

**Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County
Board of Directors' Regular Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2019**

Held at Orange County's Credit Union, 856 N Ross St, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Revised on November 7, 2019

1. Call to Order – The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Stan Ness at 10:05 am. **Roll Call** by the Secretary: The minimum quorum of seven was established by the presence of the following members: Alf Lyle, April Lancaster, Barton Harlan, Dave Chapel, Diana Merryman, Ian Guajardo, Joe Moreland, Lynn Bonas, Marie Whittington, Sandy Dunkin, Stan Ness and Yvette Hill. No members were absent. Also, in attendance was General Member Wanda Shaffer.

2. Approval of Board Minutes of September 5, 2019.... Stan – Sandy moved that the minutes be approved as published. Motion was seconded. During the discussion, Dave pointed out that Stan, not he, would be covering the Association's plan for the 2020 Goals and Objectives. Stan agreed that this is correct. Minutes approved as amended.

3. Acknowledgement of Guests.... Stan – (Note: No guests were in attendance.)

4. Treasurer's Report.... Stan Ness acting as temporary treasurer – It was reported that Stan still is unable to fully reconcile the checking account. He is currently rebuilding the check register. A check for the September luncheon at the Phoenix Club was issued. However, Stan deferred writing a check regarding John Gallie until this morning. Stan indicated that he wanted to complete his work, as temporary treasurer, before turning the duties over to the new Treasurer in January 2020.

(A) Establishing a list of association assets. – (see **Attachment #1**) The President reminded everyone that if they are in possession of association assets, including relevant documents (e.g., the original copy of the Articles of Incorporation) they should send a list of such to Dave Chapel (the volunteer Association Archivist). No date for completion was established.

5. Membership Report.... Alf Lyle – There was nothing new to report. Alf continues to maintain the membership rosters. Currently, we have 87 paid members on record. Last year the Association had 93 paid members on the books.

6. Programs.... Lynn Bonas –

(A) Status of luncheon speaker for Dec. meeting – Judge Erick Larsh, Assistant Presiding Judge, is currently scheduled to swear-in the new Board of Directors and to be the speaker for the December luncheon meeting.

(B) Suggestions for future speakers – Lynn indicated that Sherriff Barnes is tentatively scheduled as the speaker for the March 2020 luncheon. It was suggested that Tara Campbell, Mayor of the City of Yorba Linda, be considered as a future speaker. In December 2018, Tara was unanimously voted to serve as Mayor of Yorba Linda, making her the youngest female Mayor in California's history and the youngest female Mayor in United States history for a city of 30,000 or more. (At the time she was 27 years old.) Mayor Campbell is currently the youngest female Mayor in the United States. She earned a Masters in Public Administration from USC and has extensive experience in county and city government.

7. Newsletter.... Status – After a brief discussion, Lynn moved to appoint Marie Whittington as the Editor of the newsletter. Mike Morris will continue to be responsible for its' distribution. Seconded and passed. It was suggested, and approved, that the Association Newsletter be sent to a wider audience than just the Association's membership.

8. Committee Reports:

(A) Measure M.... Bill Underwood – (No report is expected before January 2020.)

(B) Speaker's Bureau.... Sandy Dunkin – (A handout was provided. See [Attachment #2](#))

1. Comments as to program materials (Included in an e-mail sent out prior to this Board meeting by President Ness) – Sandy indicated that another thing we should add to the Standing Rules for the Facebook and Newsletter is a statement that our Association will always be **non-political and non-partisan**. Or words to that effect.

Sandy said (FYI) she had e-mailed her PowerPoint presentation to Kostas Kalaitzidis (OC Courts PIO) and the two co-chairs of the OCGJ P&O Committee after her meeting with them on Wednesday, at their request. They called out the 2nd slide, that had been added a month ago, that it could be construed as political (even though it was not intended that way). The slide was of Muller and Trump and a newspaper headline referring to a Grand Jury investigation. It was used only once, referring to the reason why the public is all of a sudden interested in what a grand jury is all about. Kostas and Don Noble (OCGJ Foreperson) caught it and, also, noted that it was not appropriate. Sandy agreed with them, thanked them for catching it, and immediately deleted it from the PowerPoint presentation.

Sandy suggested that putting something in our Standing Rules would provide a good guideline for the future to remind everyone NOT TO BE POLITICAL OR PARTISAN. The wording will be left up to the Committee/Board. She believes the website already has something that deals with the speakers' subject matter, since we do have local politicians speak at our luncheons occasionally.

2. Additions to website – No further comments on this subject were offered.

3. Scheduled events – Sandy will be speaking to the P.E.O. Chapter in Laguna Beach on Thursday, October 17th.

(C) Legislative.... John Moohr (excused) – Due to his hospitalization, there will be no report this month. The Board sends their best wishes (and a signed get-well card) to John.

(D) Bylaws Committee.... Dave Chapel –

1. Status of final. – April Lancaster moved to approve the revised Bylaws in their current form. Seconded and passed without further discussion.

(E) Continuity Committee.... Diana Merryman – It was reported that the committee met and discussed a number of topics. Outside of the Committee's charge, the CC made the recommendation to establish top-down Goals and Objectives for the Association first, rather than from the bottom up by Committees as previously discussed. A related recommendation was to form a 3- member ad hoc Committee to draft Goals and Objectives for the Board's consideration. The Board agreed with this approach and Stan Ness, Lynn Bonas and Marie Whittington were asked to take on this project, with Marie as chair. Dave cited the Mission and Goals in the By-laws as a good place to start.

