



August 11, 2022 Annual Membership Meeting

Call to Order:

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m. EDT

Place: Suwannee Valley Resort and ZOOM

AANR President Kathy Watzel called the Annual Membership Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. EDT.

Special Assignments –

Photographer – Harry Hanbury

Roll Call – Kathy Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

Roll call

Function	Name	Position	Present	Absent
Officers	Kathy Watzel	President	X	
	Margie Cantlon	Vice President	X	
	Kathy Smith	Secretary/Treasurer	ZOOM	
	Erich Schuttauf	Executive Director	X	
Trustees	Ronna Krozy	Trustee from East	X	
	BG Parkes	Trustee from Florida	X	
	Terry Meek	Trustee from Midwest	X	
	Karen Lahey	Trustee from Northwest	X	
	Ted Peck	Trustee from Southwest	X	
	Bev Price	Trustee from West	X	
	Bob Dixon	Trustee from Western Canada	ZOOM	

Kathy Smith – All officers and 7 Trustees are present

National Anthems and Moment of Silence

Introductions of Dignitaries – President, Kathy Watzel

Past AANR Presidents

Bev Price

Julie Erlenmeyer (ZOOM)

Regional Presidents

Bob Roche	AANR-East
Amy Rollins	AANR-Midwest (ZOOM)
Donna Jennings	AANR-Northwest
Lucy Heide	AANR-Southwest - absent
Cyndi Tendick	AANR-West
Mark Huenison	AANR-Western Canada (ZOOM)
Ralph Collinson	AANR-Florida

Consideration of Rules and Order of Business

Motion # 1

I move to adopt the *Rules and Order of Business* as distributed.

Maker: Jim Lahey Second: Terry Meek

Purpose: As Stated

Fiscal Impact: None

Discussion:

- Bev – Point of Order. I think everyone in this meeting needs to know this is a Membership Meeting. Their vote counts. Every vote in this room counts until the Trustee Meeting

Disposition: **Passed**, unanimously without objection

Ratify the Actions of the Board

Motion # 2

I move to Ratify the Actions of the Board taken since the August 2021 Annual Membership Meeting. (See pages 10-15 of the Report Package.)

Maker: Ted Peck Second: Paul LeValley

Purpose: As Stated

Fiscal Impact: None

Discussion:

- Bev – I would like to divide the question and consider item 22 separately.

Disposition: Division was permitted by President Kathy Watzel. Revised Motion # 2 is below.

Motion # 2

I move to Ratify the Actions of the Board #1-21 taken since the August 2021 Annual Membership Meeting. (See pages 10-15 of the Report Package.)

Maker: Ted Peck Second: Paul LeValley
Purpose: As Stated
Fiscal Impact: None
Discussion: None
Disposition: **Passed**, unanimously without objection

Motion # 3

I move to ratify item #22 on the motions of the board in the past year.

Maker: Beverly Price Second: Ted Peck
Purpose: To consider the motion
Fiscal Impact: None
Discussion:

- Bev – If you don't know me, my name is Beverly Price. I am the immediate past president of AANR and I am the sitting Trustee from the Western Region. I also would like to request, Kathy Smith, that you record what I am about to say. I want it on the record, please.
- Kathy S – Will do.
- Bev – Yesterday we had one of the most impassioned speeches I have ever heard Erich Schuttauf give. Now, I have heard him give many, many speeches. One where he misspelled "Javelina". Okay. That's quite a while ago. I've been active as an elected official for a long time, since 1983, either in the Western Region or in AANR itself. I have no desire to be an elected official beyond this Convention. And I want that to be very clear.

One of the things....Oh, and by the way, when I ask Erich for an opinion on anything I may have to say I am speaking to him as our legal advisor, not as our Executive Director. And I think I don't have to give you his credentials after his talk yesterday.

I am introducing myself, and now I'm going to speak against it.
- Karen – I believe that if you made the motion to ratify, you're the person to begin...
- Bev – I think you're right. I'll withdraw the motion and will have someone

else rewrite it. Would someone else be willing to make that motion?
Anybody in the room can do it.

- Kathy W – Bev, I think the problem is that we don't understand what you are trying to go towards.
- Bev – I believe this motion is illegal. And I want to make sure that this body does not ratify an illegal motion. Erich made it very clear yesterday that we dare not give a little chink in our armor to anybody there in the outside world, so to speak, and certainly not in the litigative world.
- Kathy W – So, can you speak to what the exact motion is?
- Bev – I can read the exact motion.
- Kathy W – People in the audience who can vote on it have no clue.
- Bev – I was going to get to that point but I was going to work my way up to that. Motion #22. And you really could, because it's all the same motion, use the same maker and second that you had for the first motion on this. However, Motion 22. Interim motion done on April 3, 2022. And these are in the packet, by the way. I move that whereas both the past and present presidents of AANR West have certified that Kathy Watzel has served AANR-West in official capacities for her to be eligible to run for AANR Trustee for AANR West and her name be returned to the ballot unless Kathy Watzel objects to her name being returned to the ballot. Maker, Ted Peck. Second, Ronna Krozy. It passed with 6 yes, 0 no and I abstained. I didn't speak to the motion, I didn't vote for or against the motion.
- Kathy W – Thank you. Is there anyone who would like to take item 21 and put it forth as a motion.
- Bev – Actually, it's item 22 and we just need someone who...if you want to hear what I say before you vote... I'll withdraw it and look for another maker. We can do it later
- Kathy W – OK. We'll do that...we'll move on.

