

Delegate Council Meeting Overview

Delegate Council Meeting – Spring 2020

March 22, 2021 from 7-9 pm

~ virtual ~

Invited: GSEP Board of Directors, Board Development Committee Members, GSEP Girl Advisors & Girl Delegates, Service Unit Delegates & Alternates, National Council Session Delegates, and Interested Members

Meeting Opening

Debbie Hassan, Board Chair, opened the Delegate meeting by welcoming all members to our third virtual Delegate Council Meeting. She then invited two Girl Delegates – Anika C. and Emma S. – to lead the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, Girl Scout Promise and Girl Scout Law.

Mission Moment

Four of GSEP's NCS Delegates who are girl members shared their impressions of their first National Council Session. Morgan L. described the months-long preparation process. Christian R. expressed what it was like attending a virtual NCS while simultaneously being on Zoom with the rest of the GSEP Delegation and visitors for an entire weekend. Mikayla H. shared that using your voice and vote is important in this national forum and illustrated that fact by a graphic of how close some of the votes were. Finally, Devyn S. told the Delegate Council how long each day of the 3-day NCS was but also how engaging the experience was for the entire Delegation.

Introductions

Board Chair Debbie Hassan then recognized the respective cohorts in attendance (Board, Board Development Committee, National Council Session Delegates, SU Delegates, and Girl Delegates). She reiterated the decision-influencing role of the Delegate Council and thanked the members for their service.

Board Development Committee Report

Deb Walters, a member of the BDC, reviewed the names of the committee members and reminded the Delegate Council that the BDC is made up of both Board and non-Board members.

She also provided an overview on the work of the Board Development Committee, which focuses on identifying, cultivating, and recruiting candidates to become members of the Board of Directors and the BDC itself. Plus, this committee is responsible for reviewing all the applications for the Girl Delegates and Girl Advisors to the Board to create the slate for the Delegate Council to vote on at the Annual Meeting on May 1st.

National Governance Update

Debbie Hassan first reported on the progress for identifying and recruiting the CEO of GSUSA, since she is a member of the national CEO search committee. Debbie also shared the good news that one of GSEP's NCS Delegates was chosen to be a member of the National Advisory Team for the 2023 NCS: Girl Scout Ambassador Mikayla H. is one of two girl members of the 13-person Team. Debbie then reminded the Delegates that GSUSA is also accepting applications for the first national Girl Advisory Board to GSUSA and encouraged the girl members to apply by March 31st.

Additional GSUSA News

Kim E. Fraites-Dow, CEO, explained that she is on two national committees: Membership Strategy and Marketing & Communications. She relayed the latest news that the Extended Year membership campaign had just been approved by GSUSA's National Board to begin on April 1 (which is a month earlier than in the past), and for one year only, lapsed members will be able to purchase an extended year membership. Plus, a new incentive for girls and adults to register for MY22 in April is a collaboration with former First Lady Michelle Obama, who is hosting a members-only virtual event on May 6 to introduce programming based on her new book *Becoming: Adapted for Young Readers*. The collaboration will include a series program called Becoming Me that will incorporate Girl Scout badges already in the program portfolio at every age level focusing on wellness.

Kim then shared the new branding being rolled out by GSUSA, including new shapes, colors, font, merchandise, and packaging. Most important is the underlying message that our Movement is a champion for girl ambition.

NCS Report & Strategy Cafés

The NCS Delegates presented the official outcome of the 2020 National Council Session, at which all six proposals were passed, with very minor changes. The Delegate Council then separated into breakout rooms to discuss any possible impact on GSEP as well as their own thoughts on these newest changes to the Blue Book. After report outs to the larger group, the NCS Delegates then shared five proposal ideas that were not accepted by the National Board to be part of the 2020 NCS so that the Delegate Council could discuss whether to revisit the possibility of suggesting them for the 2023 NCS. The smaller breakout groups then reported back to the whole Delegate Council, so that the NCS Delegates could work on these ideas in the future.

Closing

Board Chair Debbie Hassan reminded the Delegates to be on the lookout for the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting being emailed on April 1st, which will include a link to register for May 1st. She also shared that all attendees were eligible for a 10% off discount on any purchase in GSEP's shops made by April 30th.

Debbie adjourned the Spring Delegate meeting at 8:52 p.m.

If you would like to suggest a topic for the Fall 2021 Delegate Meeting in September, please email governance@gsep.org

Serving girls in Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton and Philadelphia counties