



Officers of the Corporation

William Terrell-State Chair, **Rick Puerto**-Vice Chair, **Nancy Zuena**-Treasurer, **Dianna Barkman**-Secretary, **Council Chairs:** **Ron Fazio**-Officials, open-International Style, open-Coaches, **Omar Feliciano**-U23 / Sr/Cultural Exchange, **Rick Puerto**-Kids Scholastic, **John Dean**-Female Council **Committee Chairs:** **John Welch**-Legislative Chair, **Chris Curtis**-Membership, open-National Trips, **Dave Mauro**-Scheduling, **Chris Treston**-Publicity
At Large Positions: **Harry Turner, Joanna Roman, Mike Harris, Craig Manno**

Date: 9/8/2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: via Zoom

Call to Order – 7:06 PM

USAWNJ SGB Members

Purpose of Meeting – To appoint a Vice Chair following the resignation of Renee Carbonaro (9/7/2022)

Attendees - William Terrell, Nancy Zuena, Rick Puerto, John Welch, Dave Mauro, Dianna Barkman, Omar Feliciano, Craig Manno, John Dean, Chris Treston, Joanna Roman, Mike Harris, Harry Turner

Not in attendance – Ron Fazio, Chris Curtis

Approval of Previous Minutes - NA

Treasurer Report-- NA

Agenda Items – Appointment of a Vice Chair following the resignation of Renee Carbonaro (9/7/2022)

Bill explained that he called the meeting because Renee Carbonaro resigned. He explained that the appointment of Renee was originally delayed because he was busy at Fargo and was just getting his feet under him as the new State Chair. He quoted John Dean from previous discussion that the organization needs to be compliant with the National Organization and have all the officers of the corporation in place. Bill felt that it was something that needed to be done should something happen. Bill then appointed Rick Puerto as his Vice Chair.

Discussion- Dave Mauro asked if we had a quorum. John Welch replied that it was not a legal meeting because it was done electronically (Zoom) and all board members were not present. He continued saying, “that sometimes it isn’t possible and that we would do the meeting anyway because we need to fill the vacancy that Renee Carbonaro left when she resigned.” The appointment will protect the organization should anything happen, and we don’t have a line of succession. Dave deferred to John Welch as legislative chair but felt that we “take a step in the right direction and three steps back.” John W. agreed that we should be doing it in person but sometimes you just can’t. He stated that the board could decide to not do it via Zoom & Google Forms and if so, we don’t do it.

Harry inquired about the bylaws and the three specific circumstances where an electronic meeting could not be used. They are approving a budget, bylaw changes, and removal of an officer. Dianna Barkman read the requirements for an electronic meeting from the bylaws to the board present. A quorum must be all members present. A recap of Renee’s appointment was made in which the board members present at the previous meeting agreed to move forward with the appointment and poll the board for

approval via Google Forms. Harry stated that we could do it the same way and Dianna could send out a Google Form. John Welch replied in the affirmative and that “whatever it is, it is.”

Mike Harris posed the question, “We have a meeting on 9/19 (11 days) to hold an election for all positions. What is the rush on this?” Harry replied that it was in case something happens between now and then. Mike asked, “Wouldn’t we just come together and fill the position?” There was agreement that there was no precedent for it. John Welch then restated that the board does not have to approve polling the board via Google Forms. John Dean pointed out that the appointment of Renee didn’t happen for 18 days. His opinion was that the board wait until the election on 9/19/22 (11 days) Nancy replied that Bill has the right to appoint to fill vacancies. John Dean raised the question regarding a text message from Pete DiBiasi asking John D. if he wished Pete to withdraw 2 nominees from the ballot that were submitted by Bill Terrell. John’s question was ruled “out of order” and not on topic with our discussion.

John Dean reported that one of the board members on the Zoom meeting had made a statement that Bill was making this appointment now because he plans to resign and designated it as a “F* you to John Dean.” He asked if that was a true statement. Nancy made a call for the board to stop talking and texting behind each other’s back and “man up” and admit it if it was them. Harry Turner noted that it was an interesting question and asked Bill directly if he planned to resign. After a pause Bill answered, “At this point it is up in the air; I’m up in the air.” He then followed it with, “I plan on being here.” Harry stated that it changes the competition if Bill resigns before the election. Rick and John D. are vying for the same position in the 11 days. Bill interrupted to say, “No, no, no. If I decide to leave, it will be after the elections.” Discussion centered on the order of succession – Vice Chair moves to Chair. John D.’s belief is that Bill will appoint Rick as Vice Chair and resign making Rick the chair. John D. again stated that he had heard that Bill would step down. Rick’s response was to restate that Bill said he wouldn’t step down before the election. Joanna asked that the discussion end and that it was out of order because it was a “he said, she said” situation. John D. then asked Omar Feliciano to explain himself by making the statement of Bill stepping down to put Rick as Chair. Omar’s response was, “What?” Joanna referred to previous emails and similar situations of calling people out.

John Welch stated again that it was a “he said, she said” situation and to call the question to a vote and move on. Harry asked for clarification of the question. John restated the Bill would like to select Rick Puerto to fill the Vice Chair position for the remaining days of the term. Dave asked for a clarification as to what exactly was the vote...vote to poll electronically? or vote to approve the appointment? After discussing the procedure for approving the appointment a motion was made to vote to approve appointment via electronically using Google Forms. A show of hands to approve was difficult to count on Zoom so a roll call vote was done.

Harry noted that in a previous meeting Rick stated that he was not interested in an appointed chair position and that he wanted to be elected outright. Rick confirmed the statement and stated that it was why he was placed in the election for VC on the 19th. Harry again asked Bill to confirm that he was not stepping down before the election. Bill again confirmed that he would not step down prior to the elections.

Discussion following the motion to adjourn the meeting dealt with sending the Google form to personal emails for those who have not yet set up their usawnj.org addresses. Bill gave his approval to do so.

Motion to: –

- 1. Discuss the nomination

Motion: John Welch 2nd: Mike Harris
Yes – 13 No – 0 Abstentions - 0

- 2. Poll the SGB via Google Forms to seek approval of the appointment of Rick Puerto as Vice Chair for the remaining 2021-2022 term.

Motion: Harry Turner 2nd: Chris Treston
Yes – 10 No – 3 Abstentions - 0

- 3. Adjourn the meeting

Motion: Chris Treston 2nd: Rick Puerto
Yes – 13 No – 0 Abstentions - 0

Adjournment– 7:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Dianna Barkman
USAWNJ Secretary
USAW ID: 111295101

Addendum: Google form was sent out 9/9/2022. Below is the outcome of the polling sent 9/10/22

With 13 out of 15 responses registered as of this morning, the count is 11 in favor of Rick Puerto's appointment and 2 against. This represents a majority in favor of the appointment.

Congratulations, Rick, on your appointment as Vice Chair of USAWNJ for the remainder of the term.

13 responses

Accepting responses

Summary **Question** Individual

Do you approve the appointment of R...on, to

< 2 of 4 >

Do you approve the appointment of **Rick Puerto** by William Terrell, USAW/NJ Chairperson, to the position of Vice Chair?

[View options](#)

Yes
11 responses

No
2 responses

Do you approve the appointment of **Rick Puerto** by William Terrell, USAW/NJ Chairperson, to the position of Vice Chair?

13 responses

