Professional Association General Membership Meeting/Luncheon

January 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Present: 90 Members**

**Absent:**

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| **Item** | **Discussion** | **Action/Decision** |
| **Call to Order and Approve Agenda** | Meeting was called to order by President Norma Chrisman at | **1:00pm** |
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| **Approve of Minutes** | Approval of April 2022 General Membership minutes  Motion: Aaron Fried  2nd: Robin Saxe | **Motion Accepted** |
| **Presidents Report** | I would like to begin by welcoming the newly hired faculty and staff since our last spring luncheon. We wish each and every one of you a warm welcome!   * Our spring luncheon is also where we recognize retirees, give committee reports and present our scholarship winner to the membership. To begin, I would like to recognize the PA Retirees since our last gathering.   Please help me congratulate:   * Lisa Chamberlin * Robert Gould * Alma King * Mildred Treis   Congratulations to these individuals on this milestone.   * I would like to take this time to thank all of the officers, chairs and committee members for your hard work throughout the past year.   1st VP Erica Brindisi  2nd VP Robin Saxe  Secretary Kelly McNamara  Treasurer Ross Wittenberg  Past President Alison Doughtie  Grievance Chair Patti Antanavige  New Member chair Yue Riesbeck  Education and Training chair Melissa Barlett  Community Outreach chair Robin Saxe  Political Outreach chair Justin Rahn  Benefits Fund chair Justin Wilcox  Research and Records chair Kelly McNamara  Negotiations chair Aaron Fried   * Over the past year, we have continued our good work with our students and in the community.   We collected coats, hats, mittens and school supplies for elementary students at Kernan Elementary School.  We have donated food, money, toys and coats to Rescue Missions and other agencies.  We helped the United Way in sponsoring and volunteering for their Day of Giving and other United Way events.  We donated to the Michele Eddy Golf Tournament.  We honored the memory of past PA President, Ted Moore, by sponsoring the Ted Moore Run/Walk.  We have walked in memory of our dear colleague, Sam Drogo for America’s Greatest Heart Run and Walk.  We made contributions to NYSUT’s Making Strides campaign and various CNY Labor Council events.  We welcomed new members, kicked off new semesters, and celebrated end of semesters.  We have offered benefits, such as Davis Vision, to our membership.  We have supported and defended our members and our contract in various issues and concerns – fortunately the number of these events has decreased!  We have met with politicians to fight for funding for the college.   * Today, we announce our PA Scholarship winners. That’s right, I said WINNERS! We are giving scholarships to two, well-deserving students at today’s luncheon.   First, I would like to ask Robin Saxe to join me on stage along with our first winner, Devin Cool. Devin is a Metal Fabrications major, who is considered as a hard-worker, dependable and conscientious person who is always willing to help others. In fact, he is known to assist other students by tutoring, hands-on assistance, or words of encouragement. In his essay, Devin stated that “community college(s) can be potentially described as a gateway to the world. There is a great capacity to experience many diverse cultures and perspectives without venturing too far from one’s hometown. Community college has played and continues to play a vital role in setting the cornerstone of my future education and career path. The value of these opportunities cannot be understated, as a cost-effective, accessible, and life-enriching education experience.” Congratulations, Devin, on being a recipient of the PA Scholarship.  Next, I would like to ask Hanadi Tajir to join Robin and I on stage. Hanadi is a liberal arts science and math major, member and officer of Phi Theta Kappa, member of the Muslim Student Organization, President of the New York State Region of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and Student Trustee to the MVCC Board of Trustees. Oh, and in addition to all that, she is also an athlete and a tutor. Hanadi’s warm smile and joyful laugh are the first things you’ll notice about her, wrote Liz Doherty. Liz continued with She is naturally inquisitive, love to learn, and is a resourceful problem solver. Sandy Cummings mentioned that Hanadi has served as the Treasurer of the Student Congress and managed a budget of almost $500,000. Sandy also stated that Hanadi demonstrates her maturity with her ability to manage the responsibilities of her various positions along with the responsibilities of being a student. Congratulations, Hanadi!!!   * I would also like to take a minute to let you know about an event that the PA will be hosting. Robin Saxe will be hosting a painting class (minus the sip, unless you bring your own) on February 3rd! Please watch your email so that you can register for this event. All proceeds go to the PA Textbook Scholarship fund. |  |
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| **New Business** |  | **Motion approved** |
| **Next Meeting** | The next meeting TBA | **Adjourned at 1:30pm** |
| **Adjourn** | Motion: Patti Antanavige  2nd :Sergey Marek | **Motion carried** |