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[www.nspma.org](http://www.nspma.org)

## **National School Plant Management Association**

Date: February 12, 2020  
Call to Order: Keith Watkins  
Time: 9:03 am EST

### Board Members in attendance:

Keith Watkins	Debbie Shedden
Rick Walters	Bill Shedden
Larry Nichols	Kevin Barney
William Bland	Greg Harrow
A.J. Nordt	Wayne Natzel
Mike Mertens	William Bland
John Bailey	Lauren Glose
Kim Keener	John Rome
Dave Meyers	Brian Wright
Leon Sturkey	

### *Open Session for questions at National Conference*

Keith Watkins- open session to ask questions, give feedback. (Went around the table with introduction and questions.)

John Rome- wants to know what people would like to see? Possibly a casino night. Other socials?  
A.J. Nordt added it is important to run something for spouses especially with next year being on Valentine's Day.

Kim Keener- wants to hear from the new people (at the table).

Asok Batra (non-broad member)- from Savannah County, new to school plant management and was surprised to see the lack of women in the system. It was his first conference. Some of the sessions were sales pitches, more of them were knowledge adding.

Keith Watkins commented that the NY state conference is vetted, presentations go up on the website.

William Bland- Also noted about the session and in GA the conference coordinator would indicate if the presentation was by a business partner. There was confusion at the titles of the sessions.

John Bailey noted that speakers were brought in that were not attached to business partners. There is a call for presentations that is done.

A.J. Nordt- went to five seminars. A copy of the slide presentations from the seminars should go up on the website with member only access.

Asked the group for thoughts on the December 15<sup>th</sup> due date for the scholarship. (Was moved up from January 15<sup>th</sup> so the awards could be made at the conference.)

Question was asked if the application asks for the G.P.A.

Discussion about selection criteria- this was the first year that family of NSPMA members were given preference. Otherwise, the decision is economics (financial need).

Discussion about whether the scholarship should be focused on the trades. There was suggestion of selling ads in the program to fund the scholarship program.

Wayne Natzel-conference went great.

Kevin Barney- Suggested that the conference do what is done at the LA state conference. Business partners are allowed to say something right before the tradeshow opens. 30 minutes total, 30 seconds per business partner. Would give every business partner an opportunity to speak.

Steve (from KY, non-board member)- suggested having a track for organizational growth (as a state organization), covering items like insurance, compliance and non-profit laws. Mentioned that Feb 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> having an executive directors and assistant executive directors meeting in Kentucky.

Greg Harrow- the raffling of items during the tradeshow should not be included as part of the tradeshow. It was distracting. Greg discussed with Jimmy Martin other ideas for what could be done instead. There was a comment about designating which business partners were national vs regional.

Randy Hill (non-board member)- from TN, first year at the national conference. Found the networking very helpful.

Debbie Shedden- from TN, first year at the national conference.

TN state conference has an app that tells the agenda and breakout session. (Discussion about costs, various states use apps. KY sells sponsorships to pay for app.) Allows for push notifications and e-blasts.

TN also sponsors a very popular spouses outing with a charter bus and lunch. Requires a minimum of 10 spouses.

Mike Mertens- business partners were not clear on what they served geographically. Also noted about spouses program.

Leon Sturkey- from SC, new to facilities management. Suggested that the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline would be better for the scholarship program, based on his experience as a school guidance counselor.

Kim Parahaus (non-board member)- from NY, first national conference, glad to attend and work together.

Bill Shedden-from TN, suggested a list of business partners and what tradeshow booth they are in, also suggested color coding the name badges. Name and state should be bigger on the badge. At the tradeshow there were national business partners present who sent regional reps, those reps were able to refer information to the correct rep.

Dave Meyers- from IL, first national conference. Everyone was personable. Appreciated the ramped-up flow and thank you to everyone. Suggested a synopsis of the breakout sessions.

Cristina Windover-agreed about the confusion with the titles of the break sessions, clearer descriptions. Also the app would be useful, there were last minute room, presenter changes that weren't easily communicated.

Lauren Glose- Establish a registration close out date.

Larry Nichols-enjoyed talking to the business partners and listening to conversations. Suggestions on the setup of business partners at the tradeshow-

Screening the set-up needs, some of the displays were distracting or bothersome to neighboring booths.

Also keep vendors in similar industries from being right next to each other.

Adjourned 9:57 a.m.