



NAHJ CHICAGO BOARD MEETING

Saturday, November 19, 2016

Called to order at 10:45 am.

I. Introductions

Brief introductions were made during the first open meeting of this recently elected board. There was one representative of the NAHJ regional division, five board members from the NAHJ Chicago chapter and 11 NAHJ members present at the meeting.

II. Workshop Ideas

Board members suggested a possible workshop be held around the questions, “how will journalists move forward with Trump presidency? What does this mean for how we cover White House, immigration, race relations?” Many comments were made regarding the incoming administration’s decision to limit media access. One member suggested that the workshop would be more successful if it focused not on how media access benefits journalists but rather how it benefits democracy.

Other ideas for workshops were how to diversify and amplify your sources, how do you find a new angle to a story and the differences between freedom of speech and hate speech.

III. Future Events

Nuevo Comienzo, the annual fundraiser for NAHJ Chicago was described in detail to the attending members. It was decided that Thursday, January 12th would be a good date for the event. Taco Joint and Latinicity were suggested as possible venues for the event

The conversation regarding a mixer with AAJA, NABJ and NLGJA continued. It was suggested that the mixer take place in February so as not to interfere with attendance at Nuevo Comienzo.

A clothing or food drive sponsored by the NAHJ was also brought up as a way to expand our philanthropic outreach. A member suggested we donate our time instead by visiting seniors and holding a small event for them. The board was enthusiastic about this idea and suggested members reach out to Casa Central to begin coordinating the afternoon, which would include lunch and games.

IV. Social Media

NAHJ Chicago’s success on social media was highlighted, with some posts increasing reach by over 400%. Members were encouraged to tag NAHJ Chicago in relevant pictures and postings. It was also suggested that the success of recent graduates with ties to NAHJ Chicago be profiled on social media in order to promote their success.



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Facebook Live was discussed and how beneficial the platform has been for local stations, especially during coverage of the Cubs parade, where Facebook viewership far exceeded television viewership. The board and attending members agreed that the platform should be used as a partnership spanning across the local stations to advance the market's position that the media represents democracy.

V. Wrap Up

As the meeting wrapped up, the next in person meeting was announced as taking place at Nuevo Comienzo in January.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:54 am.