NACOLE Annual Meeting

**Wednesday, September 28, 2016 - 1515 hours MDT**

**Albuquerque Convention Center – Albuquerque, NM**

**I. Call to Order**:

The meeting was called to order at 1528 PM (MDT) by President Brian Buchner.

**II. Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting were presented. Sue Quinn moved, seconded by Barbara Attard, to approve the minutes. Motion passed with abstentions from O102 (Bloom), O146 (Bradley), O156 (Crosby), and O174 (Kingston).

**III. President’s Report:**

President Brian Buchner reported that the launch of NACOLE in 2020 was a large project for this year and he expressed his thanks for everyone who participated in the project. A grant was obtained from the DOJ/OJP for a primer on the state of oversight, and went big with a national survey of oversight agencies. The primer should be available on 10/15 and is 76 pages. It will be the most definitive, comprehensive reports on civilian oversight in the last 10-15 years. NACOLE has had two symposia in partnership with Washington D.C. and the Clarke school of law, as well as one in New York, NY in partnership with John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Additionally, Buchner reported that NACOLE continued to expand its outreach with board members invited to and attending many different conferences throughout the year.

Additionally, Buchner read a resolution prepared for Rev. Edward Smart as proposed at the 2015 Annual Conference, thanked Don Casimere for stepping into the Past-President role after the resignation of Ilana Rosenzweig, and thanked Avice Evans Reid and Ainsley Cromwell for their service to NACOLE.

**IV. Treasurer’s Report:**

Treasurer Avice Reid reported the balances in NACOLE accounts as of August 31, 2016: Checking - $88,892.70; Savings - $213,624.14; Scholarship - $9,433.40, for a total of $311,950.24. After pre-paid expenses were noted, the organization has assets of $312,379.05. She noted that this year, the Board agreed to keep just enough in the checking account to pay the bills and transfer the majority of funds to savings. Reid added that the budget information is contained in the packet with the agenda.

**V. Secretary’s Report:**

Secretary Karen Williams provided the breakdown of memberships by category at the end of the 2015-2016 membership year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

Organizational Members: 75 Regular Members: 69 Associate Members: 65

Student Members: 10 Life Members: 18 Total: 237

This represents an increase from the 2014-2015 year, where the membership year ended with 189 total members.

**VI: Committee Reports:** President Buchner asked the committees to give a brief version of their written reports.

**a. Conference Planning Committee:** *Margo Frasier and Karen Williams, Co-Chairs*

Margo Frasier and Karen Williams reported this was the second largest conference ever, with a total registration of 462. There are 8 countries represented, as well as 107 cities and 32 states. They thanked the committee members – Elisabeth Albert, Cathleen Beltz, Linda Bernard, Lendel Bright, Gianina Irlando, Robin Jackson, Tess Mullarkey, Byron Norris, Damon Scott, Constantin Severe, John Torres, and Catherine Wright. Williams stated the committee met monthly by conference call. One of the main tasks was to review all of the workshop proposals and present those to full Board for approval. They also look at feedback from previous years, and because of the large number of excellent proposed sessions, expanded content to three tracks this year on two days, including adding a track specifically geared towards corrections oversight. There are nearly 500 people at this conference, and the organization would not be at this point without the work and vision of the founders, board members, and those in the field of oversight. Next year, the conference will be in Spokane, WA. Both co-chairs thanked the local committee as well as Cameron McEllhiney and Liana Perez, who provided a great deal of work, help, and assistance in putting the conference together.

**b. Elections and Bylaws Committee:** *Avice Evans Reid, Chair*

Reid recognized the members of the Elections and Bylaws committee (George Anthony, Pearl Fain, Wendy Gamble, William Harrison, Joyce Hicks, Crista Noël, Charles Reynolds, and Nancy Vaughn). The committee looked at several issues such as voting changes, electronic voting, and by-law language. However, no bylaw changes were submitted despite soliciting the membership for suggestions. It was also determined that the minor wording changes needed in the bylaws was not significant enough to justify submitting a formal request for change to the membership. The remainder of the committee’s work, the elections, will be handled later in the meeting.

**c. Finance Committee:** *Don Casimere and Ainsley Cromwell, Co-Chairs*

Casimere recognized the members of the committee (Pearl Fain and Avice Evans Reid). He stated the financials and the treasurer’s report were reviewed each month and forwarded to the Board as a whole. He noted that the committee recommended that each year, NACOLE undergo a full financial audit (not a financial review) and felt this was important as the organization continues to grow and apply for grants.

Cromwell noted the organization underwent an audit this year which will be available in the members only section of the website. There were a few recommendations that came out as a result, which have been taken into consideration by the Board.

Cromwell added that there was a 42% increase in revenue from 2014 to 2015.