Disposition: Motion withdrawn until later in the meeting

Approval of Minutes

Motion # 4

I move to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2021 Annual Meeting as distributed.

Maker: Jim Lahey Second: Cyndi Tendick

Purpose: As stated

Fiscal Impact: None

Discussion: None

Disposition: **Passed**, unanimously without objection

Young Man and Young Woman of the Year Awards

These awards, along with a check for \$100, go to the best essays written by AANR Youth under the age of 18 that detail what benefits the author has derived from being a nudist.

- **Young Woman of the Year** – Chloe Hogan, age 11, AANR East Youth Camp
- **Young Man of the Year** – Harper Cisco, age 14, AANR East Youth Camp

Presentation of the Nominees for Man, Woman and Family of the Year Awards -

Kathy Watzel

- Woman of the Year – Ronna Krozy
- Man of the Year – Walt Stephens
- Family of the Year – no nominees

Woman of the Year

Nominated by Karen Lahey

I nominate Ronna Krozy as Woman of the Year for 2022.

Ronna takes her responsibility as PR Chairperson seriously and has spent many hours leading the PR Committee. Ronna has attracted and mentored several young nudists in order to encourage their participation in AANR leadership. Over the years, AANR has frequently talked about needing new people in our organization but Ronna has taken action by instituting the YDAC, (Youth and Diversity Subcommittee) of the PR Committee. This committee has attracted new, younger people that have become involved in AANR leadership. Additionally, she has spent time guiding these new leaders in understanding what leading at the AANR level committees entails. Ronna is a frequent contributor to both the AANR Bulletin and to www.aanr.com. Ronna has been a spokesperson for nudism in the media and speaking with our membership during AANR online meet and greets. Just an article this week. Ronna has collaborated on a paper of the rights nudists in the teaching community have so that they can be more comfortable in sharing who they are.

Ronna's extraordinary service deserves recognition.

(As motion was started to be made)

- Bev – We should have ballots for this.
- Kathy W – We have no other nominees for this.
- Bev – I believe that our ruling documents state that “none of the above” is one of the possibles.
- Kathy W – Gottcha. Well, we don't have them because we knew we only had the one. So we will work on it.

- Bev – OK. If nobody else cares that much, I'm not going to make a big scene out of it, but I do think we should be following our own ruling documents.

Kathy W – I was unaware that we had to have ballots if there was only one person. If we read this and we have some objections then we'll do that. Does that satisfy?

Bev – Yes.

Motion # 5

I move to elect Ronna Krozy Woman of the Year.

Maker:	Ralph Collinson	Second	Kevin Orzel
Purpose:	As Stated		
Fiscal Impact:	None		
Discussion:	None		
Disposition:	Passed , yes – 27, no 0, abstain 5		

Man of the Year

Nominated by Karen Lahey

I nominate Walt Stevens as AANR Man of the Year for 2022.

Walt has been an active member of the Membership Marketing Committee for over three years and his idea to reach out to AANR members with AANR Meet and Greet Online has touched when I made this nomination, over 350 nudists, now it's over 925 nudists. He has stepped up to organize and lead these meetings which provide a service that our membership want. He's passionate about connecting with AANR members. These gatherings give them a way to connect, even when they are not near any club. They also give leadership a way to find out what our members want and are thinking about. But they are a large effort.

Walt's extraordinary service deserves recognition.

Motion # 6

I move to elect Walt Stephens Man of the Year.

Maker:	Dale Cordell	Second	Sandra Cordell
Purpose:	As Stated		
Fiscal Impact:	None		
Discussion:	None		
Disposition:	Passed , Yes – 34, No – 0, Abstain - 0		

Host's Welcome/Award – Kathy Watzel

BG & Tom please come forward. I'd like to present you with Host Club Award and thank you for hosting us. (Todd also came forward) I'm sorry, Todd, I didn't see you in the audience. With fond memories and gratitude from the American Association for Nude Recreation for hosting the 2022 AANR Convention. Thank you so much.

BG – I want to welcome you all to the meeting. Thank you for being here. I want to thank you all for participating last night. I did check with the office. Last year the SMS brought in \$1100 and last night we brought in \$2605. Thank you all for participating. We hope you enjoy your stay.

Executive Director's Comments – Erich Schuttauf

I was going to have BG make her announcement, because we deeply appreciate the support for Government Affairs, but she made the announcement on the number. I had also planned to reserve my comments for a longer time block in the afternoon. You will see Executive Director in the afternoon will be at 1:45 and I have a slide prepared with a number of comments. I will take a minute, where Kathy asked me to, to explain a couple of things. First, I want to welcome AANR staff that has joined us online. I also want to introduce new people here to Carolyn Hawkins who is here from staff and is doing a hundred things. Second is to introduce my son, Max, who is helping on technology today and on the boards and will be the person who silences the microphones if you are out in the hinterland and your reverb is kicking out. So welcome and welcome to the rest of the AANR staff who is joining us online as well.

