



**National Committee Meeting (NCM) Webinar – Skål USA Office, Washington, D.C.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, August 25, 2017 • 3 PM US EST**

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of Skål International U.S.A., the President of Skål International U.S.A., Holly Powers invites Representatives the Skål International U.S.A. to participate at the National Committee Meeting (NCM) WEBINAR on Friday, August 25, 2017.

**1. Call Meeting to Order by President Holly Powers**

President Powers called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM EST. President Powers then led the Executive Committee and participants in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Skål Toast. President Powers requested a moment of silence for those in Texas facing Hurricane Harvey. President Powers welcomed the delegates and then introduced the members of the Executive Committee along with the Skål Administrators from the American Bus Association.

**2. Roll Call of the Clubs – VP of Administration – Burcin Turkkan**

Determination of Quorum

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>DELEGATE NAME</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>ALBANY, N.Y.</b>	Ernie Bruno	Present
<b>ANCHORAGE</b>	Mary Pignalberi	Present
<b>ARKANSAS</b>	Karen Trevino	Present
<b>ATLANTA</b>	Harry Huff	Present
<b>ATLANTIC CITY</b>	Ed Davis	Present
<b>AUSTIN</b>	Jim Reist	Present
<b>BALTIMORE</b>	Tina Comma	Present
<b>BOISE</b>	Kathy Pidgeon	Present
<b>BOSTON</b>	Dan Donahue	Not Present
<b>BOSTON</b>	Carrie Campbell	Present
<b>CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA</b>	Getachew Kassahun	Present
<b>CHARLOTTE</b>	Francis Tsai	Present
<b>CHICAGO</b>	William Kauke	Present
<b>COLORADO</b>	Peter Hellman	Present

<b>COLUMBUS</b>	Joanne McHugh	Present
<b>FORT LAUDERDALE &amp; PALM BEACHES</b>	Carlos Banks	Present
<b>FORT WORTH</b>	Jake Sillavan	Present
<b>HAWAII</b>	Doug Okada	Present
<b>JACKSONVILLE</b>	Michael Cunningham	Present
<b>KANSAS CITY</b>	Kenn Hamm	Present
<b>LAS VEGAS</b>	Nathen Waldschmidt Ann Parsons	Present
<b>LONG ISLAND</b>	Don Raad	Present
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	Stanton Jones	Present
<b>LOUISVILLE</b>	Dwayne Huff	Present
<b>MEMPHIS</b>	Deidra Speight	Present
<b>MIAMI</b>	Jerry-Max Theophile	Present
<b>MYRTLE BEACH</b>	David Nelson	Present
<b>NASHVILLE</b>	Donald Hartley	Not Present
<b>NEW ORLEANS</b>	Bobbi Mannino	Present
<b>NEW YORK</b>	Monica Ramos	Present
<b>NEW YORK</b>	Keith Hyatt	Present
<b>NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA</b>	Gordon Reese	Present
<b>NORTHERN NEW JERSEY</b>	Gayle Walsh	Present
<b>ORANGE COAST</b>	Mike Smith	Present
<b>ORLANDO</b>	Mark Reid	Not Present
<b>ORLANDO</b>	Richard Scinta	Present
<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>	Deborah Magaldi	Present
<b>PITTSBURGH</b>	Vicki Abel	Present
<b>PORTLAND</b>	Stephanie Warrington	Present
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>	Roland Flores	Present
<b>RALEIGH-DURHAM</b>	Hector Jeyakaran	Present
<b>RENO-TAHOE</b>	Eric Kertzman	Present

<b>SACRAMENTO</b>	Carol Fox	Not Present
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	Mike Caplin	Present
<b>SAN JOSE</b>	Dan Smart	Present
<b>SANTA FE</b>	Terry Williams-Keffer	Present
<b>SEATTLE</b>	Liz Johnson	Present
<b>TAMPA BAY</b>	George Hoch	Present
<b>TUCSON</b>	Gayle Venner	Present
<b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>	James Enright	Present
<b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>	Andres Hayes	Present
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES PRESENT:</b>	<b>47 VOTES PRESENT</b>	

Turkkan reported that quorum is met.

