

NOW National INC Board Meeting
Zoom Webinar
March 12, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 12th, 2022

Convene, 11:00 a.m. ET

Roll call, 11:04 a.m.

Board Members: Anjali Mehrotra, BJ Star, Cheryl Wapes'a-Mayes, Christine Chin Ryan, Cynthia Bennett, David Stewart, Katonya Hart, Kobby Hoffman, Paloma Delgadillo, Sue Elder, Triana Arnold James

Officers: Vice President Bear Atwood and President Christian Nunes

Advisory Board Members: Ellie Smeal, John Erickson, Linda Berg, Terry O'Neil

Absent: Andrea Fernandez, Danielle Walker, Freda McKee, Kimberly S. Adams, Sasha Goodfriend, Nancy Campbell Mead

Adoption of the agenda, 11:08 a.m.

Motions by Kobby Hoffman:

1. Moved to adding a break every two hours of this meeting, 11:08 a.m.

Seconded by David Stewart, 11:12 a.m.

MS passed by: the majority via a voice vote, 11:14 a.m.

2. Moved to have the Bylaws conversation before staff reports, 11:15 a.m.

Seconded by David Stewart, 11:15 a.m.

MS failed to pass by: 4:6, no abstentions, 11:26 a.m.

3. Moved to have Membership and Chapters Committee report included in the agenda, 11:27 a.m.

MS failed to pass by: the majority via a voice vote, 11:28 a.m.

4. Moved to provide one minute for each member during the membership participation portion of the discussion, and extend the meeting if needed to ensure this happens, 11:29 a.m.

MS passed by: 5:4, 0 abstained.

Motion: Anjali moved to adopt the agenda as amended, 11:32 a.m.

Seconded by Kobby Hoffman, 11:32 a.m.

MS passed by: the majority via a voice vote, 11:32 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes, 11:32 a.m.

Motion: Kobby Hoffman moved to approve the minutes, 11:33 a.m.

Seconded by David Stewart, 11:33 a.m.

MS passed by: the majority via a voice vote, 11:33 a.m.

Board District Action Reports (3-5 minutes per district), 11:34 a.m.

Southern District Report verbally presented by B.J. Star, Cynthia Bennett, and Triana Arnold James

Northern District Report verbally presented by Anjali Mehrotra, 11:39 a.m.

Eastern District Report verbally presented by Kobby Hoffman and Katonya Hart, 11:42 a.m.

Heartland District Report verbally presented by David Stewart and Sue Elder, 11:47 a.m.

Western District Report presented by Paloma Delgadillo, 11:48 a.m.

Pacific District Report presented by Cheryl Wapes'a-Mayes and Christine Chin Ryan, 11:52 a.m.

President Report presented by Christian F. Nunes, 11:55 a.m.

PowerPoint presentation and updates for NOW.

Vice President's Report presented by Bear Atwood, 12:48 p.m.

PowerPoint presentation and updates for NOW.

Financial Report presented by Bear Atwood, 12:57 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Lunch, 1:13 p.m.

Grievance Policy presented by Anjali Mehrotra, 1:45 p.m.

Policy distributed to the board.

Motion: Kobby Hoffman moved not to strike “alternate” from the policy, 2:05 p.m.

Seconded by Cheryl Wapes’a-Mayes, 2:05 p.m.

MS failed to pass by: 5:5, no abstentions, 2:11 p.m.

The Board moved to adopt the grievance policy as presented, 2:12 p.m.

MS passed by: 11:0, no abstentions, 2:14 p.m.

Note by NOW Parliamentarian, Lynette Henley: the Board will need to amend Article 11 of the Bylaws to accommodate the grievance policy as presented, 2:14 p.m.

National Conference 2022, 2:16 p.m.

General updates presented by Bear Atwood and Christian F. Nunes.

Chief of Staff Report presented by La-Donia Alford-Jefferies, 2:32 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Fundraising Report presented by Sara Swisher, 2:40 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Motion: Kobby Hoffman moved that NOW would not accept for profit donations or other contributions, and that this be drafted in NOW’s administrative policy, 3:15 p.m.

Seconded by Bear Atwood, 3:15 p.m.

MS passed by: 6:5, no abstentions, 3:27 p.m.

Government Relations Report presented by Jan Erickson moved to tomorrow’s meeting due to technical issues, 3:33 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Political Report presented by Bear Atwood, 3:35 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Break, 3:45 p.m.

Chapters Report (written by Supria Bhatia) presented by La-Donia Alford-Jeffries, 3:50 p.m.

