AAS should be targeting sanitarians in business/private sector as well as regulators. Chair Collins made the review of requirements for Diplomate and Diplomate Laureate an objective for Credentialing and Laureate committees.

Michele Samarya-Timm joined the meeting at 4:54 pm ET.

Strategic Planning – Powitz

Have been looking at the definition of “sanitarian”. The last “true” update of the definition was in 1978 and 1992. In 2000, sanitarian received professional recognition through the standard occupational classification. Committee developed the following proposed definition: A Sanitarian is a professional who can assess and control environmental public health hazards present in the home or the human environment that can cause injury or illness. A Sanitarian also can advise on how to minimize and control human exposure to harmful conditions. Sanitarians are qualified to suggest alternative safe processes, methods and appropriate control mechanisms to manage environmental health risks. A Sanitarian uses scientific methods while defining the potential hazards, assessing risks, or evaluating exposures in the environment while finding suitable substitutes which are harmless or less harmful. Chair Collins asked if Dr. Oerther, Dr. Breeding, Dr. Vinci and Dr. Barnett would join the committee. Diplomate Laureate Powitz reported that NEHA had sent the advertisement for the Wagner Award that was used in November 2020 JEH. It does not look like any changes are needed and it will be okay to use it again this year. No applications for Wagner Award were received for this past year.

Constitution and By-laws – Dingman

The committee has completed its revision of the Constitution and By-Laws and it has been forwarded to Chair Collins for Board review. Once the Board has reviewed it, any suggestions or comments can be sent to the committee and those changes can be included. Chair Collins would like the Constitution and bylaws to be approved at the 2022 annual business meeting.

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Communications & Marketing – Samarya-Timm

Committee will be issuing a press release to promote the Academy and noteworthy Diplomate recognitions. Have been exploring different ways the Academy can increase its exposure on virtual platforms. Any Diplomates that have the AAS tabletop stands to please return them Diplomate Samarya-Timm. Diplomate Laureate Powitz has one that he is using at the upcoming Yankee Conference. Committee is submitting an abstract to the 2022 AEC. AAS participated in a Twitter chat with NEHA for National Preparedness month. Forty visits to the AAS websites occurred during the Twitter chat. Committee recommends continuing to explore the different social media platforms. Committee is researching materials for the virtual exhibits. The committee ran analytics on the AAS website and within 60 days of the NEHA AEC there were no new visitors to the website.

VII. Open Discussion

Membership

Diplomate Samarya-Timm proposed adding “Environmental Health” to the title of the “American Academy of Sanitarians” as many practitioners are using EH. Chair Collins agreed to create an Ad Hoc committee with Diplomate Samarya-Timm as chair to develop a proposal to be brought to the Board and membership for consideration at the 2022 Business Meeting.

Diplomate Emeritus Gary Noonan reviewed the details regarding the four boxes of Diplomate applications detailed above. The applications going back to 2011 have been submitted digitally. Diplomate Emeritus Gary Noonan made a motion to shred the paper Diplomate applications and the motion was seconded by Diplomate Laureate Radke. Motion passed.

Chair Collins walked through the changes that have been recently made to the website. Diplomate Samarya-Timm recommended placing new information at top of front page of website instead of older pictures and using the website’s email capability for Board members. (Chair@sanitarians.org, Etc.).

VII. Meetings

Board

Board meetings:
December 8, 2021

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February 16, 2022

April 13, 2022

Annual Business Meeting
2022 NEHA AEC – Spokane, WA

VIII. Adjournment

Collins

Chair Collins adjourned the meeting at 5:57 pm ET.

Meeting Minutes:

Respectfully submitted: *Eric Bradley, DLAAS, Executive Secretary*

Date: 10/12/21

Approved: *Board*

Date: 2/16/22

Executive Secretary: *Eric Bradley, DLAAS*

Date: 2/16/22