### **3. Approval of the “Consent Agenda” of Executive Committee Reports – President Holly Powers**

President Powers asked if there were any items in the consent agenda that would like to be removed for further discussion. There being no objections, President Powers requested a motion be made to accept the consent agenda. Del. Dwayne Huff (Louisville) so motioned. Motion seconded by Del. Andres Hayes (Washington D.C.). There being no discussion, all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions. The Consent Agenda is accepted.

### **4. Skål International USA By-laws Amendment Proposal – Holly Power**

President Powers handed the floor over to VP of Finance Alton Hagen to brief the membership on the proposal. Hagen reported that the change is for Article 8 Section 6 of the By-laws. It is an addition to the proposal; this proposal was sent out in advance of this meeting. It’s an addition that each authorized voting delegate must be confirmed in writing prior to the NCM and/or the AGM. Ideally this confirmation would come from the President of each club. After his explanation, Hagen opened the floor for comments and questions. Del. Ann Parsons (Las Vegas) inquired about resubmission of the voting delegate in the event that the past voting delegate is no longer able to serve in that role. Hagen confirmed that there would need to be an update sent out so the EC would have an updated accurate list of voting members from each club. There being no further questions, Hagen asked for a motion to approve the amendment to the by-laws as stated. Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) so motioned. Seconded by Del. Jake Sullivan (Ft. Worth). All in favor, Delegates Victoria Abel (Pittsburgh), Carrie Campbell (Boston) and Deidra Speight (Memphis) opposed, Delegates Deborah Magaldi (Philadelphia) and James Enright (Washington, D.C.) abstained. The motion passes.

### **5. Introduction of the Online Club Data Form Submission – Burcin Turkkan**

This form was originally known as the Form 2 for Skål USA – there is still the Skål International Form 2, but this Online Club Data form will replace the Skål USA Form 2. President Powers handed the floor over to Turkkan to give further details. Turkkan cited that there was a lot of communication traffic associated with gathering the Form 2 data, so to address that problem they came up with the Online Club Data Form as a one stop location to enter a club’s information. Turkkan instructed that this form should not be filled out until after the club elections have taken

place. Turkkan opened the floor for questions, Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) asked about the separate forms between the Skål International form and the Skål USA form. Powers answered that that old Form 2 must still be done on the Skål International website, and the Skål USA form should be completed separately on the Skål USA website. Each club must fill in both forms on both websites. There being no questions or comments Turkkan turned the floor back over to President Powers.

#### **6. New MOI Review – Arthur Allis**

President Powers handed the floor over to Arthur Allis to introduce the two new manuals that resulted from the MOI review. The first being a field guide with the purpose of being a complete guide to membership development, it will contain all pertinent membership development information and assist each club's officers and board of directors in order to assure a smooth transition from one year to another. The second part focuses on Club Management. Allis reported that the copies of the proposed documents are under review by the Skål USA EC and members of the revision committee. Allis then opened the floor for any questions or comments. Del. Harry Huff (Atlanta) inquired about reprimands that are available at a club level or at a Skål USA level. Powers answered that the only vehicle that they have is a reprimand from Skål International. Powers said she will check on it and share it with the other clubs regarding other Skål reprimand options. Lou Conkling with Del. Dwayne Huff (Louisville) reaffirmed that a club can reprimand but there is no activity that can be done by Skål USA, after that it is on Skål International. Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) reaffirmed what Del. Conkling had said. President Powers thanked Art Allis for all his hard work.

#### **7. Other Business**

##### **a. FVF Fund Update**

President Powers handed the floor over to Cyndi Golden to give a summary of the FVF Fund. Golden reported that year-to-date \$5,580 USD has been donated. \$25,000 has been donated in addition to a loan for \$6,000. Over all a total of \$ 31,000 has gone out to 7 Skålleagues this year. Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) remarked that these donations make a difference and encouraged his fellow Skålleagues to donate.

