



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

**American Association for Public Opinion Research**

**Executive Council Minutes**

**Thursday, March 10, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Council:**

Jennifer Agiesta	Vice President
Paul Beatty	President
Jennifer Hunter Childs	Associate Secretary-Treasurer
Marjorie Connelly	Standards Chair
Michael Delli Carpini	Associate Education Chair
Aleia Clark Fobia	Associate Communications Chair
Yazmín García Trejo	Communications Chair
Ana Gonzalez-Barrera	Inclusion and Equity Chair
Liz Hamel	Councilor-at-Large
Allyson Holbrook	Associate Conference Chair
Ricki Jarmon	Councilor-at-Large
Cameron McPhee	Associate Standards Chair
Patricia Moy	Past President
Heather Ridolfo	Membership and Chapter Relations Chair
Alisu Schoua-Glusberg	Councilor-at-Large
Rodney Terry	Associate Inclusion and Equity Chair
Jerry Timbrook	Associate Membership and Chapter Relations Chair
James Wagner	Education Chair
Brady West	Conference Chair
Anna Wiencrot	Secretary-Treasurer

**Staff:**

Lailah Johnson	Program Manager
Leon Spinner	Membership Manager
Tristanne Staudt	Executive Director

**I. Welcome, Call to Order, DEI Reminder, Review and Approval of Minutes (A/R) –Beatty**

**Beatty called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm EST.**

Beatty welcomed the Council and opened the session by reminding everyone that the meeting will follow Robert’s Rules of Order. He asked Councilors to self-identify before speaking so that meeting minutes could accurately capture motions, seconds, and comments. Beatty asked Councilors to be mindful of goals of diversity, equity and inclusion in all discussions.

**Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

Beatty presented minutes from the January meeting.

**MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Timbrook] to approve the minutes from the January 2023 Executive Council meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**II. Consent Agendas (A/R) – All**

Beatty asked if any of the items from the consent agenda needed to be pulled out for further discussion. West raised a question about the unaddressed standards complaints noted in the Standards Report. Connelly acknowledged the oversight and will follow up with more information on Monday. West requested that the Standards Report be pulled and updated with more information on the status of the aforementioned complaints.

Hamel asked about the Education Report which reported that a webinar presenter had an issue with the copyright rules surrounding their webinar. Staudt clarified that agreement regarding copyright was not resolved prior to the date of the webinar, so the webinar was postponed indefinitely.

Beatty asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, with the removal of the Standards Report, as submitted.

**MOTION: [by West, seconded by Wiencrot] to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the Standards Report. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**III. Appointments (A/R) – All**

Beatty presented one nominee for the JSSAM Advisory Committee. Holbrook raised a question about sitting on multiple committees that are similar in role. Council discussed the term limit and cross-appointment policy and its application to different types of AAPOR committees. Staudt clarified the policy.

**MOTION: [by Moy, seconded by Jarmon] to approve the nominee for the JSSAM Advisory Committee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Beatty presented one nominee for the MCR Roper and Student Travel Award Subcommittee.

**MOTION: [by Wiencrot, seconded by Agiesta] to approve the nominee for the MCR Roper and Student Travel Award Subcommittee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **IV. President's Report (I/O)-Beatty**

Beatty provided an update on the discussions with Mike Traugott around the Public Opinion and Democracy proposal. Beatty requested Councilors suggest members to this ad-hoc committee. Beatty also gave an update on Frank Newport's proposal for his proposed new publication, Public Pulse. The Publications Subcommittee had raised issues with this proposal. Newport and colleagues submitted written responses to Beatty yesterday; these will require review and follow-up. Newport recommended commissioning 1-2 articles to show what the publication might offer for the purposes of generating feedback/discussion. The prototypes would not be a cost to AAPOR and could serve as a model for future articles should the proposal be accepted. Beatty suggested convening a new subcommittee to think about opportunities for publications. This subcommittee would fall under the purview of the Communications Committee

Discussion ensued surrounding sustainability and the other questions that the Publications Subcommittee had raised. Beatty asked for a motion to approve a no-cost prototype from Newport and colleagues.

