



San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists

May Meeting 2017

La Prensa / HeartFire Media

Fine Silver Building, 816 Camaron St.

Host: Samantha Najera

Attendees: Tony Quesada, Juan Manuel Gonzalez, Velia Gonzalez, Angela Downey, Tessa Benavides, Veronica Gill, Samantha Najera, Blanca Morales, Manuel Figueroa, Ximena Alvarez, Yolanda Arellano, Martha Tijerina, Joey Palacios, Nikiza Goga, Sergio Chapa, Marisa Garza

The meeting called to order at 6:26 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Members introduced themselves. Samantha Najera, our host, talked about HeartFire Media and the relationship between her company and La Prensa.

Minutes

Minutes from the April 18 general membership meeting were presented. Angela moved to approve; Martha second. Minutes approved.

Membership Report

Tony reported that we have about 58

Treasurer's Report

Tessa gave a brief report on the SAAHJ's accounts:

- Operating account: \$6,630.18. There was an increase due to fiesta medals sales
- Foundation Account: \$141,075.66. We have seen it increase due to getting sponsor payments

Board Nominations

Joey went over the board positions for SAAHJ. He explained that the president and vice president must be considered a working journalist. The rest of the positions must be members. Nominations are opening today.

Joey said that Didi Fuentes will be the nominations chair, as she will not be running for a position. People can send nominations to her by email. Nominations will be accepted through June 9 (CORRECTION: Subsequently, the nomination period was extended to June 16). The voting period will be June 19 through June 24.

Joey is declaring for president. Ximena is declaring for vice president. Angela Downey nominates Angelica Garza for treasurer. Tony is declaring for secretary. Sergio is declaring for at-large print. Ximena said that Carlos Valenzuela plans to run for a position to be determined. Tessa nominates Chris Shadrock for at-large broadcast. Joey believes that Margaret Garcia intends to run again for at large communications. Joey said that Silvia Rincon is interested in running for at-large communications.

Gala Update

Tessa said that we have sent all our appeal letters to our sponsors. She said we need help during the next phone bank to ask whether sponsors have received our letter and whether they have any questions. The next phone bank is at 8:30 am on May 31 and Summer Moon. The next one after that is at 11 am on June 15 at Summer Moon.

Tessa said Our Lady of the Lake University has confirmed, and UIW has given a verbal commitment.

\$1,500 members include OLLU, HEB, Methodist Healthcare Ministries. NuStar gave \$500. We've seen a decrease across the board. Gerardo Hernandez sent a \$2,000 donation.

Also, we are doing a raffle, which is being organized by Nikiza and Melanie Mendez-Gonzales. Nikkiza gave an update on the raffle committee. She asked about how many raffles we should do. Tessa said she should package gift cards into three or four packages.

Tessa said the SAAHJ is using the email address gala@sahispanicjournalists.com to conduct communications related to the gala.

Joey mentioned our tax situation, which has been corrected.

Tessa talked about the swag bag committee. We need 600 units of items to be included in the gala.

WhyNot? Entertainment

Velia Gonzales gave a presentation on WhyNot? Entertainment. She said her company would like to sponsor the talent for the gala.

Tessa said that the entertainment should be on the softer side while people are eating. We're also looking at doing an after party.

Scholarship Update

We have 29 scholarship applications. Ximena said we need judges.

Joey said we plan to award up to \$40,000, generally not more than \$5,000 to one student.

Job Bank Update

Sergio said he has redesigned the job bank. We need to send out an email every Wednesday. Yolanda said she knows someone who can help.

Member Announcements

Martha said the GED brunch is Dec. 2 at the Omni. October is the 40th anniversary of the Mexican-American Unity Conference. Martha said there will be a gala at the Mays Family Center at the Witte Museum.

Samantha said HeartFire Media has a weekly newsletter that is sent out every Wednesday that can post announcements.

Adjournment

Sergio moved to adjourn. Martha seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.