##### **b. SI World Congress 2017 Update – Holly Powers**

President Powers announced that the SI World Congress will take place in India. Out of 47 clubs, only 13 clubs are participating which is 18 votes total. Powers urged Skålleagues to register quickly as a visa is necessary to make the trip. There will be a separate webinar for those who are going to India to discuss the initiatives that will be addressed at the meeting. They will send out an invite to all clubs, all are welcome to attend but it will not be mandatory.

##### **c. Presentation of Candidates for International Office 2018 – Holly Powers**

President Powers reported that Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) is running for a Director position and that Del. John Ruskin is running for the position of International Auditor.

##### **d. Proposals for the Winter Executive Committee Meeting**

President Powers handed the floor over to Turkkan to review the criteria for the location chosen for the meeting. Based on the most feasible option considering airfare, travel and accommodations the board chose to have the 2018 Winter Executive Committee Meeting held in Raleigh Durham, North Carolina. The event will take place on 18-20<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. Turkkan thanked the other locations who had submitted proposals. President Powers invited everyone to attend the meeting in North Carolina in January.

President Powers asked VP Membership Toni Koster to give an update on some new clubs that are in the works. Koster reported the Richmond Club is expected to be up and running within the next month. The Naples, Florida Club had their second meeting led by President Holly Powers. The Phoenix Club has a list of 35 names to contact to get the club started. The Fresno Club is being spearheaded by Director of Membership Dave Ryan. The Fresno Club will be renamed to something along the lines of Central California Club to reflect its larger geographic region. Director of Membership Jim Dwyer is working on potential clubs in Rochester, NY, Southern New England and Savannah, GA. Koster reported that membership numbers are heading in the right direction. Each month Skål is gaining new members. Koster then opened the floor for any potential questions or comments. There being no questions or comments, Koster handed the floor back over to President Powers.

President Powers highlighted the media kit as an asset for members to use as a tool to spread and advertise Skål USA.

**e. Elections**

President Powers encouraged the membership to consider serving in the next election cycle. There will be a letter distributed giving more details and instructions for how to apply to be on the executive committee.

**f. Partnership Links**

Director of PR & Communication Steve Richer discussed partnering with top tourism organizations and working with NGOs to establish beneficial partnerships. Richer also noted the Club Locator section on the Skål USA website featuring clubs. This tool reflects Skål USA's commitment to creating meaningful tools for the Skål USA clubs and membership.

**g. Upcoming Skål Congresses**

In 2018 the North American Skål Congress will be taking place in Playa Mujeres, Mexico at the Secrets Resort. Powers encouraged membership to start fundraising now to attend the meeting. In 2019 the North American Skål Congress will be back in the United States. She encouraged clubs to start putting together bids to host the 2019 Congress in Del. Bob Burke (Miami) gave an update on their bid for 2019. They are looking at a late September, early October 2019 date. They expect the proposal will be submitted within the next week. When the proposal is finalized, they can pass it along to the Skål Executive Committee.

**h. Open floor for Q&A**

President Powers opened the floor for Q&A. Del. Carlos Banks (Ft. Lauderdale) reminded all the clubs to vote for the Club of the Year. Del. Mary Pignalberi (Alaska), commented on appreciating the webinar format and asked about the Media Kit. Turkkkan directed Del. Pignalberi to the website where to find the Media Kit on the site. Del. Pignalberi also expressed appreciation for the flight credit. Del. Frances Tsai (Charlotte) asked if the flyers from the meetings will be sent out and if there is a recording of the New Member. Skål Administrator Brandon Buchanan showed him where the webinar recording is located. There will be another New Member Webinar in October and December. Del. Harry Huff (Atlanta) asked for a reference where to find guidance about the local reprimand. Del. Doug Okada (Hawaii) commented his appreciation for the webinar format. President Powers also requested that the participants signal electronically if they were in favor of hosting the NCM in an online format. Participants indicated that a majority of them appreciated the webinar format.

**8. Adjournment**

Delegate Monica Ramos (New York) motioned to adjourn the NCM. The motion was seconded by Delegate Ed Davis (Atlantic City). All in favor, no opposed, motion passes. The 2017 NCM was adjourned at 4:17 PM EST.