# Governance Committee Minutes

**March 1, 2023 @ 3:00 pm ET via Zoom**

**Chairs:** Angie VanSchoick & Kent Pankey **Vice Chair:** Brandon Kimura

[**Committee Page**](https://nacmnet.org/committees/permanent-committees/governance-committee/)

<https://zoom.us/j/93807989162?pwd=ZjV5S0pDOW1WalN6eFYwakkzTm03Zz09>

1. **Call to order/Introductions**

In attendance were Kent Pankey, Peter Kiefer, Drew D’Agostino, Theresa Owens, Mark Dalton, Tina Mattison, Roger Rand, Mark Weinberg, T.J. BeMent, and Brandon Kimura.

1. **Approve March 1st Minutes**

The Minutes of the March 1, 2023, meeting—approved without change.

1. **Committees**
   1. Ethics subcommittee – Courtney Whiteside, chair

Peter reported for the subcommittee. No meeting was held in March. The meeting in April, particularly the ethics discussion, will follow the agenda originally planned for March. Recorded discussions of ethics questions have replaced the former Question of Ethics column in *The Court Manager*. Recordings from the January and February meetings covered how courts can hire ethical employees. This two-part discussion will be sent to Dawn Palermo (editor) for an upcoming issue of *The Court Manager*.

* 1. Resolutions subcommittee – Kent Pankey

Two recent CCJ/COSCA resolutions were posted to the Web for member comments at the end of March. Kent is trying to get the Communications Committee to send a notification to members making them aware of the postings and the comment period.

* 1. Bylaws subcommittee - Kent Pankey

The Committee discussed the proposed amendments to Articles VI, VII, and XVI and the creation of a new Article XVII: Definitions. These proposals were discussed at the March meeting, and Kent had made some minor changes based upon that discussion.   
 The major concern at the April meeting was ensuring that the language in the amendments will establish the intended supermajority threshold for approving amendments to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. The current language (as interpreted) and that of the proposals would require an affirmative vote of at least two thirds of those who are *entitled* to vote at a meeting. This is a higher threshold than what some Committee members suggested—at least two thirds of the votes *cast* by those entitled to vote at a meeting. The Committee rightly noted that, under both the current and proposed language, individuals who are present and entitled to vote may not bother to do so—effectively voting against any amendment. The Board will be asked for its opinions at the April 6 meeting.

* 1. Operations Manual subcommittee – Brandon Kimura

Updates have been on hold while the subcommittee wrestled with whether the Process Street software that was bought to help maintain the Manual would serve as intended. The subcommittee has concluded that the software will not meet the intended requirements. The Board will be asked to discontinue the license. Word or other products will be used to update and manage the Manual.

* 1. State of the Profession - Angie VanSchoick

The Committee is concerned that progress is too slow. Angie has reached out to the individuals whom Jeffrey identified as possible contributors. They are all willing. Peter volunteered to serve on the task group. Ideas about how to coordinate the project and solicit volunteers were voiced. Jeffrey will be asked to clarify his vision at the April 6 Board meeting. Committee chairs will follow up with Peter and Communications to post a call for project volunteers.

* 1. Voice of the Profession  
     No report.

1. **New Business**

No new business

1. **Strategic Plan priorities**

Kent has asked the Website Committee to create a fillable member feedback form or forms for proposed resolutions and amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (see projects under Strategic Focus Area #4 below).

* 1. **Strategic Focus Area #2 – Education and Resources**
     + Goal 1 - Increase involvement and participation in educational programming and resources
       - Call for articles for Court Manager or Express to give people opportunities to share information.
  2. **Strategic Focus Area #3 – Advocacy for the Profession**
     + Goal 1 - NACM will be an influential and respected voice on behalf of courts and the court profession.
       - Communicate NACM’s proclamations and explain the importance of them, as well as the voice of the profession.
       - Interview court leaders on their journey (captured via articles, webinars etc.)
       - Provide members with outreach/speaking materials for local schools/colleges to advocate for the profession.
       - Find a way to publicize our State of the Profession Address
         * Court Professionals Week

1. **Strategic Focus Area #4 – Governance**
   * Goal 1: NACM’s governance is representative, responsive, and effective.
     + Conduct conference breakout session(s) on NACM’s strategic plan.
     + Communication with members to make certain we’re aligned with their needs/wants – follow-up to membership surveys.
     + Create a fillable feedback form on the resolutions page for proposed resolutions.
     + Communicate board activities in Court Express.
2. **Future Projects**

None discussed.

1. **Dates of significance**
   1. Annual Conference – July 9-13, 2023, Tampa, FL
2. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50p ET.

Future meeting dates for 2022/2023 NACM year – 1st Wednesday at 3:00p ET:

May 3, 2023

June 7, 2023

July 5, 2023