

Emergency Nurses Association New York City Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 30th, 2025, **Location:** Saratoga Springs, NY

Call to Order: Wendy Allen Thompson, 2025 NYC President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Welcome and Introductions: President welcomed attendees and introduced the Nurses Honor Guard, volunteers who provide memorial services for nurses.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda carried.

Meeting Format: The President announced that this year's meeting format would be shorter to allow time for a vendor dessert reception and a Nightingale Tribute for fallen nurses. Board members would be seated at tables with members to encourage interaction and feedback. The scheduled Breakfast with the Board would be held on Friday, 7-9 am with hot topic discussions led by board members regarding emergency department challenges, best practices, and successes.

Nurses Honor Guard Tribute: President reviewed the history and mission of the Nurses Honor Guard. Members from across New York State were present to honor fallen colleagues. A table with an empty place setting was set up as a memorial. The Nightingale lamp was ceremonially lit and extinguished, symbolizing the end of the fallen nurses' service. Memorial coins and gifts were presented to families of the honorees. A moment of silence and a Nurse's Prayer followed. The honor guard concluded with the presentation of parting power respects.

Motion to Adopt Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

Reports:

- **President's Report** (Wendy Allen Thompson): Reviewed ENA's mission to promote efficacy, diversity, and excellence in emergency nursing practice, along with its vision. She described the year's key activities including a leadership conference, Setting the Pace Conference (STP), various committee work, government affairs efforts, strategic planning, educational offerings, a training initiative for 10 TNAC (Trauma Nursing Advanced Course) instructors, scholarships through the ENA Foundation, an upcoming summit at Mt. Sinai Hospital, and participation in "Day on the Hill" and the New York State Workplace Violence Alliance.

- **President-Elect's Report** (Eileen Breckenridge): Focused on the increased number of award nominations this year and efforts to improve the awards process.
- **Past President's Report** (Patrick Byrne): Announced officer nominations are open, with applications on the state webpage. Candidates are being sought for president-elect, treasurer-elect, secretary-elect, and Board at Large members. Announced an educational summit was being planned to bring together faculty, instructors, and directors from ENPC, TNCC, and TNAC to develop proposals for greater educational support for NYSENA, including scholarships, course structures, transformative learning environments, and virtual education logistics.
- **Treasurer's Report** (Presented by President in Dawna Scheich's absence): An independent auditor reviewed the financials, and taxes were filed. There is currently \$431,950 available in funds. Reimbursement is available for council meeting attendees (up to \$250) for one night's hotel stay and mileage via forms on the NYSENA website. Presenters should submit reimbursements separately. A motion was made and passed to review the possibility of increased reimbursement for the national conference.
- **Secretary's Report** (Christopher Sorrentino): Focused on email communications to members via Constant Contact and plans to streamline future communications.
- **Board Member at Large Reports** (Vepuka Kauri/Carolyn Dixon): Board members-at-large primarily assist the president with tasks as needed, coordinating events, and encouraging member involvement.
- **Parliamentarian's Report**: No report was given.
- **Historian's Report** (Kathy Convoy): Reported on ENA's historical advocacy for better patient flow and encouraged member inquiries about ENA history.
- **Conference Committee Report** (Adam Lawrence): The conference committee significantly expanded the conference this year, with multiple sessions, workshops, and engagement rooms, as well as approximately 300 attendees expected at the conference party. The committee achieved a budget-neutral status for the conference.
- **Government Affairs Report** (President presented on behalf of Jonathan Nover): Members are attending "Day on the Hill" in Washington D.C. to advocate for emergency nurses. A presentation will be given on Friday with updates. Members were urged to sign a memorandum of support regarding workplace violence.
- **Education Committee Report** (Sue Breese): Invited attendees to monthly meetings (fourth Monday of each month, 7 PM), which may include CEs.
- **TNCC/ENPC Report** (Mary Ann Teeter): The committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 PM. Instructor candidates for both programs will receive a free

one-year ENA membership. The TNAC (Trauma Nursing Advanced Course) will be held in Syracuse this fall, with 12 provider spots and 8 instructor spots funded by NYSENA, split geographically between upstate and downstate. Teeter also highlighted a success story from Huntington Hospital's increase in TNCC completion rates.

- **ENPC Report** (Ray Briggs): 51 active instructors, 6 candidates, 24 instructors, 13 course directors, and 5 team actors. Instructor candidates should complete their requirements within 12 months. Two courses are scheduled for May. Encouraged interested instructors to become PIs (Principal Instructors) or PE's (practice evaluators). 14 courses are scheduled between April 1st and September 30th. Members should contact Rayburn for questions about courses or becoming an instructor.
- **Membership/Foundation Report** (Mickey Forness): 1,300 ENA members in NYS. Encouraged membership promotion. Small raffle held tonight, with large raffle on Friday. Promoted a 5k run for Emergency Nurses Week, proceeds going to the ENA Foundation for scholarships.
- **EMS Committee Report** (Mary Ann Portoro): NYS EMS meeting next week. Discussed ongoing work on improving care for behavioral health patients, release of a quality metrics manual, and legislative efforts to improve Medicaid reimbursement for EMS. Attendees were invited to visit exhibitors after the meeting and participate in exhibitor bingo.
- **Communications Committee Report** (Rachel Maass): Encouraged attendees to follow NYSENA on social media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn).

New Attendee Recognition: President Tin welcomed first-time attendees and encouraged their involvement in the organization.

Awards Presentations: President transitioned to the awards presentation.

President-Elect – Present annual NYSENA Awards

Nominations:

Congratulations to all of our nominees:

- Jerry O'Leary
- Carolyn Dixon
- Anne Porto
- Louise McEvoy
- Rosemarie Mason

- Rachel Maass
- Tara Heagle
- Linda Yonkin

Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients!

- Special Recognition Award
 - Rachel Maass
- Rising Star
 - Anne Porto
- Ginny HIMS EMS Award
 - Louise Mcevoy
- Ann Ryan Pediatric Award
 - Jerry O’Learly
- Education Award
 - Carolyn Dixon
- Anita Dorr
 - Linda Yonkin

1943 – motion to adjourn. Motion approved.

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by:

Christopher Sorrentino, RN

Secretary, NYS ENA

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