The other thing I have been asked to explain by some people is the "Office Hours". You'll see each day it says "Au Natural Office Hours with the Executive Director." The point of that is from 7:30-8:30 each day anyone who is attending Convention has an opportunity to get a few minutes of my time and know exactly where I will be. I am at the bandstand that is located right after you walk out straight past the pool and everything and out into the grass meadow before you get to where the military flags are on display. I am out there every day from 7:30 to 8:30 and that is where you can ask me about anything. Your Bulletin that isn't arriving or a major question you might have. I am available to you for that hour at least so that you will know in one time and place where we are.

We welcome and have said hello to so many people at Suwannee Valley this week and this morning and I welcome you.

President's Comments – Kathy Watzel

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve AANR this year. As I complete my term as AANR president, I am extremely proud of all the accomplishments we have made.

Perhaps one of our greatest accomplishments was maintaining membership and financial stability for the past two years. It was strongly suggested we not implement the dues increase and not separate couple memberships into individual memberships, in January of 2020. Even after the Board had approved this. I refused to put this on hold and the new membership rates went into effect. We also continued the Health and Wellness call program. These 4250 plus calls increased AANR memberships by 1156 new years of membership. Five of these are life members. These calls have helped to stabilize our membership over a difficult time, due to Covid. These measures along with the online Bulletin has kept us moving forward in a positive cash position the entire year. I believe it is because of these three programs AANR has not had to borrow monies from our investments for the

past three years. This is a first.

Another important achievement has been the continued implementation of the Impexium system. All direct members have acquired AANR membership using Impexium this year. Do I wish all our clubs were using Impexium? Yes, however we have come much further this year. At this time 90% of our membership dues is processed through Impexium. Some clubs still need training using the system and other clubs have refused to make payments through Impexium. Unfortunately, the Impexium system cannot process Canadian funds, approximately another 5%. This means that only 5% of our funds are not funneled through the Impexium platform.

We attended The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) last week in Denver, Colorado. This was our 30th year that AANR has participated meeting and sharing our message with your legislatures. Denver's convention center has a very big blue bear peeking through the second story window. Our pin this year sports the Colorado Rockies and the blue bear with the play on words "Dare to be Bare".

Our biggest challenge remains increasing AANR membership at the club level. We need to help our clubs understand the importance of strengthening AANR. The most effective way to do this is to have all members of our clubs join our organization. You as a club owner or member, at the local level, are the key to our success. You have the ability to share why being a member of AANR is so important to the future of nudism. The more members AANR has the better bargaining power we have when we approach city, county, and state governments with our message. One question I am asked regularly when speaking to your government officials is how many members does your organization have? Our numbers are power.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for supporting AANR and myself during my term in office. This is not a goodbye – I feel I still have more to contribute and will be providing leadership for our new officers. For the immediate future, I will serve as AANR West Trustee and look forward to supporting the new leadership team. I give you my best and wish us all tremendous success.

Membership Marketing Comments and Awards – Margie Cantlon & Kathy Watzel

- Margie - The Joint Membership Marketing and PR Committee is a such a dynamic committee. The ideas are coming out of the committee. The two committee chairs are not suggesting the ideas necessarily, they're getting the ideas. And I think that is absolutely wonderful.

The **Membership Increase** awards go to the clubs with the greatest increase by percentage and by number based on the year-end membership count.

- **Membership Increase in Numbers Award**
 - Suwannee Valley Resort - an increase of 200 members
- **Membership Increase in Percentage Award**
 - Sunny Sands Resort - an increase of 193.55 percent
- **Hal O'Neill Award**

The Hal O'Neill Outstanding Public Relations Award is awarded to a club that joins in a community effort that results in the improvement of the club's image as well as the image of nudism in general.

- Suwannee Valley Resort – for their Sunshine State Veterans Fund
 - BG – Tom & BG created a nonprofit organization called the Sunshine State Veterans Fund. We pay out close to \$50,000 a year to low-income veterans for dental care in 11 counties in Florida.

➤ **Rick Athern Photography Award**

This award is to recognize photographers whose photographs best display the beauty and enjoyment of family and social nudism and have been published in *The Bulletin*.

- “Five Generations of Family”, January 2022, Harry Hanbury

➤ **Erwin Koch Award**

This award is given to the club whose friendliness and cleanliness have been described in writing. Each regional president selects a winner from their region and the AANR President selects the award winner from among the regional winners.

- Avatan – nominated by Ralph Fischer
 - Erich – When we were at the National Conference of State Legislatures, the lawmaker who represents Avatan in his district made a beeline to our table and said “I know about your association and I know you have a club in my district.” He named exactly the city and it was Avatan of Minnesota. So they also have great relations with their local lawmaker.

Public Relations Comments and Awards – Margie Cantlon & Kathy Watzel

➤ **Ilsley Boone Best Club Newsletter Awards**

These awards go to the best club newsletter in each of four categories, based on the year-end membership count. Since newsletter editors are the key to achieving this award, the club and the editor share the award. This year only 1 of the 4 categories had entries.

