



**American Association for Public Opinion Research  
Executive Council Minutes  
Thursday, April 13, 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                   |
| 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 the goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all discussions.

### **Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

Beatty presented minutes from the March meeting.

**MOTION: [by Ageista, seconded by McPhee] to approve the minutes from the March 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. Hearing none, Beatty asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

**MOTION: [by Wiencrot, seconded by Timbrook] to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

### **III. Appointments (A/R) – All**

Wagner presented one nominee for the Online Education Subcommittee of Education.

**MOTION: [by Delli Carpini, seconded by McPhee] to approve the nominee for the Online Education Subcommittee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Ridolfo presented one nominee for the Survey Subcommittee of MCR.

**MOTION: [by Wagner, seconded by Holbrooke] to approve the nominee for the Survey Subcommittee of MCR. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Beatty presented three nominees for Mike Traugott’s Special Committee.

**MOTION: [by Schua-Glousburg, seconded by Wiencrot] to approve the nominees for Mike Traugott’s Special Committee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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

Beatty provided an update on AAPOR’s Public Opinion Podcast (“POP”), to be released soon. Committees should be wrapping up their year and planning to transition to the new chairs. Ageista will bring up future priorities for the next council later in the agenda. The next meeting will be in person at the conference. Election results will also be available soon.

### **V. Finance Committee (A/R) - Wiencrot**

Wiencrot thanked councilors for providing input on recommendations for the financial investment strategy. A summary of this input is on Dropbox. The first item for discussion was the amount of risk that AAPOR should be using currently for investments. The consensus was to minimize risk at this time. The Secretary-Treasurers and Executive Director also advised keeping risk low. Wiencrot asked for a motion to recommend that the Finance Committee revisit the investment strategy to ensure that it is appropriate and low-risk.

Hamel commended the Finance Committee on the presentation of the situation, the poll of councilors, and summary of findings.

**MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by Moy] to pass the recommendation to the Finance Committee to maintain a posture of low risk with investments. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

A second discussion point was the recommendation to use investment earnings from the Sudman and Roper Award funds to supplement AAPOR general funds. Based on the recommendations from Council, Secretary-Treasurers, and the Executive Director, Wiencrot recommended looking into how much would be gleaned from doing this and proceeding with moving these funds. In the future, this could be done approximately once a year, but would be revisited by Council beforehand. Wiencrot called for a motion to take investment earnings from the Roper and Sudman Awards accounts to repurpose for other AAPOR expenses.

The clarification was made that donations make these awards self-sustaining. If interest is withdrawn and principal is used for awards, then without additional contributions, then the principal will decline over time. It's important to re-evaluate every year to maintain the self-sustaining nature of the award. It was recommended that AAPOR clarify to donors how interest will be used moving forward.

**MOTION: [by Childs, seconded by Wagner] to approve the withdrawal of investment earnings from the Sudman and Roper Awards but with the requisite that Council will be given a balance sheet providing the balances, interest and donations from the Finance Committee. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

## **VI. Education (A/R) - Wagner**

Wagner revisited the call for new editors for JSSAM. At the last Council meeting, Councilors were concerned with the transition period between editors. This has been revised to make a cleaner transition by having the current Editors completely wrap up their last issue prior to the new Editors coming onboard. Now there will be calls for editors for two journals going out this year. This is unintended and may be corrected in the future by staggering the terms.

Moy brought up the point that concurrent recruiting could be beneficial, as opposed to limiting. Timing of the calls was also discussed. A suggestion was made that instead of specifically

requiring the editor to present at the Annual Business Meeting, the call requires the editor to present at the Annual Conference.

Beatty called for a motion to approve the call for a JSSAM EIC with an amendment to change the word “Business Meeting” to “Conference.”

**MOTION: [by Delli Carpini, seconded by Hamel] to accept the call as amended. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **VI. Survey Practice Editor (A/R) - Hamel**

Hamel reported that there were three very qualified applicants and any one could have been a successful editor. The committee recommended Eva Aizpurua based on her past experience as Associate Editor. The committee will recommend the other two candidates as Associate Editors to the new Editor.

