

2011 Annual Meeting Minutes  
Tennessee Association of Professional Process Servers

Saturday April 9, 2011

9:40 AM – Doubletree hotel Downtown Nashville, TN

1. Meeting called to order by the President, Rick Cooper
2. Invocation by Barry Kaley and Pledge of Allegiance to America
3. Introduction of members and new members and Board Officers – President Rick Cooper, VP – Joyce Mercer, Secretary – Jim Belli, and Treasurer – Charlie Fineberg.

10:00 AM-

4. Review of Board Minutes from the November meeting. Jim B. motioned to approve, Marti M. second, all approve.
5. Discussion was made by J. Hudgins to existing issues with Constables in Sevier County. J. Hudgins proposes that a Defense fund be created to hire Attorneys to help with Process Server Issues. Jim B. addressed the issue that arose from a lack of support for Representative Harry Brooks during campaign and his lack of attendance at the Convention.
6. Charles Fineberg addressed the need for individual servers defending themselves and that TAPPS would support the effort.

10:30 AM –

7. Discussion of HB790; SB0647; HB0991; and SB1804
8. Membership engaged in ‘Open Discussion’.
9. Rick C. addressed the issue of supportive legislation.

10:40 AM – **Motion for break:** Jim B. motion & Marti M. second, all approve

11:15 AM – Meeting Called to order: Rick Cooper

1. Introduction of Attorney Nick Utter, Nashville, TN. Presentation on laws that affect individuals and their right to defend themselves within the law. Use of the legal system to protect the rights of Servers through litigation.

12:00 PM – Meeting adjourned for lunch: Jim B. motioned, Joyce M. second; all approve

1:15 PM – Meeting Called to order: Rick Cooper

1. Introduction of James Finney, Gotcha Served Website and Marketing strategies. Use of advertising and Social media in advertising your business. Creation of the Gotcha Served Website and free membership to the first 1000 members.
2. Introduction of Kathleen Chute, Gotcha Served Website and the importance of Networking as a form of advertising.

1:45 PM – Rick C. introduces Larry Yellon and Jon Perez from National Association of Professional Process Servers. Brief discussion regarding NAPPS and upcoming events; Jim B. motions for a 10 minute break (technical difficulties) all approved

2:00 PM – Meeting Called to order: Rick Cooper

1. Introduction of Jon Perez for NAPPS presentation
2. Setting Goals and Objectives-
3. Establishing TAPPS as a credible Association: regarding processes, Certification, and Education.
4. Publish Best Practices, create synergetic relationships and Education provisions

2:25 PM -

1. Introduction of Larry Yellon- handouts provided to the group
2. Addressing legislative changes regarding: registration for servers- volunteer or mandatory
3. Certification – required or subjective and an accredited process server program
4. Utilizing the Court system to mandate change rather than legislative body
5. Licensing- mandated or subjective

3:05 PM – Jim B. motions for break: all approved

3:20PM – Meeting Called back to order: Rick C.

1. Jon Perez continues educational segment regarding “consequence of a poor service”

3:30 PM – Treasurer’s Report: Charles Fineberg

1. Shared story regarding a Physician’s case in the Supreme Court challenging whether the Service of Process was good (see email he sent out) Supreme Court agreed with the Physician.
2. Account has approximately \$7000.00 ( no written report)

3:50 PM – Old Business

1. Jim B discussed the Charter with NAPPS, waiting on taxes to be completed to file the exempt status for TAPPS.
2. Barry Kaley discussed provision of timely notification when the Board is meeting.

3:55 PM – New Business

1. James Finney proposed the implementation of “Associate Members”; Barry Kaley responded that the group had that type of membership until 2007 when the Association voted to remove the item.
2. Jim B. motioned to table the item to be discussed at the board meeting; Marti M. second, show of hands approved by membership.
3. Barry requested that the notification of the Board meeting be sent in line with the bylaws. Jim B. agreed and suggested a time line of events for the Secretary to follow that would be passed from Secretary to incoming Secretary.
4. Group discussed the Duties of the President: see notes (passed)
5. James Finney proposed the Swearing in of the President be separate from the other Board Members as his / her oath should be different. Barry K. motioned that section 4.022 be removed from the bylaws. Jim B. second; approved by majority show of hands.
6. Charles F. motioned that the “Constitution of the State of TN” be added to the oath. Mark Hasara second; approved by majority of hands
7. James Finney motions the establishment of the Larry Pritchett Award. Don Sargent seconds; not approved by a majority show of hands. Jim B. will add to the agenda for the Board Meeting 2011.

8. Joyce M. motions for the amending of "Duties of the Treasurer"; Barry Kaley discusses the issue as a bylaws issue and moves to Table the Item C in this section- Charles F. seconds the motion and with a show of hands, 16 approve the table, 8 oppose. Item 4.06 Tabled
9. Barry K. motions to amend the bylaws Membership 1.06; Marti M. seconds / all approve.
10. Jeff Fowler discusses conducting backgrounds on Applicants. Bylaws 1.05 to be amended to have background included- Joyce M. moves to table the item; Rick C. seconds/ all approve.
11. Jim B. requests that the Association create three regions: West TN, Middle TN, and East TN. Each region to have a committee and a chairman and hold regional meetings to create more communication within the group.  
Barry K. discusses VP's in each region and that in the past it did not have success. Matt Lynch and Ray Roberts agree with the three region concept. Rick Cooper motions we accept the three regions- Barry K. states no need to motion as it is a Committee issue.  
Three Committee Chair Persons are appointed: West TN – Don Sargent; Middle TN – Ray Roberts; and East TN – Tom Mercer. Creation, meetings, etc. to follow
12. Jim B. proposes a committee be formed to assist with the Convention: tabled
13. Jim B. proposes that the bylaws be amended to require the President to have at least one year experience in the group. MM second; JB requests it be tabled as an agenda item for the Board meeting.
14. Barry Kaley proposes an Education Committee be formed; Jim B. appointed Chair of the Committee.

4:45 PM – Jim B. motions to close Old and New Items discussion and move into the Board Elections. Charles Fineberg nominates Marti Miller for president; Larry W. seconds. Jim B.

nominates Rick Cooper for Treasurer and Charles Fineberg for President; Charles F. declines the position. After the vote of the Members present:

1. President – Marti Miller
2. Vice President – Joyce Mercer
3. Treasure - Charles Fineberg
4. Secretary - Jim Belli

5:09 PM – Rick Cooper administers the Oath of Office to the incumbent President, Marti Miller. Board members take the Oath as well.

5:15 PM – Sue Lynch motions to adjourn the meeting. Don Sargent seconds; all approve.

End Minutes