1. Scheduled committee meetings. – The Continuity Committee currently meets the 3rd Thursday of the month.

2. Responses from GJ panel. – There has been no response, as of this time, from the current Grand Jury for assistance. There was some discussion concerning the negativity around the Grand Jury system. It was suggested to create a motto or slogan to help combat this negative perception. This could involve a newsletter request of the General membership. It was also suggested that the committee prepare background information, statistics, etc., and provide an analysis to the current Grand Jury panel. Stan asked if there were any objections to the committee gathering such data. No objections were voiced.

9. Unfinished Business.... Stan – The President noted that he had a recent phone conversation with Kostas. It is time for our association to provide volunteers to the Court for the “civics education” efforts. The program has already started. Stan will meet with Kostas next week for further discussion. The Courts will run this program. Our assignment will be to hold “classroom sessions” with school-age kids. We have the resources and materials to create a presentation program. The goal is to raise awareness by the civil community. In effect, we will be in the recruitment business.

(A) Decision re: association liability insurance – (No report was given.)

(B) Presentation of Proposed Standing Rules – (This item was tabled.)

10. New Business.... Stan – Note: Concerning the Confidential Addendum agenda item which was sent to all Board members prior to today’s meeting, President Ness requested that the discussion of this subject be conducted using Executive Session protocol. (Discussion followed using this protocol.)

(A) Structure of existing Board of Directors, and status of election process, actions needed.

(B) GJAOC “Established Practices” (Dave Chapel)

1. Standing Rules Revisions (Dave Chapel, Bart Harlan) – Minimal discussion, no action taken.

(C) Deciding on a "plan" for 2020 Goals and Objectives.... Stan – As previously stated, this agenda item will require input from all board members as well as the general membership. This subject was partially covered in item #8. (E) above. Stan has also previously indicated that he will send out an e-mail to the General Membership on this subject.

(D) Invitation to State Conference in Sacramento.... Stan – Some members of our Association also belong to the State organization and some of those have indicated that they plan on attending the state conference in Sacramento next month. Lynn moved that the Association pay the normal expenses for Sandy Dunkin to attend, seconded and passed.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by the President, without objection, at 12:23 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled at Orange County’s Credit Union, 856 N. Ross Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701 on Nov. 7, 2019 at 10:00 am.

By:

Barton Harlan

Board Secretary

Attachment #1:

Updated: September 26, 2019

To: Grand Jury Association of Orange County

From: Sandra Dunkin, Member of the 2019 Board of Directors

Re: Inventory List

Non-Expendable Assets

1. Dell Projector. Mfg. 2017. Service Tag: CN5ZDK2
2. Tripod Screen. 70"x70"
3. Recruitment Banner. 4'x10'

Expendable Assets (Giveaways)

1. 200+/- paper bookmarks
 2. 2020 Flyers
 3. Grand Jury Service brochures (50+/-)
 4. Superior Court of California, County of Orange brochures (50+/-)
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[Attachment #2.](#)

October 3, 2019

To: Board of Directors, Grand Jury Association of Orange County

From: Sandra Dunkin, Chair, Speakers Bureau

Re: Status of Speakers Bureau Ad Hoc Committee

- **CGJA Annual Conference.** I have enrolled in the upcoming conference in Sacramento on November 3-4. The theme of the conference is “Improving Grand Jury Awareness Throughout California”. A session I plan to attend is on “Effectiveness of Grand Jury Reports”. Birgit Sale and Fran Williams (2018-2019 GJ) will also be attending, along with other Board members.
- **Promotion and Orientation (P&O) Committee – Current Grand Jury.** As Chair of the Speakers Bureau, I will be meeting with the P&O Committee on a regular basis. I met with Stephanie Janji and Joe Boyd, as well as Kostas, on September 11, and another meeting (with the entire committee) is scheduled for Friday, October 4th. Kostas wants to be included in all future meetings.

We originally exchanged contact lists for presentations and will continue to share and update this information. I passed on a thumb drive of our PowerPoint presentations, as well as the looped presentation that Gwen Vieau created for showing in the Jury Assembly Room.

Kostas asked specifically if we could connect with the League of Women Voters in Orange County. I was pleased to let him know that Wanda Shaffer just joined our Board of Directors and she is actively involved in the North Orange County League.

- **Emphasis in District 1 & 2.** Kostas has requested we spend special emphasis on recruitment in Districts 1 & 2. As mentioned last month, both Kostas and AP Judge Larsh appeared on a Vietnamese TV station. Kostas is creating recruitment flyers in both Spanish and Vietnamese languages for our use.

Wanda Shaffer and I will be meeting with Cheryl Brothers in November at the Fountain Valley city hall. Cheryl is a 2-term former mayor of FV, as well as the incoming mayor. She was the President of GJAOC for many years. She understands our need for emphasis on Districts 1 and 2 and has expressed her willingness to assist us in these efforts.

- **Facebook.** We anticipate having our Facebook page up and running the first of the year.
- **Supervisor Doug Chafee’s Future Leaders Program.** This program is designed for high school juniors and seniors who reside in the 4th Supervisorial District. Stan Ness and Marie Whittington will be making presentations.

- **Update of Slide Presentations.** Birgit Sale and I had a very successful meeting to update our PowerPoint presentation. She will be providing photos from her recent year as Foreperson. I plan to update the presentation materials each year with the last Foreperson.