

## **NYLA Governance Task Force**

**September 1, 2021**

Present: Barbara Stripling, Art Friedman, Katie Bertrand, Rebecca Fuss, Sarah Glogowski, Nancy Howe, Jull Hurst-Wahl, Sheryl Knab, Jill Leinung, Beth Merkel, Christina Ryan-Linder, Tara Thibault-Edmonds, Kevin Verbesy, Kelly Yim

Excused: Courtney Young

Barbara opened the meeting at 3:04pm with introductions, and overview of the charge, timeline, and protocols for our meetings.

*Discussion continued about the scope of our work: What issues are we trying to address?*

The group agreed on the importance of communication with NYLA membership, transparency, and clarification of roles, responsibilities, and relationships between the board, staff, and membership. These measures will leave less open to interpretation. This group agreed that it does not have to present all solutions, but rather make recommendations. For example, this group could recommend that NYLA work with human relations professionals to revise HR policies. The diversity of this group is a plus in that members with various experiences may discover policies that are missing.

*What is the appropriate mechanism for addressing each issue?*

The group agreed on the need to prioritize the issues, and that recommendations to change the bylaws and the Executive Director job description were top priorities. Initial thoughts were to assign work groups in breakout rooms, but the group agreed instead to work as a whole to review Articles IV and V of the bylaws, since many of the concerns overlap. Sheryl tracked suggestions for revisions on Google Drive for all to see. (Note: since the suggestions are tracked on Google Drive, they are not in these minutes.)

*Next Steps:* The group formed three subgroups to meet on their own, review the suggestions and report recommendations in writing back to the whole group at the next meeting.

Subgroup 1: (Articles I – IV) Christina, Jill H., Katie, Kelly, Beth

Subgroup 2: (Article V) Tara, Nancy, Sheryl, Jill L., Art

Subgroup 3: (Article VI) Rebecca, Sarah, Kevin, Courtney

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 8, 3pm – 5pm on Zoom.**

The meeting ended at 5pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Fuss