

Minutes of:	The New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants Executive Committee Meeting	
Date & Time:	Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 8:32 a.m. to 1:04 p.m.	
Location:	Virtual via Zoom	
Presiding Officer:	Edward L. Arcara, <i>President</i>	
Executive Committee Members Present:	Rumbi Bwerinofa-Petrozzello, <i>President-elect</i> William H. Dresnack, <i>Vice President</i> Lynne M. Fuentes, <i>Vice President</i> Timothy J. Hammond, <i>Vice President</i> Robert M. Rollmann, <i>Vice President</i> Thomas S. Pirro, <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> Darcy Aldous Gerard J. LoVerde Mitchell J. Mertz Michael E. Milisits Denise M. Stefano David G. Young Joanne S. Barry, <i>Executive Director, Ex Officio</i>	
Guests Present:	Lawrence Bardavid, <i>Mazars USA LLP</i> John R. Holst, <i>Merrill Lynch Wealth Management</i> Nick Mendoza, <i>ASAP Computing</i> Scott M. Pearlman, <i>BlackRock Investment Management</i>	
Staff Present:	Reva Brennan Antoine Fletcher Becca Huber Ernest Markezin Patrick Payano Timothy Twofoot Boulette	

M I N U T E S

EC21 – B – 0 Call to Order	Mr. Arcara called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Mr. Twofoot Boulette took attendance and announced that a quorum was present.
EC21 – B – 1 Action Items	a. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2020 Ms. Stefano made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020, Executive Committee meeting, and Mr. Dresnack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Financial Statements for the Seven Months Ending December 31, 2020

Mr. Pirro presented the financial statements for the seven months ending December 31, 2020.

Mr. Rollmann made a motion to accept the financial statements for the seven months ending December 31, 2020, and Mr. Dresnack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Membership Report

Ms. Brennan presented the Membership Report, which highlighted changes in membership population and programs.

Mr. Pirro made a motion to accept the Membership Report, and Mr. Dresnack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget

Mr. Payano presented the proposed budget for the 2021/2022 fiscal year. A discussion followed.

Mr. Rollmann made a motion to approve the 2021/2022 fiscal year budget. Mr. Dresnack seconded the motion. Ms. Fuentes opposed the motion. Ms. Stefano abstained. The motion passed.

e. Approval of Investment Allocation Adjustment

Mr. Pearlman, Mr. Bardavid, and Mr. Holst joined the meeting as guests to present their report related to the NYSSCPA Investment Allocation Adjustment.

Ms. Stefano made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Investment Committee as presented. Mr. Mertz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Approval of Dues Appeal

Ms. Brennan presented a Dues Appeal received from a member of the NYSSCPA. A discussion followed.

Mr. Rollmann made a motion to accept the Dues Appeal, and Ms. Fuentes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

g. Approval of Chapter Scholarship Policy

Mr. Twofoot Boulette presented a proposal to create a Chapter Scholarship Policy.

Mr. Rollmann made a motion to accept the Chapter Scholarship Policy as presented. Mr. Pirro seconded the motion. Ms. Stefano abstained. The motion passed.

h. Approval of CPA Portability Committee

	<p>Mr. Markezin presented a proposal to create a CPA Portability Committee.</p> <p>Mr. Young made a motion to establish the CPA Portability Committee, and Mr. Dresnack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>i. Approval of Chapter Social Media Policy</p> <p>Mr. Twofoot Boulette presented a proposal to create a Chapter Social Media Policy. A discussion followed.</p> <p>Mr. Pirro made a motion to accept the Chapter Social Media Policy as presented. Ms. Stefano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>EC21 – B – 2 Officers Reports</p>	<p>a. President’s Report</p> <p>i. Town Hall Meetings Update</p> <p>Mr. Arcara reported that the Town Hall Meetings had concluded in early January. Ms. Barry added that the Society is looking into a hybrid model of virtual and in-person Town Hall meetings post-pandemic.</p> <p>ii. Governance Committee Update</p> <p>Mr. Hammond reported that the Governance Committee met in December 2020 to discuss the size and structure of the Board, as well as edits to be made to the Bylaws. Mr. Hammond further reported that the Subcommittee plans to propose changes regarding Board standing rules.</p> <p>iii. Awards Committee Report</p> <p>Mr. Markezin reported that the Awards Committee met on February 5, 2021, and selected recipients for the available awards.</p> <p>b. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>i. Nominating Committee Report</p> <p>Mr. Pirro reported that the Nominating Committee met on January 14, 2021, and issued their report.</p> <p>c. Executive Director’s Report</p> <p>i. Real Estate Task Force Update</p> <p>Mr. Markezin reported that the Task Force met on February 4, 2021, to discuss the current lease negotiations.</p> <p>ii. NYS Department of Labor (DOL) Project</p> <p>Ms. Barry reported that she was approached by the Chief of Staff of the Office of the Commissioner of the DOL about a partnership with the profession regarding the new prevailing wage law and the viability of CPAs performing examinations that would look at funding sources for projects in the context of the new law. Ms. Barry then reported that a working group will be formed for this project.</p>

