I. **Call to order**
   President Sharon Skinner called to order the regular meeting of the **Grant Professionals Association** at 11:50 a.m. Pacific Time on **October 17** in **Portland, Oregon**.

II. **Meeting Attendance**
    There are 431 GPA members registered for the conference. Our bylaws state we need to have 40% of the registered members present to establish quorum. Therefore, we need to have 173 persons to establish quorum. Per the number of people who signed in at the beginning of this meeting, quorum has been established.

III. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**
    Secretary Medina pointed out the location of the 2013 GPA Membership Meeting minutes in the conference booklet, which were also sent to all members after the last meeting. Motion to approve the minutes: Bill Smith from Tennessee. Second: Johna Rodgers from Kentucky. Discussion: None. President Skinner called the vote: Motion passed unanimously by the membership present at this meeting.

IV. **Open issues**

   a) **Treasurer’s Report: - Treasurer Rodgers**
   GPA has a healthy cash flow and additional financial information is posted on the GPA website. For 2013, income was $714,961 and expenses were $595,442, resulting in a surplus of $119,519. We are in the process of completing our first audit for 2012 and 2013. This should be completed within the next month to six weeks.

   b) **President’s and State of the Association Report: President, Sharon Skinner.**
   The association is financially healthy and fiscally sound. We have a very strong and engaged board. Our new CEO Michael Chamberlain, who prefers to be called Mike, will start his duties officially on January 1. Membership growth and retention has continued to progress and has seen a recent surge. As of today, we have 1,958 active members. There are 188 non-members attending this conference.

   We are very close to the 2,000 member mark, and we have the opportunity to make that mark today. Two of our board members have offered a challenge. The person who becomes member 2,000 and the existing member who brings that person into the fold will each get their annual
membership paid for a full year. And there are $25 coupons on page 85 in your program book that can be used toward membership costs.

We have 42 active chapters and we continue to refine the roles and responsibilities of our regional rep system to support those individuals in helping to form new chapters. In 2014 we were able to support five regional conferences with $1000 each in conference seed money, and in 2015 we are increasing that amount to $8000, so that eight regional conferences will receive seed money. As always GPA continues to focus on professional development. The national conference has over 70 workshops and we offer free webinars to our members.

Our affiliate organizations continue to grow. The Grant Professionals Foundation was able this year to offer an increased number of scholarships and the Grant Professionals Certification Institute is in the process of completing an application for National Commission for Certifying Agency’s accreditation for our GPC certification. This year the GPA board will be hosting a three board retreat where all three affiliates will be coming together to develop plans that will continue to move us forward and support one another.

Our preferred trainer program has been launched. We've already approved our first preferred trainer and have additional applicants in the mix, so if you're a trainer make sure that you look into the process for becoming a GPA recognized preferred trainer.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your president of the Grant Professionals Association board this past year. Your board has worked very hard through our transitional period to ensure that we maintain the highest level of member benefits and services throughout. I'm very excited to be able to say that we now have a new CEO poised to lead us forward to bigger and better things and to ensure that we continue to meet our mission and our vision of being the premier association and authority in the grants profession.

c) Conference Report: President, Sharon Skinner.
We will have eight regional conferences next year and will continue to provide free webinars.

V. New business

a) Board Election Results:
There were three open positions and seven nominees. The slate of nominees: Lauren Daniels, Kathleen Guy-Johanessen, Maggie Holmes, Amy Lazoff, Nathan Medina, Nancy Mihalko, and Bernard Turner was presented to the membership. Those elected to the board by the membership for 2015 were: Nathan Medina, Bernard Turner, and Lauren Daniels.

b) Reaffirmation of Board Members:
Congratulations were given to all new board members who were sworn in and signed the Board Assurances.

c) The 2015 board officers presented by Kathy Brunot:
President: Debbie DiVirgilio
Vice President: Nathan Medina
Treasurer: Bernard Turner
Secretary: Johna Rodgers
d) Input, Discussion, Suggestions from members:
Susan Jordan asked about the phrase for the board members affirmation referring to “obedience” to whom. This is standard terminology that is used for board affirmation.

Debbie DiVirgilio expressed that she is looking forward to serving the association during 2015.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m. Pacific Time by President Skinner.

Minutes submitted by: Nathan Medina, GPA Secretary