MEMBERSHIP DELEGATE ORIENTATION WEBINAR

March 13, 2019
“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”

- Eleanore Roosevelt
Where are We Going Today?

- Who are the delegates?
- What is your role?
  - Welcome to both our National and Membership Delegates tonight!
- Issues that might surface at meetings
- What are next steps for Membership and National Delegates?
- Governance versus Operational Overview
Operational roles include:

- Plan and maintain program
- Responding to concerns of the staff and volunteers
- Provide learning opportunities to volunteers
- Representing Girl Scouting in the community
- Employ, direct and conduct performance reviews of the staff
- Prepare performance reports and exhibits as required by the board or committees
Membership Delegate Role

- Elected by the members to serve as their voting representative in matters related to the governance of Girl Scouts of North East Ohio.

- Entrusted with the responsibility of sharing information, as received from council leadership and then utilizing her/his communication skills and an open mind to gather feedback from girl and adult member.

- Understand the issues and concerns of the girl and adult members within their county as well as appreciated council-wide issues in order to think globally for the good of the entire organization. Serves as channel of two-way communication between members and council leadership.

- Promote GSUSA/GSNEO program, services and goals to the community-at-large.
Membership Delegate Major Responsibilities

- Act as a channel for two-way communication between constituents and Council leadership.
- Understand her/his constituencies’ issues and concerns as well as appreciate Council-wide issues and needs in order to think globally for the good of the entire organization.
- Understand corporate functions, including being able to review and understand any Council financial reports provided.
- Attend Annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Council. Attend special meetings as called in accordance with the GSNEO Bylaws. Attend Service Unit Membership Meeting(s). Participate in Service Unit meetings as requested.
- Participate in Membership Delegate conference calls or webinars.
Membership Delegate Major Responsibilities (continued)

• Participate in training for this position.
• Elect the Officers of the Board of Directors, the Directors-at-Large of the Board of Directors, the members of the Board Development Committee, and the Delegates and Alternate Delegate(s) to the National Council of Girls Scouts of the United States of America, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the GSNEO Bylaws.
• Participate in votes to amend or revise the Articles of Incorporation and the GSNEO Bylaws as presented at meetings of the General Assembly of the Council.
• Submit proposals to the Board of Directors to improve the quality of Girl Scouting.
• Promote the organization’s programs, services and goals to the community-at-large.
Membership Delegates Role

**BOARD**
- Sets Direction
- Provides Oversight/Hires CEO
- Ensures Mission, Resource, and Organizational Accountability

**CEO**
- Hires/Appoints and manages staff and operational volunteers
- Assures Delivery of Programs/Services
- Partners with Board on Strategy

**EMPLOYED STAFF**
- Supports/Facilitates the work of volunteers.
- Executes business/legal functions

**OPERATIONAL VOLUNTEERS**
- Deliver GSLE, programs, and services

**MEMBERSHIP DELEGATES**
- Represent Membership in electing Board, BDC, and National Delegates.
- Receives training related to governance, votes on governance issues, serves as info conduit between Council Leadership and the Membership

**VOTING MEMBERSHIP**
- Participates in Decision-Influencing System
- Elects Membership Delegates to represent the membership
Circle of Communication

- Board of Directors/Staff prepare information
- Staff Liaison Compiles Info from Delegates & Reports To Board/Staff
- Delegates Share Input/Feedback Received From Members With Staff Liaison.
- Staff Liaison Forwards Information to Delegates
- Delegates Present Info at Service Unit and/or Leader Meetings.
Governance Communication Schedule

• A minimum of two Webinars annually. Others will be scheduled as needed.
• A quarterly Governance Newsletter will be published. The next edition will be after the Annual Meeting. If there are any delegates who prefer a hard copy, please let me know and I will mail you a copy.
Membership Delegate Composition

• Serve a two year term.
• Membership Delegates are selected by Service Unit.
  o If the Membership Delegate elected by the Service Unit is a girl, then the Service Unit shall be entitled to elect a 2\textsuperscript{nd} Membership Delegate.
• Membership Delegates are nominated and elected directly by the girl (over age 14) and adult members of GSNEO.
• For more information, refer to Article IV of the GSNEO By Laws.
• It is noteworthy that of the more than 60% of the GSNEO Membership Delegates, are GIRLS!
Issues that Might Become Discussion Items for Council Board Meeting

- Future funding for the council
- Newly adopted or modified corporate goals
- GSUSA Initiatives
- Potential jurisdiction alteration
- Strategy Alignment input
Representing Your Service Unit

• The membership delegate is responsible for:
  o Maintaining consistent communication with the Service Unit/Service Unit Director either by phone or email.
  o Attending service unit leaders meetings as needed.
• Information on what to discuss will be provided to delegates, by staff, via conference calls and emails.
• A membership delegate must contact GSNEO immediately if she/he is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.
Blue Book of Basic Documents

Contents Include:

• Constitution of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
• Bylaws of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
• Policies of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
• Credentials
• Criteria and Standards for an Effective Girl Scout Council
• Congressional Charter of Girl Scouts of the United States of America.
The Blue Book of Basic Documents can be found on the Governance Page of the GSNEO.org website.