Membership Report presented verbally by La-Donia Alford-Jeffries, 3:57 p.m.

Digital Media Report presented by Kim Sontag, 4:08 p.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Update on Every Action Conversion by Kim Sontag, 4:15 p.m.

PowerPoint presentation.

National Committee Reports (5 minutes per committee),

Racial Justice Committee Report presented verbally by Paloma Delgadillo, 4:38 p.m.

Young Feminist National Committee Report presented verbally by Shree Mehrotra and Joi Dean, 4:43 p.m.

Board Committee Reports (5 minutes per committee),

Elections Committee Report presented verbally by Kim Villanueva, 4:51 p.m.

Motion: The Board moved to pass the election rules as presented, 4:57 p.m.

MS passed by: 11:0, 0 abstentions, 4:58 p.m.

ERA Committee Report presented verbally by Kobby Hoffman, 4:58 p.m.

Ending Violence Against Women Committee Report presented verbally by Triana Arnold James, 5:13 p.m.

Bylaw Amendments, 5:26 p.m.

Motion: The Board moved to amend the grievance procedure policy by including today's date as the most recent update on the policy, 5:27 p.m.

MS passed by: 14:0, 0 abstentions, 5:30 p.m.

Motion: Christian F. Nunes moved that since these are the same approved bylaw amendments from 2021, that the Board have these sent as a packet to NOW's National Conference 2022, 5:32 p.m.

Seconded by Cheryl Wapes'a-Mayes, 5:32 p.m.

MS passed by: 9:3, no abstentions, 5:40 p.m.

Membership Participation, 5:45 p.m.

Members were allotted 1 minute each for an open comment.

Motion: moved to adjourn, Paloma, 6:05 p.m.

Seconded by the majority, 6:05 p.m.

MS passed by: the majority via a voice vote, 6:05 p.m.

Adjourn, 6:05 p.m.

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Convene, 11:44 a.m. ET

Roll call, 11:44 a.m.

Board Members: Anjali Mehrotra, BJ Star, Cheryl Wapes'a-Mayes, Christine Chin Ryan, Cynthia Bennett, David Stewart, Katonya Hart, Kobby Hoffman, Sue Elder, Sasha Goodfriend, Triana Arnold James

Officers: Vice President Bear Atwood and President Christian Nunes

Advisory Board Members: Ellie Smeal, Linda Berg, Nancy Campbell Mead, Terry O'Neil

Absent: Andrea Fernandez, Danielle Walker, Freda McKee, Kimberly S. Adams, Paloma Delgadillo, John Erickson

Approval of Agenda, 11:46 a.m.

Motion: David Stewart moved to approve the agenda as presented, 11:46 a.m.

Seconded by Anjali Mehrotra, 11:48 a.m.

MS passed by: the majority via a voice vote, 11:48 a.m.

Government Relations Report presented by Jan Erickson, 11:51 a.m.

Report distributed to the Board.

Discussion of Contributions and Donations Motion by NOW Parliamentarian Lynette Henley, 12:08 p.m.

The Board reviewed the following motion from the March 12, 2022 meeting yesterday:
"Kobby Hoffman moved that NOW would not accept for profit donations or other contributions, and that this be drafted in NOW's administrative policy, 3:15 p.m."

Updates were given on NOW's current administrative policy as it relates to contributions and donations from for-profit organizations.

Motion: Bear Atwood moved to reconsider the motion regarding for-profit donations and other contributions, 12:22 p.m.

Seconded by Anjali Mehrotra, 12:22 p.m.

MS passed by: 9:2, 0 abstentions. 12:25 p.m.

Motion: Bear Atwood moved to substitute this motion and create an ad-hoc committee to review the issue of for-profit contributions and donations, then present a report on this by July 2022, 12:28 p.m.

Seconded by Anjali Mehrotra, 12:29 p.m.

PROs and CONs were considered.

Motion: Kobby Hoffman moved a call to question to close the debate, 12:48 p.m.

Seconded by David Stewart, 12:48 p.m.

MS passed by: 6:2, 0 abstentions, 12:50 p.m.

Substituted Motion passed by: 6:3, 2 abstentions, 12:52 p.m.

Vote on Main Motion to create an ad-hoc committee to review for-profit contributions and donations then present a report on this by July 2022 passed by: 6:3, 2 abstentions, 12:54 p.m.

Motion: David Stewart moved to adjourn, 12:58 p.m.

Seconded by BJ Star, 12:58 p.m.

Adjourn, 12:59 p.m.