NHPA Executive Committee Meeting June 2026 AI Summary

Quick recap

This was the June meeting of the New Hampshire Press Association Executive Committee, presided over by Brendan McQuaid. The committee discussed the current treasury balance of $6,797.47 and reviewed upcoming events, including the contest and banquet planning. Judi Currie provided updates on the contest judging process, noting she was working on version 4 of the finalist list and had met with Google News Initiative about potential training sessions. The group addressed venue logistics for the banquet, with Susan Geyer tasked to investigate room layout options and space requirements for the awards ceremony and photo opportunities. Kristen Nieves shared insights from attending a recent Center for Integrity and News Reporting event, including potential speakers for future professional development events and observations about name tag quality. The committee also discussed membership and sponsorship updates, with Judi planning to follow up with Michael on current status.

Summary

Event Planning and Scheduling Updates

The meeting began with casual conversation about travel and weather before transitioning to scheduling matters. Judi announced an upcoming education committee meeting on the 16th at 1 PM and confirmed that plaques and a quote for a pull-up banner were being arranged for an upcoming event. The group discussed the recent successful Ken Burns event which attracted 1,300 people, and Judi mentioned she was currently working on securing a venue for the high school and college event planned for next spring.

NH Press Association Executive Updates

The New Hampshire Press Association Executive Committee meeting covered financial updates and ongoing projects. Judi reported the current treasury balance at $6,797.47, with Susan confirming receipt of a $500 check from Bow Times for contest sponsorship. Brendan provided updates on his work regarding a statewide legal notice initiative, including identifying potential vendors and planning to consult with Melanie's developer about cost-effective solutions while gathering member input on current legal notice practices.

Contest Preparations and Updates

Judi reported working on contest preparations and meeting with Google News Initiative about providing free training sessions, suggesting two 90-minute sessions with a lunch break. She mentioned being on version 4 of the finalist list after collaboration with Carol at Inklink to address missing entries. Brendan provided updates on legislative affairs, noting that most bills are passing at the State House with one pending governor review regarding public notices for town meeting warrants. The discussion concluded with Judi requesting room layout adjustments for the awards ceremony to accommodate photography needs.

Event Planning and Layout Discussion

Judi and Susan discussed room layout details, with Susan recommending that Judi contact Emily St. Jean about space requirements and setup options. Judi reported that ticket sales were slow but explained that they adjusted pricing to cover fees, with the $65 ticket now covering the meal and additional costs, while table fees remain around $24. Brendan noted they might need to adjust

table arrangements during setup, and Judi mentioned that some potential attendees were delayed due to preparations for an upcoming India trip.

Banquet Responsibilities Planning Meeting
The group discussed responsibilities for the upcoming banquet, with Judi outlining specific needs including laying out plaques, checking them, managing name tags, and collecting judge data. Kristen offered to help with these tasks and requested clarification on the education committee's involvement. Judi also mentioned issues with judges not properly submitting their data in the past contest system, and noted that a box of plaques and banner would need to be picked up sometime next week.

Event Planning and Logistics Discussion
The team discussed logistics for an upcoming event, including location details near Alice Avenue and the need to coordinate name tags and registration. Kristen shared insights from a recent journalism event in Washington, including potential speakers and the high quality of materials used there, which could serve as inspiration for their own event planning. The group also discussed membership and sponsorship opportunities, with Judi noting she needs to follow up with Michael on these matters, and Susan suggested creating a LinkedIn presence for the Press Association to better promote their activities and stay updated on industry trends.