



**The National Association for the Employment of People who are Blind**

**2014 NAEPB Board and CEO Membership Planning Retreat**

**Executive Session Minutes**

**Charlotte Marriott SouthPark**

**Charlotte, NC**

**Thursday, January 30, 2014**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**APPROVED on May 20, 2014**

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**Directors Present:**

- Kirk Adams
- Dan Boucher
- Rudy D’Amico
- Mike Gilliam
- Gidget Hopf
- Jim Kerlin
- John Mitchell
- Lou Moneymaker
- Dennis Steiner
- Shelly Taylor
- Kevin Lynch

**Directors Elect Present:**

- Reinhard Mabry
- Dave Wells

**Directors Elect Not Present:**

- Eric Stueckrath
- Robin Usalis

The Executive Session Meeting was called to order at 7:38am by Mr. Mitchell who stated that the purpose of the meeting was to seat the newly elected board members and officers. Mr. Moneymaker proceeded with a roll call. After the roll call, Mr. Moneymaker reminded everyone of the election that had taken place. Results of the election were as follows:

- Reinhard Mabry, Alhaphointe, Elected as a New Board Member
- Dennis Steiner, VisionCorp, Re-Elected to a Two Year Term
- Eric Stueckrath, Outlook Nebraska, Elected as a New Board Member
- Shelly Taylor, Louisiana Association for the Blind, Re-Elected to another Two Year Term
- Robin Usalis, Clovernook, Elected as a New Board Member
- Dave Wells, West Texas Lighthouse, Elected as a New Board Member

Those members stepping down from the Board were:

- Kirk Adams, Seattle Lighthouse
- Dan Boucher, Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind
- Gidget Hopf, ABVI – Goodwill
- Billy Sparkman, Alabama Industries for the Blind



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Mr. Moneymaker stated that members going off of the Board were encouraged to take their seats at the table, and further would retain speaking, but no voting rights. Mr. Moneymaker proceeded to do a new Board roll call as it was newly constituted with participating members. Those individuals were as follows:

Rudy D'Amico  
Mike Gilliam  
Jim Kerlin  
John Mitchell  
Reinhard Mabry  
Lou Moneymaker  
Dennis Steiner  
Eric Stueckrath (not present)  
Shelly Taylor  
Robin Usalis (not present)  
Dave Wells  
Kevin Lynch

Mr. Moneymaker thanked the Nominating Slate for their efforts. Those individuals consisted of Don Britton (Chair), Mike Chew and Kirk Adams who worked to create the nominations slate of officers to present to the board. The nominating slate was read as follows:

- **President:** Dennis Steiner
- **Secretary:** Lou Moneymaker
- **Treasurer:** Rudy D'Amico
- **VP Operations:** Jim Kerlin
- **VP Services:** Reinhard Mabry
- **VP BSC's:** Mike Gilliam
- **VP Public Policy:** John Mitchell

Mr. Moneymaker stated that every member of the Board will have a roll. Other positions, he stated would be appointed by the President. Mr. Moneymaker asked if there were any additional nominations for the floor. No further nominations were vocalized, so members proceeded to take a vote.

**Vote Results: Slate was elected unanimously.**

Mr. Steiner shook Mr. Mitchell's hand as he officially took his seat as the newly elected President. Mr. Steiner thanked the outgoing Board Members for their outstanding service. He stated that Gidget Hopf has been instrumental in being an advocate for Public Policy and encouraged her to be involved in the future. He also commended Billy Sparkman for his sage wisdom, knowledge and support of blind people. Additionally, he thanked Kirk Adams for putting the needs of blind people first. He welcomed the new



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Board and stated that the new slate is passionate about the work ahead and that moving the program forward will be critical in the next couple of years as challenges face the program. John Mitchell was also celebrated for his leadership and guidance. Mr. Steiner stated that several years ago NAEPB did not have a clear purpose or vision but under John's tutelage, the organization resurfaced as a prime-time player. He encouraged members to continue the movement forward. Mr. Mitchell will receive a President's Service Award at the upcoming general membership meeting during the NIB/NAEPB Public Policy Forum in May. Mr. Steiner also commended Dan Boucher on his service to the Board. Mr. Steiner confirmed that he would name the additional appointments during the Board Meeting open to the general membership.

There being no further business, the Executive Session was adjourned at 7:50am.