- **Group A** -10 to 50 Members – **SCNA Newsletter**, Editor – Gary Mussell, Southern California Naturist Association
- **Group B** - 51 to 200 Members – no submission
- **Group C** – 250 to 500 Members – no submission
- **Group D** – over 500 Members – no submission

➤ **Honorable Mention Newsletter Awards**

- The American Association for Nude Recreation proudly presents this certificate to the Buff-A-Teers for the club newsletter submission dated the 11th day of August 2022.
- The American Association for Nude Recreation proudly presents this certificate to Niagara Naturists for their newsletter submission date the 11th day of August 2022.

➤ **Public Relations Non-nudist Media Awards**

These awards are given to encourage an increase in the number and quality of articles, programs and photographs published in the non-nudist media.

- **TV Media Award**

- “The Head Chef at Naturist Park Cooks in the Nude”
 - Bare Oaks Family Naturist Park

- **Radio Media Award**

- 102.3 KRMG – Creek County Home to the Largest Nudist Park in Oklahoma
 - Oaklake Trails

- **Newspaper Photograph Award**

- Ronna Krozy and Nancy Greenhouse
 - *National Enquirer*, July 31, 2021

- **Newspaper Article Award**

- “Naked and Unafraid with Ronna Krozy and Nancy Greenhouse”
 - Tim Leininger, *Journal Enquirer*, July 31, 2021

- **Online Article Award**

- In recognition to Cypress Cove, Armano Collin, “Baring All the Facts About Retiring to a Nudist Community”, *The Street*, November 2021

Break 9:58-10:13

Other Committee Comments and Awards

➤ **Hall of Fame Award** – Ralph Collinson

This award, and an Honorary Life Membership in AANR, is given for services to family social nudism that are of considerable magnitude and truly of national importance. If the recipient is a Life Member, this award upgrades that membership to Elite Life.

The first Hall of Fame Award was given in 1964 to Kurt Barthel, Ilesley Boon, and Alois Knapp. In the next 58 years, we selected 45 people to the Hall of Fame. The process starts every year in March. We put an article in the Bulletin asking for nominations. When we get the nominations, they stay in contention for five years, if they are not selected for the award. They are ranked by the Regional Presidents or their designee. You must

receive an average rating of 7 on a scale of 10, to be considered for the award. Many are ranked 7 or above. This year there were 7 nominees. I thank the people who sent in the forms, because they are difficult to fill out and take some time. All 7 people were ranked 7 or above. Unfortunately, our procedures require that only 2 people can receive the award in a given year. Apparently back in 1964 that wasn't the case because there were 3 people. The top two rankings win the award for this year. I am happy to announce that both of those had an average of 9 for their score. I'm also pleased that the two people who won this year are two people that I have been associated with and worked with the entire time I've been in AANR, which is around 12 years. It's really an honor for me to present these two awards.

- Bob Roche – Nominated by Patricia Scroggins
- BG Parkes – Nominated by Harry Hanbury and 127 co-sponsors

President's Awards - Kathy Watzel

➤ **President's Meritorious Service Awards**

The AANR President presents this award to up to ten people deemed by the President to have performed meritorious service to AANR.

- **Carolyn Hawkins** – Carolyn is the guru for making the phone calls and getting a member who was a member to sign up again. Between Carolyn and BG, they are responsible for a huge amount of our member increase.
- **Judy Mason** – She works in the office as our Financial Director. She keeps us on track and brings up so many money saving things. She had to come in on a Saturday to talk to the guys who had put us off for over 8 months on doing some fire prevention at the back of the building that we had waited over a year and a half to get done. I want to thank Judy. She is like my right-hand arm in the office and really does an excellent job of looking out for you, the members.
- **Carolina DeAldana** – She also works in the AANR office. She has done so much with the Impexium system and moving us forward with that. And helping members when they call in when they have questions. You just don't know how invaluable these people have been.
- **Ronna Krozy** – Sometimes you know, these people do such a good job and I don't get to see all the other awards either. So when I award my awards, I'm not aware of who's getting what ahead of time. So, I want to thank Ronna for everything you've done this year. Obviously, you've heard lots of kudos on all the things you and your committee have done. So, this is why I am honored to give you one of my awards.
- **Tim Mullins** - Another person I find invaluable, even though I don't always make your meetings, is Tim Mullins and your GAT. You do not understand the amount of hours Tim puts into this. I would say we have anywhere from 12 to 20 people. He was also instrumental in bringing nudists from other organizations in on the conversation. This has been going on about 2 years now, pulling different groups together. His meetings stay to an hour, to an hour and 5 minutes. The minutes are done within an hour and out to you. An excellent committee chair, thank you.

