



**Called Virtual SSWAG Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2022
9:00 am**

Dr. Jacqueline
Brown-Pinkney
President

Vice President
Crystal Wright

Dr. Katina Cooper
Past President

Erin Woodcock
Treasurer

Chrystal Gillis
Secretary

Keith Wilkey
District 1

Latrina Kendrix-
Sims
District 2

Maggie Brown
District 3

Lois Word
District 4

Kimberly Chinn
District 5

Maria Josey
District 6

Cory Lowe
District 7

Teri Hendrix
District 8

Mallory Hollis
District 9

Stephanie Taylor
District 10

Members Present:

President-Dr. Jacqueline Brown-Pinkney
Treasurer-Erin Woodcock
Secretary- Chrystal Gillis
District 1: Keith Wilkey
District 3: Maggie Brown
District 4: Lois Word
District 7: Cory Lowe
District 8: Teri Hendrix
District 10: Stephanie Taylor

Meeting called to order by Madam President at 9:00 am

The meeting was called to discuss and vote on (1) the Presidents Voice Award created by former SSWAG President, Dr. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon or (2) the existing Presidential Award referenced in the Procedural Guidelines from 2002.

Madam President confirmed the quorum required for voting.

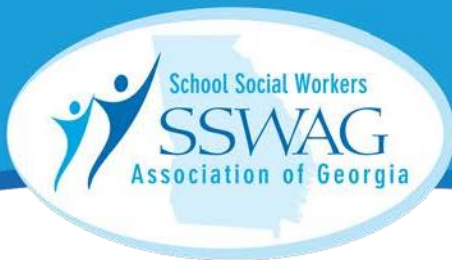
Madam President opened the discussion by summarizing concerns brought to her attention. She noted the issues arose in 2019; however, they were never resolved.

- Changes to the Awards process without consulting the Awards Chair
- Changes to the Awards process not updated in the Procedural Guidelines
- Changes to the Awards process without the required vote by the Board

Madam President requested both Dr. Rivers-Cannon and Dr. Tracie Hogans-Simmons update the Board on their involvement or account of the problem.

Dr. Rivers-Cannon noted the following:

- She discussed the Presidents Voice Award creation at the Executive Board meeting held in March 2019. The discussion was captured in the meeting minutes.
- She created the award to allow the President to recognize an individual or group who met specific criteria that highlighted SSW advocacy, SSW innovation and promotion across the state.
- She consulted with Yolanda Copeland (the Procedural Guidelines Chair at the time). She referenced an email sent to Yolanda Copeland that included Angela Solomon (2019 SSWAG President), Jarod Anderson, and Chrystal Gillis. *The email was reviewed by the members.*
- She did not consult with Awards Chair, Dr. Tracie Hogans-Simmons



- She consulted with Treasurer, Erin Woodcock to discuss the use of funds allocated in the president's budget in lieu of the Awards budget
- She does not want the verbiage she created to be used if the Presidents Voice Award is not approved by the Board
- She was not made aware of an existing award despite the discussions held during the Executive Board meeting. She had no reason to re-create an award.

Dr. Tracie Hogans-Simmons noted the following:

- She has served as Awards Chair for over 10 years and 30 years with SSWAG
- She did not attend the Spring Conference due to personal reasons
- Dr. Rivers-Cannon never consulted with her to discuss her desire to present the Presidential Award; to revise the award; or to create a new award
- Displayed the existing award referenced in the 2002 Procedural Guidelines for review by members
- The award description is purposely vague or less specific to provide SSWAG Presidents latitude of use
- She is willing to revise the Presidential Award if desired by the Board
- The revisions will be reviewed during the next Procedural Guidelines meeting and voted on by the Board

Madam President excused both Drs. Rivers-Cannon and Hogans-Simmons from the meeting to move forward with the vote.

Madam President advised the Board of 3 items up for a vote.

1. Presidential Award as written
2. Presidential Awards with revisions
3. Presidents Voice Award

Board members noted the following prior to the vote:

- Inconsistent communication among officers
- Procedural guidelines were not followed
- Discussed the importance of following procedural guidelines and addressing/resolving concerns in a timely manner

Motion by Keith Wilkey to accept the Presidential Award as written; Motion passes with a vote of 7:0 (1 abstaining)

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 am.



Dr. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon, Founder & CEO

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Greetings Madam President & Executive Board,

On October 14, 2022, there was a called SSWAG Executive Board Meeting to hear presentations from Dr. Tracie Hogan Simmons and myself as it pertained to deciding on whether or not to keep the organization's Presidential Award or to accept and recognize the President's Voice Award that was created in 2019. After the sharing of information followed by discussion by board members, I am confident that the decision was made with fidelity and voted upon to continue with the Presidential Award.

Therefore, at this time as the decision has been made, I am requesting that any unauthorized use of the idea(s), likeness, presentation, or any other attributes of the President's Voice Award shall not be utilized by the School Social Workers Association of Georgia (SSWAG) without written permission of Dr. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon.

Madam President and Executive Board members I would like to thank each of you for taking the time to hear the background information of both awards and how they vary in differences while defining as well as displaying the critical work that is being done.

I am certain that this was a very difficult decision that each of you had to make while always having a forward-thinking mindset as innovative thoughts and ideas remain at the forefront of our organization enabling us to continuously elevate to the next level after being in existence for over 75 years

In closing the recognition and acknowledgement of our profession 's unique skill set along with creative ideas that our colleagues across the state of Georgia possess should be recognized by us more often than not as this brings a shining light and awareness from all educational stakeholders as evidence is shown about the invaluable role, we play each and every day.

Professionally,

Dr. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon

Dr. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon