

	NMAS Board Meeting Minutes August 26, 2023 10:00 am- 12:00 pm
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Physical Meeting Location: New Mexico Museum of Nuclear Science & History

Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3560956121>

1. Call to Order

Babu asked the members to introduce themselves and their positions.

2. Roll Call P= Present A = Absent Z= Zoom

Sumali, Anton P Past President Sandia National Labs	Knoll, Malva P Secretary Retired Albuquerque Public Schools	Showalter, Margaret A Director at Large Summer Science Camp Retired Albuquerque Public Schools	Aubele, Jayne A Teacher Awards NM Museum Natural & Science	David Schultz P Vice President Sandia National Labs
Chalamala, Babu P President Sandia National Labs	Thrall, Deb P Treasurer Retired	Liu, Zhiming A Director At Large Eastern NMU	Steve Gomez P Liaison Santa Fe Community College	Diane Peebles P President Elect, Sandia National Labs
Vladislav Sevostianov A Editor Journal of Science	Cecilia Hernandez Z Liaison NMSU	Brandvold, Lynn Z Jr. Academy Director	Ellen Loehman A Webmaster	Oscar Martinez P Liaison AFRL
Anna Llobert P Liaison LANL	Syed Mubarek P Liaison UNM	board@nmas.org		

4.

Agenda and quorum (Babu)

The board has a quorum, and followed the agenda as distributed in email by Malva.

5. Secretary's Report (Malva)

Malva called for approval of the minutes of the April 2023 meeting. Motion passed. (Malva, Anna)

6. Treasurer's Report (Deb Thrall)

Deb discussed a budget and sent it to members via email. She also provided a bank statement to show the checks which cashed after the last budget report. This accounts for changes to the Jr. Academy budget. Deb provided a separate copy of the bank statement which she will send to all members this week. She explained JAS items to Lynn. Deb asked for approval of her budget. Motion approved. (Deb, Anna)

7. Membership (David Schultz)

David spoke with projected slides. His presentation included these points: 1.) Reach out to NAAS for suggestions about membership and collecting dues. 2.) Improve the dues payment and membership process to include notification of members about their status. This would be developed on the backend of the current website. 3.) Develop a strategic plan for showing the value of NMAS to the broader community. 4.) Follow up with membership drive. Anna added that board members who are based geographically should find possible new members in their regions. She questioned how we add value to NMAS for the state residents.

A general discussion occurred with the following points made by various board members.

1. Tracking exiting members is needed for newsletters, notification of payment, and announcing NMAS activities. NAAS might provide some services member organizations. David will pursue this item. Currently we use Mail Chimp and Pay Pal for communication, but these programs do not talk to each other. Deb offered to work with Ellen Loehman using Gravity Forms to alleviate this problem. She will build the database of members for this project. Southwest Cyber Port can accommodate talking among the systems.
2. David suggests a phased approach for changing the process. The system should be automated for renewal of memberships and other announcements. Currently Ellen owns the Gravity Forms subscription, but it is open for use by other organizations. It can link Pay Pal to email announcements.
3. David suggests annual reminders to be for automated renewals. He noted that PayPal charges a small percentage of the fees for using their services.
4. Action item from last meeting: show members why NMAS is valuable. This is needed for a membership drive and to appeal to other organizations for grants. Soliciting donations or grants takes time and resources.
5. Steve Gomez and Syed Mubarak noted that older people are not hooked on social media. It may take volunteers, paid interns or professionals to create and maintain social media. Steve Gomez reported that Santa Fe Community College was supported by EPSCoR for this. UNM has many followers on social media but Mubarak Syed sees only a few hits on his personal Twitter and Facebook.
6. NMAS must create a message to reach out to institutions and science teacher. It should highlight NMAS as a community organization supporting science education endeavors. Capture these ideas in a plan of some sort. NMAS can highlight Jr. Academy as an achievement when they reach out to science teachers. We need someone to create short snippets for the social media and for delivery to the community colleges.
7. LANL supports Northern New Mexico. Diversity is important, but LANL does not target community colleges. PR does not come soon enough, or it occurs during final exam week of students. . NMAS could become a statewide clearinghouse where science teachers reach real scientists. Deb will own capturing member data and David will lead the effort to populate a the NMAS Google Drive. Malva pointed out the NMAS brochure topics from an on-line copy. She will share documents for board members through the Google Drive.
8. In the past, the NM state legislature funded for the Visiting Scientist Program managed by NMAS. It provided scientists an honorarium for visiting students 6-12. The program was run through Highlands University. It was stopped when the legislature withdrew funding. NMAS could become a statewide clearinghouse where science teachers reach real scientists by re-instituting this program.
9. Cecilia suggested that NMAS present at the NMSTA conferences. NMAS teacher award winners could present on a panel; guest lecturers who have gone to schools can speak in panel discussions; and Science Standards are a good topic for most teachers. Cecilia also noted that Science teacher turnover is rampant, and a 2-year stint is normal.

10. One immediate solution to the communication problems of NMAS is to add a BLOG to the NMAS website for posting of messages. Deb Thrall will get help from Ellen for that task. Anna will create folders for the NMAS Google Drive for items used by the Board of Directors. Malva will help populate the folders.

8. FUND RAISING FOR NMAS (Babu)

At the last meeting it was mentioned NMAS received \$0 from United Way this year. These donations were collected at Sandia Labs from employees who opted for NMAS as their charity of choice. Sandia fund raising has not e did not host a physical program for the past years. It will occur this coming September. Babu and Anton can do the presentations using a prepared PowerPoint.

Deb mentioned that PED through the Bureau of Math & Science gave \$8000 to NMSTA for attendance at the fall conference in Farmington. Steve Gomez recommended contacting the Legislative Education Finance Committee headed by Gwen Warniment. Steve will also contact Even Grid who is purchasing PNM.

9. Replacing Board Members.

Rod Rock resigned his position as Liaison for NM Highlands University. Anna inquired about whether NMAS did exit interviews. Anton will contact Rod. Anna also suggested that a person who resigns from an institution or geographic region should help pass the baton to another person who might take over the vacancy. David recommended that the board make a list of organizations that should have representation on the board. It could be set up such that the organization seeks the replacement of any member who retires. The board might need a discussion of the by-law's requirements for memberships. This item will be addressed in Babu's ad hoc committee.

Mubarak Syed will contact Jennifer Nilvo from Los Lunas concerning the upcoming resignation of Lynn Brandvold as Director of the Jr. Academy of Science. Deb will contact Cynthia Connelly at Socorro for this position also. There will be two openings for Director at Large open for the next ballot. Anna Llobet has volunteered to run for the position of Vice-President.

11. Annual Meeting (Diaane Peebles)

Diane reported there will be no fee for the speaker, Demitri Maestas, this year. He is a Sandia National Labs employee who will talk about Artificial Intelligence. Deb will work with Jayne to order plaques for the speaker and teacher awards. Anton listed other annual meeting items such as setting up a recruitment table and soliciting moderators for the sessions. Malva will post an email to members for the annual meeting and roles for NMAS members. The current QR code on the NMAS swag is disabled. Diane will contact the printer. Next NMAS meeting: UNM Student Union Building in conjunction with EPSCoR poster presentations. Time to be announced in the NMAS newsletter.

12. Adjourn and Next Board Meeting

Diane will provide a training at the January meeting for new board members. Mubarak will check on the availability of the Q Station at 3225 Central Avenue in Albuquerque sponsored by AFRL as the site for January meeting of the NMAS Board of Directors.