

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS
MIAMI BRANCH 146
MINUTES OF MEETING – JANUARY 11, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by President Michael Lecounte, who welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. The group was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Ray Maytin. All attendees were asked to observe a moment of silence for those who are serving in the Military, for those who are ill, for anyone who has had death in the family Please keep the family of Lavina Thompson, one our former branch officers, in everyone’s Prayers and Thoughts. She passed away during the week.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS – Absent from the meeting were Pat Nolan, Executive VP and Michael Murphy, who were excused.

There were no guests. Visiting us was Abel Ortiz, a former branch member.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2023 MEETING – Carolyn advised that the minutes of the October meeting was mailed immediately following the meeting. A motion was made by Ray; seconded by Tom to accept the minutes as printed and mailed. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – Carolyn advised that a letter had been received from the Parliamentarian Joan Meadors. The letter was read to the members. The letter is included in the minutes. The President determined that the Board will have a ZOOM meeting and discuss the letter and charges. He will then meet with the both Ilia Gonzalez and Eddie Suarez then contact Joan Meadors to address the letter and charges.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Ann provided all Deposits, Disbursements and Balance on hand since the November 2023 meeting. Motion to accept the report was made by Ray; seconded by Linda. Motion carried.

After the report Yanier Leon commented the hotel should be contacted because for the second month, the room was not set up and this month we had no flag. Ann advised that she would contact Carmen, the Event Manager to request a payment refund or an adjustment.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Ann provided an update. She advised that all Bills are on hold in the Congress and the Senate. The 2024 Legislative Training Seminar (LTS) will be held in Arlington, Virginia, March 3-6, 2024.

Registration information is in the latest Postal Supervisor. Registration fee before 02/09/2024 is \$275. After 02/09 and up to 02/16/2024, the fee is \$325. No registrations will be accepted after 02/16. Total calculated for hotel, per diem, airfare and transportation to and from the airport will \$2,282 for each attendee.

SPAC – Ann announced the State Board voted to purchase Commemorative Coins and to sell them for \$20 each, which will go towards the purchaser’s SPAC yearly donations. California and New York sold the coins for \$30 each and moved above Florida in SPAC donations. Ann added that these coins are collectibles and the Congressional Representatives and the Senators like receiving the coins. The coins were passed around at the meeting for members to see and purchase.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS & RULES COMMITTEE – In the absence of Joan Meadors - Chairperson, Tom advised that the committee met and the Constitution and Standing Rules have been approved by the Committee.

They agreed that the following Section should be added to the **BY-LAWS. ARTICLE III – COMMITTEES, Section 2 – The President shall appoint a Legislative Director to serve each year.** This addition will need a vote from the membership at the February meeting. Tom read from the Constitution and By-Laws that new members should be given a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. Tom advised the three documents are posted on the Branch website: www.napsbranch146.org. Eddie Suarez said that the Secretary should give all members a copy of the Constitution and By-laws. Carolyn advised that it is not a requirement. Eddie Suarez then stated “Carolyn at this point I don’t believe anything that you say.” Carolyn did not respond to his outburst.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE No report. Michael advised there are only two applications to be reviewed. Maxine McFarlane will meet with the Committee members to choose a 1st and 2nd place recipient. The committee should have an update at the February meeting.

NOMINATING AND BALLOT COMMITTEE - Michael announced that due to circumstances that have been brought up at his meeting, Nominations will be conducted in the February 2024 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ELIGIBILITY LIST – The list of members, who have attended the required number of meetings in 2023 and who are eligible to seek election to the board and/or to be eligible to attend the Conventions as a delegate, was read by Carolyn. Those eligible are:

Fulcher, Sandra	Maytin, Raymond	Metcalfe, Tom	Scriven, Bernice
Gonzalez, Ilia	McCants, Beverly	Murphy, Michael	Strickland, Ann
Guyton, Patricia	McFarlane, Maxine	Nolan, Patricia	Suarez, Eduardo
Hill, Otis	McPhee-Johnson, Tayloria	Paisley, Sabrina	Williams, Carolyn
Leon, Yanier	Meadors, Joan	Scott, Linda	