Click here for the latest version of Blue Book of Basic Documents

Suggestion
At a future Service Unit Meeting, share the Blue Book of Basic Documents!

It a great resource for all of us!
National Council Delegate formula is being adjusted as follows:
Each local council to which a charter has been issued and remains in force shall be entitled to the following delegates based on the number of girls under its jurisdiction who are members of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America as of September 30 of the year preceding the regular session of the National Council:

Each council will be entitled to elect:
• Two (2) delegates;
• One (1) additional delegate for up to 1,500 girls;
• One (1) additional delegate for every 1,500 girls thereafter.
2017-2020 National Delegate term
3-Year Term

- GSNEO has 15 National Delegates
- 8 of the GSNEO’s 15 National Delegates are GIRLS!
National Delegates Major Responsibilities

- Participate in council and/or board meetings, and participate in council forums and focus groups, as requested.
- Obtain a broad array of the opinions of adult members and Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors from all parts of the council.
- Participate in teleconferences for voting members, sponsored by the GSUSA.
- Engage in opportunities to discuss, learn, and share ideas across the Movement.
- Be familiar with the contents of the current Blue Book of Basic Documents.
- Have a basic understanding of parliamentary procedure and Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised.
While attending the National Council Session and any additional special sessions of the National Council each National Delegate is responsible for:

• Attending all business meetings and participating in the proceedings.
• Being fully prepared to participate in discussion and vote on all business items.
• Elect the National Board of Directors, the officers of the National Board of Directors, and the members of the National Board Development Committee.
• Determine general lines of policy of the Girl Scout Movement and program by considering and acting upon proposals directed toward the fostering and improvement of Girl Scouting, receiving and acting upon reports from the National Board of Directors, and giving guidance to the National Board upon general lines of direction of the Movement and program.
• Participate in votes to amend or revise the Constitution and/or the Bylaws of GSUSA.
• Participate in the establishment of requirements for certificates of membership, local council charters, and all other credentials.
• Submit proposals to the National Council to improve the quality of Girl Scouting, in accordance with the submittal guidelines reflected in Article VI of the Constitution of GSUSA.
• Participate in all other action requiring a National Council membership vote.
• Wear official Girl Scout uniform during all Convention sessions.
National Delegates

Upon returning from the National Council Session, each National Council voting member/delegate is prepared to:

• Report on National Council decisions and the reasons for such decisions at the council’s annual meeting, to the council board of directors, and the council’s constituency (if requested by council Board Chair and CEO) on the National Council decisions and the reasons for such decisions.
• Share insights on information gained at the National Council Session, if requested.
• Assist the council as it prepares to participate in the next National Council Session, if requested.
• Participate in teleconferences and other opportunities for voting members/delegates.
• Be an active, voting member of the GSNEO General Assembly.
  o Act as a channel for two-way communication between constituents and the National Council.
  o Understand her/his constituencies’ issues and concerns as well as appreciate Nation-wide and Council-wide issues and needs in order to think globally for the good of the entire organization.
  o Attend meetings of the General Assembly of the Council, which is held annually. Attend special meetings as called within the jurisdiction of the Bylaws. Attend Membership and Service Unit Meetings in my area.
  o Elect the Board of Directors, the members of the Board Development Committee, and the Delegates/Alternate Delegates to the National Council in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Bylaws.
  o Participate in votes to amend or revise the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws as presented at meetings of the GSNEO General Assembly. Submit proposals to the Board of Directors to improve the quality of Girl Scouting.
  o Promote the organizations programs, services and goals to the community-at-large.
• Report to GSNEO on the events of the National Council Session/ G.I.R.L. 2017 and any special sessions of the National Council
Upcoming Annual Meeting

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2019 at Macedonia
Time: Check In & Continental Breakfast – 8:30 am
Meeting Starts: 9:30 am

If you have not already done so, please visit GSNEO.org and click on the Events tab to register for the Annual Meeting.

Deadline for registration is Wednesday, April 3rd!
### Adult Board of Directors-at-Large Slate
#### Full Term 2019-2021

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kate Asbeck</th>
<th>Sandra Rapp</th>
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<td>Diana Bilimoria, PhD</td>
<td>Chris Venditti</td>
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<td>Joseph Gutkoski, Esq.</td>
<td>Kristina Wilson</td>
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<td>Shay Little, PhD</td>
<td>Chris Young,</td>
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<td>MSN, MBA, RN, NEA-BC</td>
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Adult Board of Directors-at-Large Slate
Unexpired Term 2019-2020

Katelyn Shand
Girl Board of Directors-at-Large Slate
2019-2020

Kristen Blyler

Ava Kress
Board Development Committee Slate
2019-2021

Julie Cruz Blair

Kaitlyn Pillar
Proposal #1
Constitutional Amendment to allow for special sessions of the NCS to be held by electronic means.