- **Karen Lahey** – Karen has done some great work on the committees as well as a lot of computer time and work that she’s invested in the Impexium system. When you see the 600 plus photographs from the photo contest she runs each year that anybody can access from the clubs to use in your brochures, they’ve all been put out there for your use. We hope the passports will be the next thing we do. Thank you for all your help.
 - **Walt Stephens** – I am presenting this to you for all the fine work you have done on your Thursday night calls. They wanted maybe 25-50 people and we have over 900 now that have signed up and you see over a hundred. We had to upgrade our ZOOM account so we could accommodate everybody.
- **Jim Cossins Award** – This award, and an Honorary Life Membership in AANR, is issued at the discretion of the AANR President to an individual or couple who, in the President’s opinion, has performed distinguished and meritorious services to AANR and who exemplifies the qualities of mature judgment, faithful dedication to high ideals and continuous services to AANR for which we wish to memorialize Jim Cossins.
- **Erich Schuttauf** – I talk to Erich at least 2-3 hours a week on one phone call and then probably 2 or 3 other times during the week for other reasons that come up. I want to thank you for everything you do. He not only is working hours but attends every single meeting that a committee chair has. These Thursday night calls, he’s on the GAT calls, he’s on the Budget Committee, he just does so much and I don’t think he’s gotten the recognition he deserves. This also gives him a life membership and that’s what I really feel is the important part of the award for all he’s done. Raising his family as nudist is a big thing. Would you mind telling my favorite story of your daughter at the church? We’ll give you a little humor here.
 - Erich – You may know where Cypress Cove is located on Pleasant Hill Road. About a mile down from there is a little church building which was the church my family and I chose to join because it was close to where we lived. They had a workday one time. Maddie was about 3 years old at the time. While they’re all painting inside this unairconditioned building and we’re all sweating, Maddie let out in the loudest voice that a 3-year-old can muster, think tantrum in a Walmart, but instead she said “It’s hot. I’m ready to go swimming at Cypress Cove.” At that point our status in the community as nudists was quite adamantly stated if they didn’t know it already.
 - Kathy – Thank you for all you do for AANR and all your contributions.
- **President’s Award** - This award is issued at the discretion of the AANR President and is presented to a person, couple or group deemed by the President to have performed meritorious service to AANR.
- **BG Parkes** has done so much over the last year. She’s constantly thinking about how to improve the organization, what’s best for the organization. The other thing you’ll find out about is Wreaths Across America. I think that was just a brilliant idea to come forth. Hopefully that will fill up the GAT fund for us. Thank you, again.

Business Specifically Referred to This Meeting:

Motion # 7

I move to ratify item #22 on the list of motions passed by the Board during the past year.

Maker: BG Parkes Second: Ted Peck

Purpose: As Stated

Fiscal Impact: None

Discussion:

- Kathy W – There is a 3-minute limit on speaker because we will have quite a few on this one.
- Bev - AANR is a 501c7 corporation incorporated in the state of Florida. Is that true, Erich (Erich acknowledged yes). As such, we are obligated to follow our own bylaws. That's what it states in Florida statutes 617 in about 18 or 20 places. If we don't, our incorporation is in jeopardy. Is that true, Erich?
 - Erich – As a general proposition, that is.

Thank you. I believe that Motion #22 which was put forth on the 3rd of April is in violation of our bylaws. Our bylaws state that it is the members, not the Trustees, who can make an adjustment, suspension, an amendment, whatever you want to call it to the Bylaws and this is what this motion represents, is somebody doing an end run around the Bylaws itself. I believe it should not be ratified by this body. If you choose to ratify an illegal motion then you are putting that chink in the armor that somebody out there is going to say that AANR is not following its Bylaws. So I think this should not be ratified. I cannot ratify it, I cannot vote for it at all because I think it is illegal. If you have questions of me, I'll be glad to answer them.

Be aware this is not a motion that deals with a person, it deals with the process. The process was incorrect. It needs to be changed. It can be changed tomorrow afternoon in the Trustee meeting, something can be done. But it needs to be voted down at this point to toss it back to the Trustees tomorrow. Does anybody have any other questions of me?

- Ralph – Can you explain what makes it illegal.
- Bev – Certainly. The qualifications for Trustee in any region are not by having a certification by a past and present President of a region to be qualified for holding office. The qualifications are to live in the region, to have served the region as an official, and I can't remember the third one is, but it was minor.
- Kathy W – No, it's how many years.
- Bev – No, you have to have served the region for at least one year as an official. Oh, you have to be a member of the region for 2 years, thank you BG.
- Kathy W – That's what I was saying. Your 3 minutes are up, but we're letting her answer the question.
- Bev – I think it's an important issue. If you want to cut me off at 3 minutes, I guess you can do that.