**d. Membership Development and Engagement:** *Dawn Reynolds, Chair*

Reynolds recognized her committee (Lendel Bright, Catherine Crosby, Kate Eves, Minty LongEarth, Linda Peterson, Damon Scott, and Jayson Wechter).She noted that there were several goals for the year, with the main goals being making new members and first time attendees more welcome to the organization and improving the information pertaining to the benefits of membership. Reynolds stated new welcome letters were created in conjunction with the organization’s secretary, and a draft packet of information for new members on the benefits of membership has been drafted and is awaiting Board approval.

**e. Newsletter Committee:** *Kelvyn Anderson and Mark Smith, Co-Chairs*

Smith thanked the committee members:  Loan Le, Maui Moore, and Karen Williams.  The contract with the printer was renewed as well as renegotiated. They noted three issues of the NACOLE Review had been published since the previous annual meeting: a 2015 conference wrap-up issue, the winter edition, and the summer edition. Willie Bell inquired as to how the “mailings” were done and Williams explained that the newsletter is sent to those addresses that are on file with the secretary of the organization.

**f. Scholarship Committee:** *Mark Smith, Chair*

Smith thanked his committee members: Ellen Dolese, Ed Harness, Les Mensinger, Stacey Nelson, and Lori White.  He also thanked Amanda Bustos of the Albuquerque Citizen Police Oversight Agency.  He stated that the committee received a total of 16 extremely impressive and deserving applications across 3 scholarship categories (Founders Community Scholarship Award; President's Scholarship Award; Membership Scholarship Award).  This year the committee was able to award scholarships to 10 applicants, which is an increase of 2 from last year. Smith noted that he hoped that number would continue to grow even larger in the future.

Smith added that the committee had set a goal to raise $5000 this year in order to make sure next year's committee could keep the scholarship fundraising momentum going.  The fundraising was done through a number of efforts including the sale of t-shirts, a silent auction, and a very successful Annual Scholarship Dinner.  At present, and pending the exact amount from the silent auction, the committee's efforts have raised approximately $6200.

Katy Crosby asked whether if an organization or office sends a community member to NACOLE if that money is earmarked as a donation for the scholarship fund. Smith replied that it had not been done like that in the past, but the committee would consider that in the future.

**g. Strategic Planning Committee:** *Brian Corr, Chair*

Corr thanked his committee members (Pamela Drake-Davis, Anthony Finnell, Deborah Jacobs, and Joey Lipari). The committee met 1-2 times a month and set a goal of having a strategic planner in place by the Board’s mid-winter meeting. He stated the committee selected the Improve Group, who came to the Mid-Winter Board meeting and started the process. Input was gathered through the Board, through a survey, and through one-on-one interviews with stakeholders. The Improve Group did a refinement of the results and presented a report that is contained in the conference application. It will also be posted on the website. A medium-term vision was developed. The next step will be to use the feedback from the NACOLE in 2020 session and the next committee will turn that information into a detailed strategic plan that should be available in the middle of 2017.

**h. Training, Education, and Standards Committee:** *Ainsley Cromwell and Nicholas Mitchell, Co-Chairs*

Cromwell acknowledged the committee members (Kisha Brown, Matt Buttice, Lisa Carter, Michael Grady, Bobby Hawkins, Janna Lewis, Walter Katz, Maureen Obie, Julie Ruhlin, Catherine Twigg, Deborah Walker, and Phil Young).

Cromwell stated there were several regional events: Washington DC; Oakland, CA; San Juan, PR; and two are scheduled: Baltimore, MD and St. Louis, MO in October and November 2016, respectively. Additionally, there were two webinars – one on journalism and one on data.

Mitchell added that the CPO program was revised by the committee so that some of the new resources (regional meetings, webinars, other trainings) could be used. The new program will be focused on hours of training (45 hours) plus two conferences in three years. Information about the new report is included in the conference binders.

Robin Lolar asked for additional explanation of the regional meetings. Cromwell responded that the committee determined that there was a need for additional trainings and meetings outside of the annual conference. These meetings were developed with a net cost to NACOLE of zero.

**i. Website and Digital Media Committee:** *Kelvyn Anderson, Chair*

Anderson thanked his committee (Eddie Aubrey, Catherine Crosby, and David Rozen). He noted the website was redesigned on a NationBuilder platform this year. The committee worked on organizing the resources that were on the former website into an easier to find method. He added that the committee has also looked into other resources to use to reach our membership and others, such as Tableau and NextDoor.