	<p>iii. Meeting with Jennifer Winters, Executive Secretary, New York State Board for Public Accountancy</p> <p>Ms. Barry reported that, along with Renee Rampulla and Debbie A. Cutler, she met with Ms. Winters to discuss issues currently pertaining to regulation of the Society.</p> <p>iv. Association Management Systems (AMS) RFP Update</p> <p>Ms. Brennan provided an update regarding the RFP requests. The current proposals are under preliminary review, and Ms. Brennan hopes the top three platforms will be shared with the Board of Directors at the March 2021 meeting.</p> <p>v. Overview of IT Infrastructure Update</p> <p>Mr. Mendoza joined the meeting as a guest to provide an update regarding the IT infrastructure, including the upgrades over recent years and additional upgrades needed.</p> <p>vi. Legal Update</p> <p>Mr. Twofoot Boulette reported that he planned to meet with Mr. Hammond to discuss the Syracuse Chapter Candidate Representative vacancy, and if a solution could be addressed in the Bylaws.</p>
<p>EC21 – B – 3 Professional Excellence</p>	<p>a. Committees Update</p> <p>Mr. Hammond presented an update on Committee activities. He noted that there has been an increase in the number of Committee applicants. Mr. Hammond added that Committees are currently focusing on succession plans and identifying Vice Chairs.</p> <p>b. Chapter Updates</p> <p>Ms. Fuentes and Mr. Dresnack presented an update on Chapter activities.</p>
<p>EC21 – B – 4 Advocacy</p>	<p>a. Society Comment Letters</p> <p>Mr. Rollmann reported that 15 comment letters have been issued as of year-to-date. There are currently 2–3 comment letters in the pipeline.</p> <p>b. Legislative and Regulatory Update</p> <p>i. Albany Lobby Day</p> <p>Ms. Barry reported that a virtual Lobby Day is being planned for the middle two weeks of May 2021. The issues that Society leadership will be focusing on are non-CPA ownership and the False Claims Act.</p> <p>ii. Renewal of Bolton-St. Johns Contract</p>

	Ms. Barry reported that the contract with Bolton-St. Johns was renewed, with a lower retainer fee.
E21 – B – 5 Membership Growth and Development	<p>a. Leadership Institute Update</p> <p>Ms. Brennan reported that applications for the next Leadership Institute class are now open.</p> <p>b. 40 Under 40 Awards Update</p> <p>Ms. Brennan reported that applications for the 40 Under 40 Awards are now open.</p> <p>c. Diversity and Inclusion Conference</p> <p>Ms. Brennan reported that planning for the second Diversity and Inclusion Conference is currently under way. The conference is scheduled for October 21, 2021.</p>
E21 – B – 6 Public Awareness	<p>a. Media Relations Update</p> <p>Written materials were provided to the members of the Executive Committee.</p>
E21 – B – 7 Proactive Transformation	<p>a. Report of Proactive Transformation Committee</p> <p>Ms. Bwerinofa-Petrozzello reported that one video has been posted and that the Proactive Transformation Committee is working to produce more content.</p>
E21 – B – 8 Executive Session	Ms. Stefano made a motion to enter into an Executive Session at 12:57 p.m. Ms. Fuentes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
ADJOURNMENT	The Executive Committee came out of the Executive Session at 1:04 p.m. Mr. Mertz made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Fuentes seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Pirro

Secretary/Treasurer

Approved at the May 19, 2021 Executive Committee meeting, Agenda Item EC21 – C – 1.