- Kathy W – We have other people that would like to speak.
- Bev – On the motion? They attempted to change the qualifications to be an endorsement by the current President and the past President of the region instead of following the chart in the bylaws.
- Bob Roche – I was a part of a team that made these recommendations and it was never our intention to exclude anybody who served their region, which Kathy has obviously done. I vote for because it is just right.
- Karen – When we were making a determination of what was going on, we looked into what the qualifications were and talked to people who worked on this, Bob and Susan Weaver and the understanding at that point is that if somebody had worked in leadership at the regional level. We determined that Kathy was working in leadership in the some of the work she had done for the region and it wasn't that she was being endorsed by those people, but that they had seen the work she did and they were speaking to the fact that she had done that work. So it wasn't an endorsement, we went back and two presidents had seen that work and said yes, indeed she had done that. Your objections were not mentioned at the time we were doing it. You did not bring that up at all, so there was no opportunity to discuss it. All this is happening after the fact. It would have been a much better discussion during the discussion period and not months later. The thing is, we did discuss it, we were not doing it by endorsement, we were doing it by determination. We were looking at what the documentation said. Frequently you look at what the legislation is and what the meaning of the legislation is. Erich has talked about that. We have the thing that happened in Washington. It was a ruling made and it looked like it was speaking against us, and a state senator stood up and said that's not what we mean. So we look at why something is being written as opposed to what it means. [time]
- Paul LeValley - I am confused. I do not know what the main motion was supposed to accomplish. If I vote for this, what am I voting for?
- Kathy W – May I clarify it for you. I ran for AANR West Trustee and they are saying I'm not qualified. I live in the region and am a member of the region, so I have met those requirements. The third one was I did not serve on the Board of AANR West. I read it to state that I just had to serve the region. I have assisted in running Kids Camps. I have worked ...
- **Power went out, therefore, no recordings from ZOOM between “worked... and Bev...”**
- Bev.....in compliance with our ruling documents, the Trustees are not permitted to make exceptions to what's in our ruling documents by a vote, and certainly, if they had considered her qualified, no motion would have been necessary. They were changing the Bylaws and that's against Florida state law. I would suggest you people vote no in order to toss this back to the Trustees. They can have an Executive Session tomorrow and they can work it out. But I don't think it's proper for us to accept the Trustees making changes or modifications or suspensions to the Bylaws. To the regular Governance Manual, sure, but they a made a change to the Bylaws against Florida state law. It's your purview, not the Trustees' purview.
- Kathy W – Why were they forced to do that, Bev?
- Bev – I don't understand why anybody would be forced to break the Bylaws.
- Kathy W – No, no, no, no

- Bev – I stated that I felt you were not qualified, but that’s all I said. I don’t know why changing the Bylaws by the Trustees would change that at all. I think it was an illegal move and I think the members ought to state by a vote of no that it needs to go back to the Trustees to have it corrected. All of us can make a mistake. Anybody can make a mistake. I think it was a mistake to even circulate this motion. But once it was circulated, I did not speak to it, I did not point of order, because it’s illegal according to our Ruling Documents, and I did not vote for it. I am only asking that you say “no” to the motion that changed the Bylaws. You don’t have to say no to Kathy Watzel, you say “no” to the motion that changed the Bylaws.
- Kathy W – Walt, can you hear us or no?
- Walt – Yes, I can hear you. (Kathy did not hear it)
- Kathy W – Can you send him a message that our electricity is off in the building.
- Ted - I do not believe we changed the Bylaws by what we did. The Bylaws say that a person to be a Trustee needs to be an official of a region for at least a year. The reference to two Presidents of AANR-West was that they in fact certified to us that Kathy had been an official for at least a year. So I don’t think we changed anything other than saying yes, she was an official.
- Ronna – I did have the opportunity to speak with Susan Weaver and with Bob Roche and it was made clear that service in leadership in behalf of the President of the Region was considered official work, in addition to the fact that you had attended all of the meetings, you had been extremely involved in other opportunities to demonstrate leadership in behalf of your region and as Bob said, there was never an intention to disqualify people who had those leadership qualities and constituted someone who had the right to run for the office you did. The other issue is, if there was a concern I don’t know why that concern was not raised early enough for a proper discussion until almost the election time. I did not understand when, in fact, I believe you, Beverly, were involved in reviewing the credentials at the time because you were looking at the ballots and that was due many months before the final applications for office were due.
- Tim – I have to agree with both Ted and Ronna that it was not a violation of the Bylaws as written. That’s your interpretation of it, Bev, and I believe you are incorrect in that Kathy has demonstrated that she is involved in AANR West leadership for at least the 4 years she was President of the AANR organization, just as a de facto situation.
- Cyndi T – I think we are getting a little confused. I don’t think Bev is trying to question the qualifications at this point in time. The issue is the way that it was handled. The “proper”, and I use big old air quotes on that one, the “proper” way to handle the situation is to not ratify this Board action, and it will go on record that it is not being ratified. Then tomorrow, during the Trustees meeting, they can “properly”, air quotes, handle the situation. However, with that being said, this does bring up something that needs to be changed for future situations. We really need to put the whole personality issues and the people involved aside, because that has no bearing on what is being discussed. It is simply the way it was done and I understand what you are saying. I don’t agree with one side or the other, I am very middle of the road on this, but I wanted to clarify.
- Erich – Again, without speaking directly to or against the motion but to provide some context, part of what I believe the Board was trying to do at the time, was to give some guidance. Because please understand your staff has to make decisions about what will

be submitted to that Vote-Now company that then has to prepare ballots and Bulletins go out 2 months in advance, and when a question is raised, they were seeking some guidance. So I just want to set the context. Whether it should be ratified tomorrow or whether this should pass. Again, thank you Cyndi for clarifying what it is. The context of why it was raised and perhaps brought to the Board was to obtain some guidance under what were relatively short parameters of time. A ballot had already been held up for one week while we tried to look at the various permutations and there were legitimate questions asked, but the staff also needs guidance on what can be sent in to the various voting and the Bulletin which is prepared 2-3 months in advance. If that provides some context why I think Board guidance was sought. Whether it should be ratified, I leave to the body.