Proposed Amendment
Two hundred members of the National Council present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at regular sessions of the National Council. Two hundred members of the National Council present either in person or via electronic means consistent with parliamentary rules for electronic meetings shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at special sessions of the National Council. Additionally, a quorum for a regular or special session requires provided, however, that delegates are present from one or more local councils in a majority of the geographical areas of the country as defined in the Bylaws. In the absence of a quorum, a majority of those present at the time and place set for a session may take an adjournment from time to time until a quorum shall be present.
Proposal #2
Engaging National Delegates throughout the Triennium

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL (in the form of a motion)
The National Council direct the GSUSA Board of Directors and GSUSA staff to engage National Delegates in decision-influencing throughout the triennium between regular sessions of the National Council. National Delegates shall be consulted at least once a year throughout the triennium between regular National Council sessions on substantive topics such as the following:
National Council Sessions Proposal #2
We Need Your Feedback

For Movement-wide input into Movement’s strategic planning processes
For Movement-wide input into strategic marketing and branding strategies
For Movement-wide input on strategic ways to increase membership
For Movement-wide discussion and feedback on any proposed major changes in program direction
For Movement-wide evaluation of the effectiveness of GSUSA’s provision of services to councils
For National Delegate input into draft proposals being prepared by the National Board for any regular or special sessions of the National Council, and
For other issues where the National Board or national staff determine that input of National Delegates is needed to give guidance on general lines of direction for the Movement and its program.
Reasons:
Within the past few years, GSUSA has announced that STEM and Outdoors are now two of the four program pillars of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and important in the development of girls to be go-getters, innovators, risk-takers, and leaders (G.I.R.L.) This follows recent development of Outdoor and STEM Journeys and badges since the Outdoor Program discussion at the 2014 National Council Session identified outdoor programming as essential to our national brand.

However, offering excellent outdoor and STEM programming in a girl-only environment requires property and other financial resources which are expensive to develop and maintain. As a result, financial pressures have forced some Girl Scout councils to sell properties, a process which is always controversial at best and which has caused significant divisions and discord between council memberships and their boards of directors. A national strategic discussion regarding how best to approach property ownership, the purposes of property ownership, alternatives to property ownership, and the support needed for providing outdoor and STEM programs is needed to guide the development of a National Property Strategy to support the recent program initiatives in STEM and Outdoors.
Reasons: (continued)
This strategic discussion should be preceded with providing National Council members data and information on the “current state” of any National Property Strategy and any advice or direction given by GSUSA to councils regarding property ownership and use. This information about the current state needs to include a brief historical perspective on changes in the last 10 years as well as current national resources (personnel, funding, services to councils, etc.) dedicated to properties. Such data and information should be provided to National Council members well in advance of the 2020 National Council Session to inform the discussion.
Something to Consider

A Proposal that GSNEO may want to consider to propose as a NCS Proposal is a Socially Responsible Investment Policy that delegates may wish to consider:

Possible Wording

• We direct the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors of GSUSA to study and consider for adoption the following addition to the investment policy of its corporate and retirement plans, including the National Girl Scout Council Retirement Plan (NGSCRP):

• Equity investments may not include the stock of individual companies that have no women members on their board of directors and may not include funds whose holdings include more than 10% of companies that have no women members on their board of directors.
By Mid Summer

• Reach out to your sister Girl Scouts and Service Unit and get their input regarding NCS Proposals and Discussion Topic
• Consider a proposal GSNEO may wish to put forth for consideration
• Deadline for Support of Proposals is August 31, 2019.
You Can Help!

• On March 12, **H.Res.217** was introduced in Congress by Rep. Buddy Carter (R-GA) and Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) to celebrate the 107th anniversary of Girl Scouts, the preeminent leadership development organization for girls in the world.

• You can help us commemorate our anniversary by urging your member of Congress to cosponsor the resolution honoring Girl Scouts and recognizing the importance of the all-girl space.
On March 12, 1912, the Girl Scout Movement began in Savannah, Georgia. It was initiated by Juliette Gordon Low, whose life mission was to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts unleashes the G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™ in every girl, preparing her for a lifetime of leadership. Over 50 million women alive today were Girl Scouts in their youth—including 60 percent of women in the current Congress and every female secretary of state in U.S. history.

**Take action** now by joining us in sending a message to your representative that urges them to sign on to legislation that will honor Girl Scouts and our 107-year legacy.
Mark Your Calendars!
Schedule of Upcoming Events & Activities

• March 20 – GSNEO Board Meeting
• April 6 - Annual Meeting of the General Assembly
• April 27 – Adult Recognition
• May 10 – Women of Distinction
• June 29 – Gold Award Event
• August 7-11 - Adult Learning Experience
Questions?