Strengthening Court Professionals

NACM Governance Committee Conference Call Meeting Minutes

A conference call via telephone and online webinar of the NACM Governance Committee was held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 2:00 PM (EST). The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM (EST) by Greg Lambard, Chair. The meeting proceeded as follows:

I. **Roll Call and Introductions**

The following committee members and guests were present:

Mark Dalton Janet Reid (NCSC) Julie Dybas Will Simmons

Kathy Griffin **Ron Truss**

Greg Lambard Jeffrey Tsunekawa Peter Kiefer Angela VanSchoick Rick Pierce Mark Weinberg

II. **Review of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 21, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

III. **Ethics Sub-Committee Update**

Peter Kiefer provided an update for the Ethics Sub-Committee. The sub-committee has reviewed all of the Canons and the Introduction. This material has been passed along to Jeffrey Tsunekawa for posting on the website sometime after the new site is launched. Other items and points of current discussion for the sub-committee include:

- A continuing discussion on the ethical implications of problem solving courts for court staff;
- Whether the Code should be aspirational or ruled based. Peter explained that if it were ruled based it would be incorporated into personnel rules for court staff;
- Should a new definition of "family" be developed to help guide courts in drafting court rules; and
- Potentially drafting a document on ethical challenges for the website.

Jeffrey noted that during a recent Board discussion on corporate sponsorships of NACM webinars, the issue of whether this is okay from an ethics stand point came up and it was decided to get the opinion of the ethics sub-committee on this. Peter pointed out that this issue has

already been somewhat decided, when NACM allowed for sponsored sessions at conferences. The guiding opinion being that as long as participants weren't forced to attend sponsored sessions that it was then okay to have them. After more discussion the question being thrown to the sub-committee is whether or not there is any difference ethically between a sponsored webinar and a sponsored conference session. Janet Reid pointed out that a response would be needed prior to the July Board meeting.

IV. Operations Manual Sub-Committee update

Julie Dybas reported out for the operations manual sub-committee. She said they had gotten through their review of the Appendix. This review has resulted in the farming out various forms for comments and review to the appropriate folks. The sub-committee will next be tasked with suggesting needed changes to reflect changes to committees and officer assignments voted on by the Board back in February.

V. State of the Profession/Voice of the Profession Update

The State of the Profession working group has submitted the draft address to Vicky Carlson for her review. She has accepted the speech with some minor edits. The plan is to follow up the address with a survey of membership. A discussion of the parameters of the survey followed, with an outline of that discussion as follows:

Timing: After the State of the Profession Address

Purpose:

- I. Determine what issues our members would like NACM to advocate for on behalf of the profession
 - a. Perhaps also what methods to use?
 - b. What might be of concern but they don't want NACM to necessarily advocate for...
- II. Ask the State Associations the same questions as "an association?"
- III. Demographic analysis of our members
 - a. Age (or go with generational indication e.g., Gen X'rs)
 - b. Race (as an option)
 - c. Geographical information
 - d. Elected vs. Appointed Judges
 - e. Type of court
 - f. Role in the court (and time in that role)

Targeted time to complete: 5 mins or less

Comments: Should be done regularly to be useful in evaluating trends

Any questions that other committees would want asked (maybe make an optional addendum?)

Report results back

A draft survey will be developed and brought back to the committee for review prior to going to the Board.

VI. New/Other Business

Greg noted that while the efforts of those currently involved with the Governance Committee are greatly appreciated, there is a need to get more people involved with the committee. A discussion regarding this followed. There was some thought that the name of the committee might discourage some folks because they may feel that they need to have a long history with NACM to be on the committee. Janet noted that sometimes people join a committee because it appeals to skills they currently have and sometimes because they want to develop certain skills. Mark Dalton noted that there are a lot of folks on the distribution list for this committee, but that a smaller subset of the list are regular on calls. So the issue may be one of retention and/or engagement.

No other new business was brought forward.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM (EST). The next meeting of the committee will occur on May 16th at 2:00pm EST via telephone and web.

Respectfully Submitted:

Greg Lambard
Governance Committee Chair