

2025–2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

11:45AM–1:15PM (Eastern Time)

Item 1: Call to Order and Welcome

President Sarah Jane Brubaker called the meeting to order at 11:46 am. The meeting convened over Zoom.

Item 2: Brief Introductions

Attendees, including officers and board members introduced themselves.

Members Present:

Sarah Jane Brubaker, President
David G. Embrick, President-Elect
Clare E. B. Cannon, Vice-President
Kasey Henricks, Vice-President-Elect
Felicia Arriaga, Secretary
Rose M. Brewer, Past-President
Meghna Bhat, Board Member
Anthony A. Peguero, Board Member
Janelle M. Pham, Board Member
Claire M. Renzetti, Board Member
Rafia Javaid Mallick, Board Member, Student Representative
Shannon K. Carter, Ex-Officio, Chairperson, Council of Division Chairs
Elroi J. Windsor, Executive Officer
Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

Members Absent:

Heather E. Dillaway, Treasurer
Jerome Krase, Board Member
Faryal Razzaq, Board Member
alithia zamantakis, Board Member
Natasha Israt Kabir, Board Member, Student Representative
Andrew S. Fullerton, Editor, *Social Problems*

Item 3: Adopt (Revise) Agenda

No additions were made to the agenda.

ACTION: The Board approved the agenda as presented. Vote (12-0-0).

Vote format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

Item 4: Report from the President

President Sarah Jane Brubaker provided an update on the upcoming virtual event. The Program Committee invites members to join the inaugural SSSP Virtual Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, July 28 from 1:00–2:30 pm (Eastern Time). This event will provide an opportunity for members who are unable to attend the Annual Meeting in New York City to participate in a conversation about the future of the Society. A panel representing our diverse membership – including academics, practitioners, students, and international members – will discuss scholarship, teaching, service, and social justice, along with current challenges facing higher education and community organizing.

Because SSSP-hosted virtual events are offered as a benefit of membership, all participants – including speakers and attendees – must be [2026 SSSP members](#) and [register](#) for the event.

Item 5: Report from the Executive Officer

Executive Officer Elroi J. Windsor reported that the terms of their contract with the University of West Georgia had been finalized and payment was pending.

- A. *Update on ASA's 2028 Annual Meeting City/Location (Dates: August 11-15 | Baltimore | Baltimore Convention Center and Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor)*
 - a. Elroi reported that ASA has decided to hold its 2028 Annual Meeting in Baltimore rather than virtually. They also noted the ongoing boycott related to ASA and continuing discussions regarding future meeting locations. The Board discussed whether SSSP should continue meeting in a hotel or explore a campus location.
- B. *Update on ABS's (Association of Black Sociologists) Decision to Withdraw from Atlanta and Instead Meet in Baltimore*
 - a. Elroi reported that ABS will no longer meet in Atlanta and instead plans to meet in Baltimore in 2028 and San Francisco in 2029.
- C. *Discussion and Vote on Location of SSSP's 2028 Annual Meeting*
 - a. Elroi provided a general overview of what might look different if the meeting were to be moved to a campus location due to the financial losses incurred each year under the current conference format. This might include some compromises and would likely mean changes in how many sessions each division receives for panels and programming.
 - b. Elroi provided an overview on Coppin State University including the available venues such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, dining facilities, and

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other spaces, although some would not be feasible for smaller breakouts. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County was also discussed as a possible location, along with Morgan State University, although the latter is unavailable at that time.

- c. There was additional discussion about partnering with ABS or the International Sociological Association. Many options were discussed, including finding alternative venues such as community spaces, shortening the length of the conference, and/or asking divisions to help find their own locations.
- d. Ultimately, the discussion coalesced around maintaining the status quo with a hotel meeting, meeting in an alternative venue, or not holding a meeting. No decision was needed at the time of the Board meeting, instead guidance with clear parameters was requested for consideration at the following Board meeting.

ACTION: The Board advised Elroi and Michele to continue exploring college/ university campuses or community spaces for the 2028 Annual Meeting in the Baltimore area that allows for flexibility and compromises with some overlap with ASA dates. (12-0-0).

Item 6. Report from the Chairperson, Council of the Divisions

A. Proposed Tiered Structure for 2027 Division Budgets

Shannon K. Carter, Chairperson, Council of the Divisions, reported that the Council was charged with developing a tiered budget structure based on division size to reduce the overall cost of divisions. Previously divisions were allotted up to \$600 annually.

The Council of Divisions met on January 23, 2026, to discuss various options. Division Chairs were then asked to review their division budgets and complete a survey identifying budget priorities and estimated requirements to fulfill their purpose. The Council met again on February 26, 2026, to review the survey results and develop a budget proposal.

The proposed tiered structure provides \$500 for large divisions with 126 or more members, \$400 for medium sized divisions with 76 to 125 members, and \$300 for small divisions with 50-75 members. Two divisions are currently in the unsustainable category (below 50 members) and will receive no budget.

B. Discussion and Vote on Proposed 2027 Tiered Structure

Vote format: (Vote: XX-YY-ZZ) NN, where XX = Yes, YY = No, ZZ = abstain, and NN = no vote.

ACTION: The Board voted to approve the new tiered budget structure for Divisions effective January 1, 2027. (12-0-0).

7. Annual Meeting Updates

A. Update on the 2026 Annual Meeting

Michele Koontz, the Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager, provided an update on the Annual Meeting. 439 papers were accepted and 54 have registered so far. On March 19th, a web banner was added to make hotel registration easier. It is difficult to anticipate if/when attendees will extend their stay for sightseeing (before or after the meeting). Michele will follow up with officers and highest ranking Board members about suite upgrades/discount room rates, etc. Michele requested that the Board continue to promote the meeting to colleagues and students.

Item 8: New Business

There was no new business to address.

Item 9: Adjournment of the 2025–2026 Board

President Sarah Jane Brubaker adjourned the meeting at 1:01 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Felicia Arriaga, SSSP Secretary.

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ADDENDUM #1 – RECORD OF BOARD ACTIONS CONDUCTED VIA EMAIL SINCE THE FEBRUARY 19, 2026 BOARD MEETING

ACTION: 2/27/26 – The Board approved the 10/28/25 Board of Directors Meeting minutes (via Zoom). (Vote: 14-0-0)3

ACTION: 2/27/26 – The Board approved the 12/8/25 Board of Directors Meeting minutes (via Zoom). (Vote: 11-0-3)3

ACTION: 3/9/26 – The Board approved a \$5,000 per course release for Executive Officer Dr. Elroi J. Windsor, reflecting an increase from \$3,600. (Vote: 17-0-0)0

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Arriaga, SSSP Secretary.

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