**VII. Staff Report:**

Cameron McEllhiney expressed regrets from Liana Perez, who was unable to be at the conference this year. She stated the staff works to support the committees. She noted that during the year, the number of regional meetings has increased and that is largely in part to local members. The Board and committees is also working to increase the numbers of webinars. A bi-monthly Digest is produced and she encourages people to submit information to her for inclusion. The RFP for 2017 conference workshops is out now, and she encouraged people to think of topics for the next conference. This year, there were 66 proposals for 29 available slots. McEllhiney added that she and Perez worked with Past-President Diaz on creating bilingual training information for a training event in Mexico in January 2016, which was very successful.

**VIII. Annual Election:**

Charles Reynolds read and explained the election rules. Willie Bell questioned the use of a coin flip to decide a tie and asked that the Bylaws committee revisit this section of the bylaws.

The declared candidate for the Presidency is Brian Corr. The floor was opened for nominations for President. David Chaplin nominated Nicole Junior. Patrick Hunter seconded. Seeing no other nominations, nominations were then closed. Corr and Junior addressed the audience.

The declared candidate for the Vice-Presidency is Kelvyn Anderson. The floor was opened for nominations for Vice President. Seeing none, nominations were closed. Charles Reynolds moved to cast a unanimous ballot for Kelvyn Anderson for Vice President, with a second by Pierce Murphy. Motion passed. Anderson addressed the audience.

Voting commenced for the office of the President.

The floor was then opened for nominations for the three available members-at-large seats. Seeing none, nominations were closed. The declared candidates were given an opportunity to address the audience.

Voting commenced for three members-at-large.

**IX: Member Forum:**

Members present at the meeting were given an opportunity to address the gathered membership as well as the Board of Directors.

* Crista Noel: At the Seattle Conference, NACOLE had a banner that said “Human Rights” but that phrase has since disappeared. She noted when the organization began, it was all African-American with 50/50 representation of men and women, but the board is getting away from the male/female representation as well as that of color. She stated that Carol Scott got a flame award but she was not acknowledged in the documentation as a flame winner. Also, complained that the photos for nominees were of poor quality.
* Pierce Murphy: It is time for NACOLE to take off the kid gloves and begin to call out things that are not oversight. We need to start speaking more strongly about practices and such. Until we are willing to take a stand and be criticized, we won’t be taken seriously as an organization.
* David Chaplin: Went to a local restaurant, and they were not prepared for the onslaught of people. He suggested that the local committee should work to inform local restaurants that a conference is coming. He added that he feels NACOLE should take on oversight of district attorneys.
* Paula Tillman: Strongly urge the body and bylaws committee to amend the section of the bylaws that keeps community folks from becoming voting members. Community membership should be a category and should be a voting group.
* Damon Scott: Training is so vital to the work that is being done – the training committee should continue to push out training resources and other training opportunities. The conference booklet is a valuable tool. He noted it would be nice to have the profiles of the candidates in the conference booklet. The list of attendees is A to Z by name, but it would be nice to also list by jurisdiction or state.
* Catherine Crosby: It would be nice for the organization to develop regions, which would help members interact with others. The organizations of attendees were not listed in the booklet. The app is great, it would be nice to have all of the presentations on the app.
* Derrick Foward: Very pleased with the conference. Has been asked how to create additional connections between NACOLE and NAACP.
* Cristina Beamud: Advised the membership that the Board assisted Miami’s Civilian Investigative Panel in a lawsuit filed by the Miami FOP regarding the Police Officer’s Bill of Rights, by filing an amicus brief along with the ACLU and the NAACP.
* Willie Bell: Need to have a media day on one of the first days of the conference. Would like to see in the media that the NACOLE conference is in the city. Make members available to speak to the members. Also questioned whether we are driven by organizations, and if so, we need to profile those organizations. We also should be planning conferences several years out. Should work on a building block on how to create an organization. Need to build on the regional concept.
* Phillip Young: We need to get youth to these meetings. We can learn a lot from youth. There should be a youth panel.
* Ursula Price: Is there an update on NACOLE as a peer review organization? The roundtable discussion on Tuesday was fantastic and the Board should consider doing a session on secondary trauma. Buchner provided an update on the peer review program and said that it could be re-reviewed by the next board.
* Barbara Attard: An amazing conference. The energy is amazing. Agreed with Willie Bell to get the media to come to the conference. She read a quote from John Crew, the first NACOLE award winner.
* Byron Norris: Thanked Buchner for his service. Asked to give special recognition to our international guests at one of the receptions.
* Jane Adams: Gave thanks for the advancement of balance at the conferences. She thought previous conferences appeared unbalanced, but this one has struck a great balance.

**X. Election Results:**

Avice Reid explained how the election results were tabulated. After the explanation, the results were announced. Brian Corr was elected President. Margo Frasier, Walter Katz, and Susan Hutson were elected to the three open member-at-large seats on the NACOLE Board. The verified vote count is as follows:

For President: Brian Corr\* (64), Nicole Junior (17), Spoiled Ballot (1)

For Member at Large: Katy Crosby (27), Anthony Finnell (28), Eddie Aubrey (20), Deborah Walker (21), Margo Frasier\* (44), Susan Hutson\* (60), and Walter Katz\* (52).