**MOTION: [by Delli Carpini, seconded by McPhee] to solicit proposed topics and authors for up to two prototype articles from Newport and colleagues. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **V. Education Committee (A/R) Publications Governance Document**

Wagner updated the Publications Governance Document to reflect feedback provided by Councilors during the January meeting. The revised document was posted for Council Review with track changes. Moy suggested revising the language about complaints. Hamel noted an inconsistency in the appendix that will be fixed in the final document.

**MOTION: [by West, seconded by Ageista] to approve and adopt the Publications Governance document with the changes discussed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **JSSAM Call for Editor-in-Chief**

The Call for Editor-in-Chief was posted in Dropbox for review. With this proposal, AAPOR would be in the position to be recruiting editors for two journals at the same time, which is not ideal; however, this is the timing that the JSSAM Advisory Committee is recommending.

Moy asked about the transition of editorship and based on the language of the call, whether the outgoing or incoming editors handle proofs for issues published during the transition period. . She noted that editors traditionally are responsible for volumes, which run the calendar year. Holbrook confirmed that the outgoing editors usually see their final issue through the proofing stage.

No vote was taken and Wagner will revisit the proofing issues with the current editors.

## **VI. AAPOR Conference Vaccine Policy (A/R) - West**

Prior to the meeting, Councilors voted online on options for how the 2023 conference vaccine policy could potentially be revised. This issue was raised due to a few members asking for exemptions or providing feedback about the policy. Brady thanked everyone for their quick response and reported that a small majority of councilors were in favor of removing the requirement for vaccines, boosters, and rapid tests.

Several councilors raised questions around this proposed change. This included concern that some people have registered for the conference under the understanding that attendees would be required to be fully vaccinated and have received their boosters. Councilors noted recent health research suggesting antigen testing is better at reducing the spread of the virus than vaccine requirements.

Councilors discussed impacts of each element of the current and proposed policies, including those on registration and sponsorship. When researching the current policy, Beatty and Staudt reviewed other conferences, and did not identify any comparable conferences with a vaccination requirement in 2023. Council also discussed barriers to vaccine access, inconsistent documentation, and best ways to implement various policies.

Given the low number of requests for exemptions, the success of last year's conference, and record sponsorship even with a vaccine requirement, Council decided to maintain a vaccine requirement, but not require proof of booster. This will streamline the check-in process while respecting those who have committed to the conference with an understanding that there would be a vaccine requirement.

**MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Connelly] moved to approve the following policy for the AAPOR 2023 conference:**

**All attendees, speakers, staff, exhibitors, and volunteers will need to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination in order to attend the conference. If you have a medical reason to be exempted from this policy, please contact AAPOR here, and submit documentation signed by a health professional. Masks, although not required, are welcome and encouraged at all indoor settings. We ask that if you have had any recent exposure to COVID-19 virus or are experiencing symptoms of the virus, please do not attend. We strongly encourage you to take a rapid-antigen test on the day of**

**arrival and only attend if you have a negative result. Please exhibit safe behavior at all times and respect your fellow attendees.**

**The motion passed by majority with seventeen in favor, one in opposition, and three abstentions.**

#### **VII. Conduct Policy Update - Staudt**

Staudt reported that after legal review, the Conduct Policy has been updated in format and content. These edits included: 1) removing chapter events from the scope of the Conduct Policy; 2) removing mention of specific types of events; 3) updating the roles to reflect the Equity and Inclusion Committee Chair; and 4) including anti-competitive and antitrust language and requirements that are being adopted by many associations at this time. The lawyer also recommended that we not share findings of investigations with the Chapters as had been part of the process in the previous policy.

Childs requested a track-changes version of the policy. Staudt agreed to highlight changes because the document format has been significantly overhauled, making reviewing with track changes difficult. Moy offered to create a comparison document and post it on Dropbox. McPhee asked how we would communicate changes. Staudt replied it would need to be released with the election ballot and that a write-up of the changes would be provided.

Garcia Trejo asked if there was information about how AAPOR plans to protect members who have reported a violation. She voiced concern both for the victim and for ensuring communication surrounding the issues.

**MOTION: [by Moy, seconded by McPhee] to accept the policy. The motion passed by majority with three abstentions.**

#### **VIII. ADJOURN**

**MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by Connelly] to adjourn the open portion of the Executive Council meeting and move into the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.