AUDIT COMMITTEE – The President announced that due to continued concerns for an Audit to be conducted, a Committee is needed. Volunteers for the Committee are Tom Metcalfe, Chairman; Eddie Suarez, Co-Chair, Ray Maytin, Linda Scott and Ilia Gonzalez. Ann Strickland will be present to address any questions or concerns.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Eddie brought up the issue to make Past Branch President Allen Donelan an Honorary Member of NAPS. Tom read the Article III, Section 2c, 1 of the Constitution – “Members of this Association who are in good standing at the time of retirement or promotion shall be entitled to Honorary Membership”. **All retirees who meet this requirement are HONORARY MEMBERS.**
- Pat Guyton advised that her Grandson received a \$1000 Scholarship from NAPS Headquarters, Congratulations

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the HAMPTON INN & SUITES, 11600 NW 41ST ST, MIAMI FL 33178. Chuck Mulidore, National Executive Vice President will be our guest.**

\$50.00 door prize drawing. The winner was Yanier Leon. SPAC drawing – The total collected was \$80 (\$40 to SPAC/\$20 each to Tom Metcalfe and Sandra Fulcher. Motion to adjourn – Tom; seconded by Ray. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted – *Carolyn J. Williams, Secretary*

If you have moved please send your updated mailing address to the NAPS PO Box

**Updated information available in the POSTAL SUPERVISOR. Branch 146
(www.napsbranch146.org); FL State NAPS (www.flnaps.org); NAPS Headquarters
(www.naps.org)**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS
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January 2, 2024

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Michael Lecounte & Board of Directors
National Association of Postal Supervisors, Branch 146
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To the Officers of Branch 146:

It is only after much reflection and consideration that I believe I must press charges against two members of N.A.P.S. Those people are Ilia Gonzalez and Eddie Suarez. They both made untrue and derogatory comments about me. In January 2023 Mr. Suarez made several incorrect remarks. I spoke up to advise that they were incorrect. In a very loud voice Mr. Suarez said I yelled at him and no one would correct me because of my age. Several members spoke up on my behalf. I would not yell at anyone. I am a Parliamentarian and have a code of conduct as well as the one for N.A.P.S. I have always conducted myself with integrity and common courtesy.

After that incident Ilia Gonzalez sent an email to the Board and the Constitution and By Laws Committee which stated I should be removed from the Committee. After this incident I wrote a letter to you, the Board. I said I believe I should receive an apology from both Ms. Gonzalez and Mr. Suarez. The letter was received and read to the membership however I never received an apology.

Both Eddie Suarez and Ilia Gonzalez have continued to make improper remarks both in writing and in person. This conduct is not appropriate for any member of N.A.P.S. There is a National Code of Ethics as well as the conduct required by Roberts Rules of Order and good manners in general.

I believe their attitude toward me is unacceptable and uncalled for. They have also been unruly and unpleasant to many members of this organization. Conduct such as this is a detriment to the organization. We all should be at the very least courteous to our brothers and sisters.

I am asking the Board to either remove Eddie Suarez and Ilia Gonzalez as members or at the very least suspend their attendance until such time as they not only apologize but also demonstrate a change in their outlook toward myself and the organization as a whole.

To provide additional information about myself, I am a Parliamentarian and have been for more than 30 years. I have served as a parliamentarian for the Saint Bernard Club of America, Local and Florida State National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees. I have also been the President of the South Dade Parliamentary Law Unit and continuously assisted this branch with all of our reviews of the Constitution and By Laws and Standing Rules. I have served the State Branch, I have also served the N.A.P.S National on the Constitution and By Laws Committee. For additional information I have enclosed a copy of the National Association of Parliamentarians Code of Conduct, the N.A.P.S. Code of Ethics as well as several excerpts from Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised.

I thank you in advance for your attention in this matter. I look forward to a favorable outcome for the Branch and all of the membership, as I believe these actions harm everyone in some way.

Respectfully,

Joan Meadors

Enclosures: Cites from Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised
NAPS Code of Conduct and Ethics Guidelines