



**NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority  
Governance Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2022**

Present: Chris Pushkarsh, Chair  
Steve Hunt  
Diane Munro  
Art Lussi

Also Present: Michael Pratt, President/CEO  
Michelle Crew, General Counsel

Introduction: Chair Chris Pushkarsh called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Chris Pushkarsh explained that the meeting was being videotaped and a link to the recording and transcript would be made available at [www.orda.org](http://www.orda.org).

Chris Pushkarsh then asked for a roll call, and confirmed a quorum was present.

Minutes: On a motion by Art Lussi, seconded by Diane Munro, the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on June 10, 2022 were approved without changes.

Discussion: Chris Pushkarsh noted that the next item on the agenda was update to ORDA mission statement and proposed Resolution #471.

Committee members discussed the version of the mission statement that was included in the packet. After in-depth discussion, Committee members agreed to make one change to “world-class programs and experiences” instead of “exceptional programs and experiences”.

Chris Pushkarsh asked for a motion to recommend that the Board of Directors adopt proposed Resolution #471 with the change noted above.

On a motion by Diane Munro, seconded by Steve Hunt.

4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, the motion carried unanimously.

Chris Pushkarsh noted that the next item on the agenda was review of certain policies and procedures and proposed Resolution #472.

Michelle Crew explained that this Resolution would address two policies for ORDA. The first policy was the Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Policy. The second was the Background Check Policy.

The Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Policy was the result of Executive Order No. 17 “(Order)” that was issued by the Governor in April. The Order requires the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (“OPDV”) to strengthen the state’s policies on addressing gender-based and domestic violence. Michelle explained that the policy was submitted to OPDV for review and should be approved by mid-December. The Order requires the policy to be in place by January 1, 2023.

Michelle explained that the Background Check Policy is being amended to address some concerns by ORDA’s insurance carrier for Abuse and Molestation to add two additional categories of employees that will be background checked prior to employment or promotion. This will add employees who work in retail and shuttle bus drivers. There was also an amendment to the definition of “Candidate” to include that retroactive background checks of existing employees will not occur. New employees and employees promoted will be background checked in accordance with the requirements.

Michelle noted that a correction would be made to the draft Background Check Policy. Before going to the Board, it would be updated to include both Category 2 and 3 employees in the ongoing background checks, not just Category 3 employees.

Chris Pushkarsh asked for a motion to recommend that the Board of Directors adopt proposed Resolution #472 with the change noted above.

On a motion by Art Lussi, seconded by Diane Munro.

4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, the motion carries unanimously.

Chris Pushkarsh noted the next item on the agenda was discussion of evaluation process.

The committee discussed the board evaluation process. Art Lussi commented that the criteria was effective and that the information should be utilized. Steve Hunt suggested that an opportunity for board members to elaborate on the reasoning for their response would be helpful. The committee will address minor tweaks to the evaluation tool in its next meeting.

The Committee had a general discussion about planning its upcoming year. Mike Pratt commented that future work for the Governance Committee would include updates to ORDA's purchasing guidelines.

Chair:

Chris Pushkarsh announced that the meeting's business had concluded, and Renee would be in touch concerning the date of the next committee meeting.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Steve Hunt, seconded by Diane Munro, the meeting of the Governance Committee was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.