Voting then opened for the one two-year term due to the election of Kelvyn Anderson as Vice-President. Barbara Attard nominated Nicole Junior, seconded by Les Mensinger. Pierce Murphy nominated Katy Crosby, seconded by Ed Harness. Merrell Bennekin nominated Deborah Walker, seconded by Robin Lolar. Clarence Vaughn nominated Anthony Finnell, seconded by Sue Quinn.

**XI. New President’s Remarks:**

Brian Corr thanked the membership for their trust in him and promised that he hears the calls of the membership. We are an amazing organization, and we can do more.

**XII. Election Results (Part II):**

Reid reported the results of the runoff election for the two-year term: Katy Crosby (21); Anthony Finnell\* (23); Nicole Junior (19); Deborah Walker (9).

**XIII. Adjournment:**

Willie Bell moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Brian Corr. Meeting was adjourned at 1824 hours MDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen U. Williams

Secretary

Meeting Attendees:

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| Jane | Adams | Riverside, CA |
| Kelvyn | Anderson | Philadelphia, PA |
| Kathy | Armstrong | Spokane, WA |
| Katina | Banks | Denver, CO |
| Cristina | Beamud | Miami, FL |
| Willie | Bell | Detroit, MI |
| Cathleen | Beltz | Los Angeles, CA |
| Merrell | Bennekin | Kansas City, MO |
| Russell | Bloom | Oakland, CA |
| Lendel | Bright | St. Petersburg, FL |
| Kisha | Brown | Baltimore, MD |
| Brian | Buchner | Los Angeles, CA |
| Hamish | Campbell | Kingston, Jamaica |
| Max | Caproni | Chicago, IL |
| Doug | Case | San Diego, CA |
| Don | Casimere | Pinole, CA |
| David | Chaplin | Syracuse, NY |
| Deb | Conklin | Spokane, WA |
| Stephen | Connolly | Los Angeles, CA |
| Brian | Corr | Cambridge, MA |
| Ainsley | Cromwell | Detroit, MI |
| Catherine | Crosby | Dayton, OH |
| Clifton | Crump | Milwaukee, WI |
| Jon | Darche | New York, NY |
| Marian | Darlington-Hope | Cambridge, MA |
| Gabriel Scott | Dean | Columbia, MO |
| Eduardo | Diaz | Miami, FL |
| Derrick | Foward | Dayton, OH |
| Margo | Frasier | Austin, TX |
| Wendy | Gamble | Los Angeles, CA |
| David | Gelting | Milwaukee, WI |
| Michael | Gennaco | Los Angeles, CA |
| David | Hammons | Cleveland, OH |
| Edward | Harness | Albuquerque, NM |
| Cheryl | Hayward | Rochester, NY |
| Rochelle | Howard | Washington, DC |
| Patrick | Hunter | San Diego, CA |
| Max | Huntsman | Los Angeles, CA |
| Susan | Hutson | New Orleans, LA |
| Kate | Jones | Santa Clara County, CA |
| Nicole | Junior | New York, NY |
| Jessica | Kingston | St. Paul, MN |
| Richard | Knowles | Oakland, CA |
| Dorothea | Leftwich | Pittsburgh, PA |
| Cameron | McEllhiney | Indianapolis, IN |
| Anitra | Merritt | Cleveland, OH |
| Nicholas | Mitchell | Denver, CO |
| Pierce | Murphy | Seattle, WA |
| Stacey | Nelson | Los Angeles, CA |
| Crista | Noël | Chicago, IL |
| Kathryn | Olson | Sammamish, WA |
| Sue | Quinn | San Diego, CA |
| Rick | Rasmussen | Salt Lake City, UT |
| MaryNell | Regan | Milwaukee, WI |
| Avice | Reid | Knoxville, TN |
| Dawn | Reynolds | Dallas, OR |
| Charles | Reynolds | Dover, NH |
| Mark | Scharman | Fresno, CA |
| Damon | Scott | Cleveland, OH |
| Mark | Smith | Los Angeles, CA |
| Jerry | Threet | Sonoma County, CA |
| Paula | Tillman | Beverly Shores, IN |
| Michael | Tobin | Washington, DC |
| Edgar | Vann II | Detroit, MI |
| Nancy | Vaughn | San Diego, CA |
| Deborah | Walker | Pittsburgh, PA |
| Laura | White | Indianapolis, IN |
| Karen | Williams | Kansas City, MO |
| Phil | Young | Akron, OH |