

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS
MIAMI BRANCH 146
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 13, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Michael Lecounte, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. The members were asked to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. All attendees were asked to observe a moment of silence for those who are serving in the Military, for those who are ill, for anyone who has had death in the family. They were asked to please keep the families of former members Billy Sconyers and Dottie Johnson, who passed way in the past few weeks. Also prayers for Bob Quinlan, who is presently in the hospital.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS – Officers absent were Linda Scott and Tayloria McPhee-Johnson, who were excused.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST – Our guest was Chuck Mulidore, National Executive Vice President.

A motion was made by Pat Guyton; seconded by Mike Murphy to suspend the order of business for Chuck to speak. Motion carried.

CHUCK'S COMMENTS & RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

- Thanks for the invitation to join the group. It's good to be in Miami
- LTS was a positive experience. It was good that attendees were able to meet with their respective members of Congress
- The Lawsuit is one of the issues that continues to be addressed. The Resident officers have met with the Postal Service and requested a settlement of the lawsuit. Basic issues are concerning Comparability and Back Pay. A request for Appeals Court was made but there is no response from the Federal judge. NAPS stands by the fact that they have the right to seek deposition of materials and documentation. They are still awaiting the decision of the next step. The Deputy PMG wants to talk about the lawsuit. The Resident Officers will meet with him.

QUESTIONS & RESPONSES

- Bernice asked if there will ever be hazardous pay for EAS employees on duty, since there continues to be issues of violence. Chuck responded that this is one of the reasons that they continue to try to get the Postal Police Bill passed. Presently, they are not allowed to do what they previously did in the stations and the plants. Additionally, they are not allowed to follow carriers on the delivery route. Passing the bill will address many safety issues.

BUSINESS RESUMED AT 7:30 PM

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING – Carolyn advised that the Minutes had been mailed. A motion was made by Ann Strickland; seconded by Ray Maytin to accept the minutes as printed and mailed. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – Carolyn read a letter that was mailed to the branch, in which Joan Meadors addressed an issue of concern.

In the letter Joan explained that she reviewed the actions and assertions of two members towards her and that she is requesting a public apology from them. Further, that she considered bringing charges of defamation of character but that is not in the best interest of the organization. One member accused her of yelling at them and this is untrue, as it is supported by several people. Further, that he person spoke on this to the membership when she could not respond and alluded to her age being so old no one would say anything to her. She expressed that she has served the branch as well as the state and national organization for many years and has never been accused of such conduct. The person also made an untrue statement that they missed out on committee notices because of a typo in their email address. The email was corrected and information was resent.

Joan writes that she was falsely accused by the other person, in an email, of trying to stop them from putting in the comments they wanted. They stated that she should be removed from the committee. Joan did send a letter referring generally to not receiving responses from most of the committee members.

Joan then explained the procedure of amending the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules; including being sent to the membership for input after committee decisions are made.

Joan explained why the committee was formed and that none of the actions of the two members were warranted. She believes she is due an apology from both individuals due to their actions.

Finally, Joan included the proper action for handling of the situation from Roberts' Rules of Order, Newly Revised Sections

4.30 – How speakers are to address in a courteous tone and not attack anyone. This relates to courtesy of speakers, avoiding personalities in a meeting, injecting a personal note and/or attacking or making illusion about the motives of members; avoiding the use of members' names

4321-- Avoiding personalities or any attack or question of the motives of members;

61 - Rights of an organization to enforce rules that require members to refrain injurious conduct. Further that this behavior is a serious offense subject to disciplinary action, whether the Bylaws make mention or not.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Ann provided all Deposits, Disbursements and Balance on hand since the February 2023 meeting. Motion to accept the report made by Tom; seconded by Ray. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Ann provided an update. She advised that the LTS was positive and productive. The members were able to visit their respective representative in Congress or their aides. Further, that this year we were able to meet with the Legislative Aide for Senator Marco Rubio. Those not available in person were provided with the information provided by NAPS National Headquarters. Please go to www.naps.org and look under legislation for more in-depth information on the bills that were discussed at the LTS. Ann urged everyone to email their congressperson to co-sponsor and support legislation to protect postal personal and the US mail. Ann stated that this is directly related to the issue that Bernice brought forward. Ann stated that since 2020 the USPS had changed its policy by restricting the Inspection Service's uniformed division to postal owned or leased property, exposing letter carriers, postal vehicles and US mail to crime. The legislation would clarify that the postal police may exercise their legitimate authority to protect postal employees, property and the mail beyond the perimeters of postal occupied facilities. Ann asked that all planning to attend the Bi-State convention sell or buy 10 SPAC Raffle tickets. SPAC allows NAPS HD to sponsor congressional members who support our legislative position. Ann stated that while in DC she attended a fund raiser for Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz who is very supportive of our postal issues and is gravely concerned about the mail, our benefits and safety of all our employees.

OLD BUSINESS

BI-STATE CONVENTION – Carolyn advised that the convention will be held in Lake Lanier GA - June 2 – 3, 2023. All convention information, including Registration form and hotel information, is on the flnaps.org website. Ann provided a breakdown of expenses for delegates, which includes the airfare, transportation from ATL airport to island, Convention Registration and hotel charges, also Uber or mileage to and from home to airport and per diem. Proposed total for each delegate is \$1,643. The shuttle to the hotel from ATL and return is \$50. The provider is Luretha Slaton – phone or text to (404) 488-6614 and email is lurethaslaton@gmail.com. Each person will need to make reservations in advance.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS & RULES COMMITTEE – Joan Meadors, Chairperson advised that documents had been sent to committee members and she is awaiting comments from all members

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – Pat Nolan, Chairperson advised that the committee has not chosen an Essay topic.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Eddie made a motion that Ilia Gonzalez be appointed to the Vacancy of Executive Vice President. Ilia declined the appointment to the vacant position.

Ilia Gonzalez advised that in the February meeting, she wanted to address the president concerning the format/process for selection of attendees to LTS. Further, why she and Eddie were not chosen, as they have always attended.

Additionally, that the By-Laws require that there be a Legislative Director and Committee who make the decision. They feel that it is personal because they attended the training in October and were reimbursed.

The president responded that it is not personal. Further, that in the January meeting the membership was told that he would be the one to call all members that would be going the LTS. Also that anyone not called would not be attending. He also explained that she and Eddie had commented that new people should be involved, so be it. Michael read the list of the ten people who were contacted and the five who were actually able to attend from Branch 146. Michael further added to Ilia and Eddie that since they were both reimbursed for attending the advocacy training, that he would be calling upon them, when needed, to represent members in any actions. Ilia stated that she would think about it.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the HAMPTON INN & SUITES, 11600 NW 41ST ST, MIAMI FL 33178**. Carolyn read the Attendance sheet prior to the 50/50 and door prize drawing. The winner was Mike Murphy. SPAC drawing – The total collected was \$80 (\$40 to SPAC/\$20 each to Ray Maytin and Joan Meadors Motion to adjourn – Pat Nolan; seconded by Mike Murphy. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted - ***Carolyn J. Williams, Secretary***

Updated information available in the POSTAL SUPERVISOR. Branch 146 (www.napsbranch146.org); FL State NAPS (www.flnaps.org); NAPS Headquarters (www.naps.org)