**MOTION: [by McPhee, seconded by Wiencrot] to appoint Aizpurua as Editor of Survey Practice. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **VII. Standards (A/R) - Connolly**

##### **CTIA Ad Hoc Committee**

The Committee has not been able to come to a consensus on how to successfully approach the CTIA with a request for survey exemption. The FCC has issued a Federal Register Notice (FRN) related to the Do Not Call List and SMS. The Subcommittee has drafted a response by AAPOR to the FCC FRN.

Several councilors mentioned minor modification to the AAPOR response to soften language. Questions were asked about the understanding of how the regulations for voice calls and the Do Not Call List would convey to the SMS Do Not Call List. This is unknown.

Beatty called for a motion to accept the lightly edited FRN response.

**MOTION: [by Delli Carpini, seconded by Gonzalez-Barrera] to submit the comment to the FCC FRN from AAPOR. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

##### **Standards Complaint Committee**

Both committees have been reactivated. One committee needed more information. The other committee has sent several letters with no response so far.

##### **TICC Subcommittee**

The TICC Subcommittee is looking for a new co-chair and new committee members.

#### **VIII. Planning for 2023-2024 Executive Council (A/R)–Agiesta**

Agiesta requested that each Councilor ensure that each role has a transition plan in place as the Conference approaches. Agiesta will reach out to each incoming chair in the coming weeks to plan.

Agiesta wants to establish a Task Force or Ad Hoc Committee to update strategic plans, which are mostly at least a decade old. Given our successful move to self-management, our “Future of AAPOR Finances” report, and our past strategic plans, we need to make a comprehensive plan for moving forward.

A question was raised as to whether it should be a task force, an ad-hoc committee, or the entire Council that creates the strategic plan. It has been done in different ways in the past. Having a task force/ad-hoc committee working on it may provide a broader engagement, including early-career members and members who do not necessarily have the time or bandwidth to serve on Council. The concern surfaced that people outside of Council may not have a clear understanding of how AAPOR operates.

It was decided that an ad-hoc committee was appropriate. A suggestion was made to post an application-type process to AAPORnet for volunteers. The goal is to have a slate of nominees for this ad-hoc committee in May; Staudt would like to bring in a consultant to work on this effort as well.

In addition, it may be helpful to have input from the broad AAPOR membership - perhaps via the membership survey or qualitative interviews.

Agiesta called for a motion to create this ad-hoc committee.

**MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by McPhee] to form an ad-hoc committee to work on strategic planning. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**IX. Annual Report & Business Meeting (I/O)–Staudt**

Staudt reviewed the Dropbox document with suggestions to reimagine AAPOR’s annual report. Suggestions included: highlighting award winners, especially students, and relying on graphics over text in order to simplify the annual report even further.

The business meeting should be kept to 1-2 slides per committee. Instead of having each journal editor spend 5 minutes, the Education Chair would spend a few minutes covering each journal. This would allow more time for membership questions/feedback/engagement.

**X. Conference (I/O) - Holbrook**

Holbrook shared that overall all factors point to a highly successful conference. One of the virtual short courses has particularly low enrollment (4), so the committee was thinking of canceling it and requested Council’s feedback. The course will not be canceled. The question was raised as to whether in the future, short-course agreements include the option of canceling short courses

that are under-enrolled. Overall short-course attendance has been dropping. In the long term, Council should consider whether the plan for short courses at conference should be revisited.

## **XI. New Business**

### **Ad-Hoc Award–Hamel**

The Policy Impact Award Committee asked Council to consider a one-time award for a specific project that had been nominated, but did not fit the specification for the Policy Impact Award or for other existing AAPOR awards. The Committee agreed that the nominated project had a positive impact during the COVID pandemic, but was not policy-related.

There was concern about the process for granting such a request. Several expressed concern that there wasn't competition for such an award, thus one shouldn't be spontaneously created and awarded. The option was put on the table to put out a special call for COVID-related awards. Concern was brought up that COVID was too specific, and perhaps we could generalize to a related NSF category, like Rapid Response.

At a future committee meeting we will consider one-time awards in this vein. There was no action at this time.

### **Inclusive Voices Move-Jarmon**

Jarmon requested that the Inclusive Voices Award be moved from the Councilors at Large to the EIC Chairs.

**MOTION: [by Timbrook, seconded by Wiencrot] to move the Inclusive Voices Award from Councilors at Large to the EIC chairs. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

## **VIII. ADJOURN**

**MOTION: [by Agiesta, seconded by Jarmin] 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 2:10 pm.