- Kathy W – My paperwork went in a year ahead of time, just to let you know. And was questioned within a week or less of when the election information had to be in.
- Ralph – I'm not an attorney like Erich, but I am an Enrolled Agent licensed by IRS and in all 50 states and exempt organizations I represent. This issue is in no way a violation of IRS law at all and would not create any jeopardy to your exempt status with IRS and it would not in any way be looked at by the state of Florida.
- Bev – I want you to understand that this has nothing to do with the way I feel about Kathy Watzel. In 2012 I am the person that talked to Kathy Watzel and convinced her to run as a Club Trustee in the third tier. They were headed to the Caribbean and I said "Kathy, if you'll just get a photo to me and a few of your qualifications, I will write up your nomination and get you on the ballot." And she agreed. Actually, I called Bob first, I've got to admit, and he said "I won't do it, but I bet Kathy will." So I said, OK. And we did it. The second year that she ran, 2014, as a Club Trustee, She was still in the third tier representing various clubs, not representing the Western Region. And I encouraged, not only encouraged, but supported her 100%. I am not opposed to Kathy Watzel at all. In 2016 when she ran, I supported her. When she ran for President, I supported her. I sent out messages to my members to vote for Kathy Watzel. I don't understand why you think this is a personal thing with me and Kathy Watzel. In my opinion, the qualification isn't there and it needs to be hashed out by the Trustees tomorrow. What I'm asking you folks to do, is give those Trustees the chance to do it by voting not to ratify the motion to, I believe, change the qualifications in the Bylaws.
- Karen – Two things. First of all, I think that this is the body that's supposed to ratify these motions and not Trustees, so we need to be the ones to ratify. Second of all, when we did this motion, it was not my understanding that we were doing the motion to speak to what the qualifications were, but it was because Kathy had had her name on the ballot but took it off when Bev threatened an IA if she didn't take her name off the ballot. We were encouraging her to put her name back on. It wasn't saying that we were saying anything about the qualifications, it was that we were encouraging her to put her name back on. That was what the situation was. She had taken her name off by being threatened with an IA.
- Mitch – I was just going to briefly say that what ever is decided, because if we put this off until tomorrow, we can decide to ratify then or we can decide to change. All this is doing is pushing the decision back. By choosing to move it to later, we can still choose either way.
- Bev – I did not threaten an IA at all. Wait a minute...stop. The only time I threatened an IA at all was when Kathy Watzel circulated an interim motion on her own. However, it

said if it passes, whatever it is, then I will be back on the ballot. I called that a conflict of interest. You (Kathy W) said it was a conflict of interest yourself in a subsequent motion. There's an awful lot going on behind the scene folks. And I really think what you need to do is not ratify the motion as it exists and toss it back to who made the motion in the first place, and that's the Trustees. And that's what I'm asking you to do. Simply vote "no". Mitch is absolutely correct. It could come up tomorrow, it could come up Friday, it could come up as an interim motion. We can resolve the problem, but let's not resolve it by passing something that I truly believe is not legal.

- Kathy W – Those of you that are not part of the Board, are there any other questions that you might have about what is going on? You get to vote on this. That's why I'm asking.
- Jim Lahey – Well, Bev has said that this would be that the interim motion would be illegal for the Board to make a Bylaw decision, so It's not clear to me at all why she thinks the same Board would have the right to do the same decision tomorrow. She has claimed that the membership are the ones who get to decide what the Bylaws are and if we're violating it and that's what this meeting is. So it seems to me that a perfectly valid decision would be for the membership to decide if we're violating, whatever the word is. "leader", or whatever it was. So, according to her own argument it is perfectly reasonable for this group, the best representation of the membership at a membership meeting to make that decision.
- Bev – I am not suggesting...let me go back and say that when the ratification comes to this membership meeting, it has been for as long as I can remember a rubber-stamping process. We agree. Whatever you did, you did and you did it fine. No problem. I'm not suggesting that we would even be ratifying it in a Trustee meeting tomorrow. I'm suggesting we would be discussing the problem. I believe not ratifying makes it null and void, no matter what the purpose of it is. That gives us an opportunity, as Trustees, to discuss why we might want to change, make a new motion. Doesn't have to be ratifying this one. If this one isn't ratified, it isn't ratified. And I think it's kind of foolish to ratify your own motion. I don't think we'll take it into tomorrow's meeting and say oh, we're going to ratify what we did. We're going to discuss the issue and see what the possible solutions are. So I'm just asking that you give us a chance to discuss the issue tomorrow and see what resolutions there are.
- BG – I think this is why I agreed to this. We need to have a clarification. We need to look at how, when you run for a Trustee, what it states in the manual and if you qualify or not. It's a qualification, but I also think on this vote it's a membership meeting and it should go to the members for a vote on that. But, in our Bylaws, we need to clarify what it states. That's my reason behind this. There needs to be a clarification. If somebody runs for a position, we have to clarify where we stand on this.
- Paul – My name is Paul. I just have a simple comment here. Erich, I love you man, but I'm going to put you on spot. I think this whole discussion, I've been in charge of a couple of large organizations where anytime I made an important decision that affects the organization I had my lawyer next to me. So, this conversation in my mind boils down to a very simple question. And I'm going to pose it to our legal authority here, Erich I'm sorry, but does approval of this motion, and I'm sorry if I've got the verbiage wrong, but approval of this motion does it violate the Bylaws as currently written. Yes or no. Or does it fall in a gray area that is subject to interpretation. That's the simple question we need to address here. If the answer is yes, it does violate it, or I don't know,

maybe we ought to take some time for a legal authority to deliberate a little bit and provide an official opinion.

