



New York State Association of REALTORS®, Inc.

Executive Committee Meeting
Turning Stone Resort & Casino – Cypress AB
October 1, 2024 – 5:45 pm

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President, Joe Rivellino. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Joe Rivellino, Buffalo Niagara
Jacqlene Rose, Otsego Delaware
Ron Garafalo, Hudson Gateway
Carmen Bauman, Hudson Gateway
Teresa Belmore, Hudson Gateway
Jennifer Bossuot, Jefferson Lewis
Dawn Carpenter, Staten Island
Martin Carpenter, Greater Syracuse
Mark Donnelly, Long Island
Jennifer Flynn, Jefferson Lewis
Dave Legaz, Long Island
John Leonardi, Buffalo Niagara
Linda Lugo, Long Island
Karen Peebles, Jefferson Lewis
Dennis Pezzimenti, Chautauqua Cattaraugus
Jennifer Stevenson, St. Lawrence
Laurel Sweeney, Ulster County
John Vernazza, Staten Island
Kira Witherwax, Clinton County
Amy Wood Gonzalez, Ithaca

Excused Absences

Marcia Clarke, Brooklyn
Jennifer Vucetic, Greater Capital

Unexcused Absence

Bob Strell, NYS Commercial

Staff Present

Duncan MacKenzie, NYSAR CEO
Anthony Gatto, Esq., NYSAR Director of Legal Services
Libby Rentz, NYSAR Chief Financial Operations Officer
Ali Mann, NYSAR Director of Governance & Board Relations

President's Report

The minutes of the February 7, 2024 Executive Committee meeting held at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center were approved as published.

The minutes of the June 16, 2024 Executive Committee meeting held via Zoom were approved as published.

The minutes of the September 4, 2024 Executive Committee meeting held via Zoom were approved as published.

Budget and Finance Committee

Ron Garafalo, Chair

Budget & Finance recommends that NYSAR take up to \$360,000 from Reserves for computer and network upgrades over the next three years.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

Legal Action Committee

Martin Carpenter, Chair

NYSAR contribute up to \$100,000 to provide legal funding to the Hudson Valley Property Owners Association for appealing the matter of HVPOA v City of Kingston to the NYS Court of Appeals challenging the implementation of the Emergency Tenant Protection Act by Kingston.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

Organizational Planning Committee

Karen Peebles, Chair

The Organizational Planning Committee recommends that the Housing Opportunities Committee sunset.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

The Organizational Planning Committee recommends that the Communications, Marketing & Technology Forum sunset.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

The Organizational Planning Committee recommends that the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee be made a forum.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

The Organizational Planning committee recommends that the regional appointments on NYSAR committees be removed with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

A motion was carried to recommend approval.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Garafalo, Treasurer

Treasurer Garafalo reviewed the financial statement for the period ending August 31, 2024.

Nominating Committee

John Vernazza, Chair

Chair Vernazza stated that the Nominating Committee met in February, and their recommendations were noticed to the Board of Directors and member boards in accordance with the bylaws. Those recommendations are:

President-Elect: Ron Garafalo, Hudson Gateway

Treasurer: Dan Staley, Dutchess County

New Business

2025 Budget

A motion was carried to recommend approval of the 2025 budget as presented.

Depository for 2025

A motion was carried to recommend that M&T Bank serve as the depository for the NYSAR checking account for 2025.

Accounting Firm for 2025

A motion was carried to recommend that Wojeski & Company serve as the accounting firm for the association for the year 2025.

Chief Executive Officer for 2025

A motion was carried to recommend that Duncan MacKenzie serve as NYSAR Chief Executive Officer for 2025.

Other

The committee was made aware that an additional \$25,000 was contributed to the NAR Disaster Relief Fund.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.