

# NDIA Iowa-Illinois Chapter

*Chapter Established in 1936*

**Tuesday, May 13th, 2025**

## **NDIA Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 CST on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, by Natalie Linville-Mass

### **Attendees**

Board Position	Name	Present
President	Natalie Linville-Mass	x
Executive Vice President	Brittney Benson	
Treasurer	Todd Prouty	x
Secretary	Ernie Cychosz	
Programs	Dhiraj Raghvani	
Symposium	Logan Brincks	
Scholarships	Ryan L Bunge	
Awards	Brittney Benson	x
Membership	Flint Znamenacek	x
Nominations	George Rivard	x
Donations	Mike Lux	
National Policy Group	Brittany Benson	x
STEM Chair	Mike Lux	
Director	Timothy Bower	
Director	Joy Fleming	
Director	Celia M. Hadden	
	Joshua Bruce	x
	Nicholas Santana	x
	Jayson Couch	

### **1. Welcome New Board Members!!**

- Joshua Bruce, Amentum
- Nicholas Santana, Ultio Crati
- Jayson Couch, LMT

### **2. Prior Meeting Minutes (Ernie):**

- March Board Minutes approved.

### **3. Treasurer's Report (Todd):**

- Treasurer's Report approved following updates (date change and add the amount going to USS Iowa).

### **4. Symposium (Logan): Logan not in meeting.**

- Tuesday, June 3rd & June 4th at Vibrant Arena see <https://ndia-ia-il.org/symposium/> for details
- Confirmed since our last meeting: New sponsors from Fontaine, Amentum,

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Quad Cities Changers, and Vista.

- c. Updated agenda and APBI uploaded to symposium page; Eblast sent out last week and more to be sent in the next two weeks.
- d. Where I Need Help: organizing orders for tote bags, vendor badges, and NDIA pins, stickers, or magnets.

## **5. Program Committee (Dhiraj): Not able to attend this meeting - out of country with no connectivity.**

- a. We had a successful USS Iowa Lunch and Learn with 30 in attendance. Thank you to Vista Innovative Solutions for sponsoring.
- b. We have a request for a lunch and Learn by Edie Bailly for CMMC. I suggest we have the event in July, after the symposium. Tod will get them an invoice.
- c. Proposed Crystal Group Fall Tour Date: October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm. Will begin working on the flyer and the save the date. Since this event requires travel, the earlier we publish the better.
- d. Can we figure out a way in our scholarship application to make our scholarship to a sailor currently serving on USS Iowa? Revisiting after the Symposium.
  - i. We need to figure out how we would confirm if the applicant is a child of a USS Iowa servicing member. We could require a letter from the ship's captain so we know the sailor is actively serving on USS Iowa.
- e. Need committee members to help coordinate the events.

## **6. Scholarship Committee (Ryan): Ryan not in meeting.**

- a. Scholarship Applications are in and we are waiting to find out the winners.
- b. Winners will be awarded their scholarship at our Symposium event the evening of Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. at Iron Tee.
- c. Make sure checks are made out to the winners and their schools.
- d. Motion approved to add another scholarship following Collins Aerospace's sponsorship.

## **7. STEM/Donations Committee (Mike/Celia):**

- a. We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to Celia for all her help with STEM and donation presentations over the last 10 years. Thank you to Brittney as well for supporting these efforts and stepping in on donations when needed.
- b. Quad Cities Community Veterans Engagement Board Check Presentation was on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup>. The pictures went out on social media.
- c. Celia jumped in and helped us donate \$500 to the following organizations:
  - i. Putnam Museum and Science Center (memo: for Engineering Kids Camp)
  - ii. STEMTASTIC (Glenview Activity Fund)

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- iii. 3. Flourish & Bots Robotic Teams
- iv. 4. Rock Island Center for Math & Science
- d. Celia and Brittney jumped in to make a check presentation to three of these organizations in early April and will be able to present the last check on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Grace Technologies in Davenport. Thank you Celia and Brittney for making sure these donations went out!!
- e. In the future, we can also keep an eye out for other local Veteran focused organizations. NDIA National gave examples in Model Chapter Application of the following organizations like STEM, local ROTC military programs, Wounded Warriors, USO, Fisher House, etc.

## **8. AWARDS Program Committee (Brittney):**

- a. Model Chapter/Chapter of excellence (<https://www.ndia.org/chapters/about-ndia-chapters/model-chapter-chapter-of-excellence>)
- b. To review Lifetime Achievement Award nominees and present one a year.
- c. Brittney to send out a voting opportunity to the board.

## **9. POLICY Committee/Liaison for NDIA Division (Brittney)**

## **10. Promotion (Natalie):**

- a. Website: Continue to make updates to the Symposium and other updates as needed.
- b. Facebook/LinkedIn: We're running more posts than normal right now, because of the lead-up to the Symposium. Normally, we pull together 2 posts per month on each platform, add events when there is a scheduled event coming up and we are slowly inviting all members of our chapters to like both pages.
- c. Eblast: We've sent out four eblasts since our last board meeting and will be sending out eblast weekly for the Symposium.
- d. OPM (Online Presence Management): Once a Quarter

## **11. Membership (Flint):**

- a. Update on members: 652 members as of May 1<sup>st</sup>. Gained 7 new members in April.
- b. New Member Letters are going out to 2025 Members.

## **12. Nominating Committee (George):**

- a. George, thank you for inviting Joshua, Nicholas, and Jayson to our Board of Directors.
- b. Discussed Board nomination for Kevin Stevens; no final decision made.
- c. We still have 3 board vacancies. Please contact George if you have any recommendations for one of these board vacancies.
- d. We do need a committee for this position on the board. If you would like to

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help with nominating board members, please reach out to George at grivard22@gmail.com.

- e. Please note at least one month prior to elections, Helen and Callie need to be notified of upcoming elections. We will also need to notify Helen and Callie as soon as new board members are voted into the group.

## **13. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS/INFO:**

- a. Galactic Golf to support STEM for Students. Michelle Lucas, the Founder & CEO of Higher Orbits, contacted us in early April to support their upcoming golf outing which happens to be happening today. This golf tournament is in the Chicago Area and only supports kids within the Chicago Suburbs. Chicago is not included in our Chapter footprint, so I had to run them down. If you'd like to find out more information, please see [www.HigherOrbits.org](http://www.HigherOrbits.org)
- b. Amanda Siegner from the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society would like us to be a sponsor of the 250th Rock Island Arsenal Army Ball. To hold a board vote on this after reviewing information.
- c. Next meeting: Zoom meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 8th at 5pm (Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each odd month)

**Meeting concluded at 6:25 CST.**