- Erich – Paul, thank you for the question putting me on the spot. You can tell Paul has a military background. I feel right now like a private asked yes or no. What I think you have to understand there's a difference between what is stated in our ruling documents, which I do agree have to ultimately carry the day. But then the question is, who is the arbiter of what those ruling documents mean. You all heard my impassioned speech yesterday. We have the United States Supreme Court that gets to interpret what all of those parts of the constitution and amendments mean. There is a body that we take them to. It doesn't change the constitution, but who arbitrates that decision is driven. In my opinion, right now this is a body that is assembled, here, of all of the membership, it is the highest authority. You right now at this moment as a body, are the highest level because you are sitting assembled. The Trustees are also, when you are not assembled, they are authorized to carry out and make decisions and implement the policies and the rules of your organization and to fill in the blanks of what happens. In my own opinion, the decision could be discussed here, or it could be discussed in the Board, but here right now, you have the highest group. You have the full assembly of members. And it would, in my opinion, be more difficult to challenge a decision of this overall body, if that makes sense. But that isn't to say the original decision made was correct or not, it is simply to acknowledge that when we are assembled in General Assembly, you are, as a collective, the ultimate arbiters of your ruling documents within the parameters of law. Obviously, we could not decide to sell alcohol to minors among ourselves by vote. We couldn't supersede state law. But within those parameters you have the ability to decide now or in a Board meeting. This has implications in other places in other situations as well. What is going to constitute 2 years of service or 2 years of membership. The only other thing that I do want to point out is a footnote to what Paul asked me is to have you understand that most of the case law interpreting things like this in Florida come up in the context of homeowner associations and condominium associations because that's when property is involved and people go to an outright court to get a decision. Things about the Board of the American Heart Association probably have been litigated, but the body of things tend to be in the context of are you a property owner, have you been one long enough or not. I'm trying to give you that context, too, it's not always easy to comment on an overall association of our type versus when it's property being decided. There's a lot of case law and advice on that and less on our situation.
- Kathy W – Just so you know, through computer we have told everyone on ZOOM what is going on as we have no electricity. We have two people on ZOOM that have responded back. Margie will tell you who they are and what their comment is.
- Margie – Bob Dixon, who is a Trustee from Western Canada. When we considered the motion in April, I did not think we were making any consideration of Bylaw changes.
- Margie – Gary Mussell – I believe Bev is misinterpreting the Bylaws. If we postpone until tomorrow, I fear there will be another objection that the Trustees have no standing.
- Margie – Also, I want to tell the people on ZOOM. Walt, you had your hand up and Max is telling me that if you speak, it will come through his laptop. Do you still have a comment?
- Walt – Yes, I do. My comment was actually to Erich. We're hearing Bev's interpretation. Erich is an attorney practicing in Florida. And he kind of addressed what I was going to

ask, is it illegal in Florida law. I don't think it's going to be, but I'm not an attorney, so that was my question to Erich.

- Bob Roche – called the question

Motion # 8

I move to call the question.

Maker:	Bob Roche	Second	Tim Mullins
Purpose:	As Stated		
Fiscal Impact:	None		
Discussion:	Not allowed on motion to call the question.		
Disposition:	Passed , yes –31, no - 1, abstain 0		

Disposition of Motion #7: **Passed**, yes – 23, no – 5, abstain – not allowed

New Business:

- Tim Mullins – If I had a sleeve, I'd be wearing my heart on it. Ten years ago at DeAnza Springs Resort I came before the General Assembly with a resolution similar to the one I will be reading today. At that time we had just lost Alonzo Stevens, who had been one of my mentors when I came to the Government Affairs Team. Today I'm here with a new resolution. I spoke with Debra Sue Stevens yesterday, Alonzo's widow for those of you who don't know, who agreed the resolution would be appropriate at this time. So I'll try to read that.

Whereas,

The membership meeting in annual session in 2012 did resolve to rename the Government Affairs Award to the Alonzo Stevens Jr Government Affairs Award, and

Whereas,

Since that time other Government Affairs Team members and Chairs have passed, notably Turner Stokes, Don Phillips, Fred Van Nest, and

Whereas

Other team members are equally due the honor of recognition of their service to AANR and Government Affairs

Be it resolved by the members meeting in annual session on August 11, 2022, as a recognition of all those who have devoted their time and energy to fostering our goals, we do hereby rename the Alonzo Stevens Jr Government Affairs Award to the AANR Government Affairs Memorial Award.

I present this for recognition by the membership.

Motion # 9

I move to adopt the resolution.

Maker:	Bev Price	Second	Terry Meeks
Purpose:	As Stated		
Fiscal Impact:	None		
Discussion:	None		
Disposition:	Passed , yes – 29, no 1, abstain 0		

Good of the Order:

ZOOM stopped recording. The following good of the order comments were determined from texts by Vice President Margie Cantlon.

- Len Summers - Lauded Tom and BG. He created an award for BG and Tom.
- Paul LeValley – Since we have ZOOM, we should move the General Assembly to a Saturday.

Announcements

No recording available.

Meeting adjourned

At 12:55 p.m. EDT

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Smith

Kathy Smith

Secretary/Treasurer