

1 **Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey**

2 **EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING & ADULT RECOGNITION**

3
4 **Wednesday, May 14, 2025**

5 **The Meadow Wood, Randolph**

6
7 **5:30 p.m., Check-in**

8 **6:30 – 9:30 p.m., Annual Meeting, Dinner & Adult Recognition**

9
10 **Welcome:**

11 Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey opened the Eighteenth Annual Meeting at 6:43pm with a
12 Flag Ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and the
13 singing of the National Anthem by Girl Scout Natalie Torres.

14
15 **Call to Order:**

16 Shanna Jafri, Chair of the Board of Directors, thanked the Girl Scouts for opening the meeting
17 and thanked board members, NCS delegates and alternates, representatives, Girl Scout
18 members, and guests to the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Girl Scouts of Northern New
19 Jersey (GSNNJ), and called the meeting to order at 6:49pm.

20
21 **Confirmation of Quorum:**

22 Shanna introduced Pia House-Walker, Executive Board Member, who announced that a
23 quorum had been met in accordance with the Bylaws of GSNNJ. Eighty-six (86) voting
24 members and representatives were in attendance, including members of the Board of Directors,
25 Board Development Committee, National Council Session Delegates and Alternates, and
26 representatives from fifty-three (53) service units.

27
28 **Approval of Minutes (May 14, 2024):**

29 Shanna asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 17th Annual Meeting. Motion was
30 made by Lesley Kroczyński from Mahwah and a second by Kathleen Leary of Wanaque to
31 accept the minutes as written. **Motion carried.**

32
33 **Recognition of Outgoing Elected Members:**

34 Shanna recognizes our outgoing Girl Scout Representatives to the Board of Directors, Ellie
35 Wapner, Julia Thompson and Emily Ruzicka, Board Members at Large, Leslie Achter and Nikki
36 Sumpter, as well as National Council Delegates and Alternates:

37 Emily Aprea

38 Chiquita Barnes

39 Brittany Boetticher

40 Paulette Brauch

41 Kalia Cheung
42 Jessica Hoffman
43 Shanna Jafri
44 Sandra Kenoff
45 Krista Korinis
46 Libby Nebres
47 Regan Sharkey
48 Bette Simmons
49 Kathryn Tucker
50 Allison Bottoni
51 Isabella Krepps
52 Aurora Kuer
53 Kim Luer

54

55 **Presentation of Slate:**

56 Shanna introduced Elisa Buckley, Chair of the Board Development Committee, who presented
57 the Official Slate for 2025-2026. This is a single slate prepared by the Board Development
58 Committee.

59

60 **OFFICERS**

61 Shanna Jafri - Board Chair
62 Germaine Lacqua - 1st Vice Chair
63 Matt Lamb - 2nd vice Chair
64 Nashira Spencer – Secretary
65 Leslie Franklin – Treasurer

66

67 **MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

68 Elisa Buckley
69 Danielle Furze
70 Dr. Janelle C. Hall
71 Julia Helliesen
72 Krista Korinis
73 Damon L. McDade
74 Christina Tso-Metz
75 Christyl Lucille Murray
76 Catherine O’Hern
77 Tracy Schoenberg
78 Nicole Sullivan
79 Pia House Walker
80 Karen Worthy
81 Katherine Zatz

82

83 **One-Year Terms**

84 **GIRL SCOUT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD**

85 Emilia Cole
86 Yasmine Lalani
87 Tanvee Sethi

88

89 **BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

90 Krista Korinis – Chair
91 Tevra Francis
92 Krista Korinis
93 Jim McCreedy
94 Christyl Lucille Murray
95 Lynelle Slivinski
96 Cindy Taylor

97

98 **NATIONAL COUNCIL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES (3-year term)**

99 **Delegates:**

100 Allison Bottoni
101 Kalia Cheung
102 Dahlia Cooper
103 Isabella Freitas
104 Julia Helliesen
105 Christine Hruby
106 Shanna Jafri
107 Sandra Kenoff
108 Eva Levin
109 Anhad Singh
110 Helen Tejada-Ramos
111 Christina Tso-Metz
112 Kathryn Tucker
113 Brittany Wolf

114

115 **Alternates:**

116 Leigh Barker
117 Erlisa Levin
118 Juliana Costabile

119

120 Motion to accept the Slate as presented was made by Martha DeYoung of Hackensack and a
121 second by Jennifer Raskopf of Fair Lawn. **Motion carried.**

122

123

124

125 **Installation of Board of Directors and Board Development Committee 2025-2026:**

126 The Honorable Claudia R. Jones, New Jersey Superior Court, performed the installation of
127 elected officers to the Board and Board Development Committee. Shanna thanked Judge Jones
128 for joining us and installing the elected officials.

129

130 **Treasurer's Report:**

131 Treasurer Leslie Franklin presented the financial report for the fiscal year October 1, 2023
132 through September 30, 2024. An independent audit conducted by O'Connor Davies confirmed
133 that the Council's financial statements are accurate and fairly presented in accordance with
134 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, resulting in a clean audit with no findings.

135

136 The Council remains in a strong financial position, with total assets of approximately \$18.8
137 million, including approximately 40% in property and equipment and the remainder primarily
138 in cash and investments. Revenue is primarily derived from program fees and product sales
139 (74%), with an additional 7% from public support, including donations.

140

141 Expenses reflect a strong commitment to mission delivery, with 85% allocated to program
142 services, 7% to fund development, and 8% to management and general operations—exceeding
143 Better Business Bureau standards for nonprofit performance.

144

145 **Leadership Team Remarks:**

146 President/CEO Sandra Kenoff provided an overview of key accomplishments for the fiscal year
147 ending September 30, 2024, and shared the Council's forward-looking priorities.

148

149 Membership exceeded 19,000 girls and 10,200 adult members, ranking GSNNJ as the 10th
150 largest council nationwide. Nearly 14,000 girls participated in the 2024 Cookie Program, selling
151 1.5 million packages, including over 95,000 donated to community partners. Continued
152 investments in camp properties and financial assistance expanded access and increased year-
153 round engagement.

154

155 The Council celebrated significant achievements in Highest Awards, with 114 Gold, 334 Silver,
156 and 680 Bronze Awards earned. Fund development efforts strengthened through corporate
157 partnerships and events, including the Women of Achievement Gala, which raised over
158 \$200,000. The Give Every Month (GEM) Society monthly giving initiative was also highlighted.

159

160 Sandra noted the organization's strong financial position and recognized the contributions of
161 staff, Board leadership, donors and volunteers.

162

163 Looking ahead, she highlighted the launch of the DreamLab initiative in Paramus as part of a
164 broader property master plan, emphasizing its role in expanding programming, community
165 engagement, and future growth. Ongoing efforts to better understand and serve diverse
166 communities and align with national priorities were also noted.

167

168 Shanna provided an overview of Board priorities and key activities since the 2024 Annual
169 Meeting. The Board continued to advance the Council’s strategic plan, focusing on increasing
170 access to Highest Awards, expanding camp opportunities through financial assistance and
171 capital improvements, strengthening diversity and inclusion efforts, and building sustainable
172 revenue through donor and corporate partnerships.

173

174 The Board supported major initiatives including the development of the DreamLab project and
175 ongoing property master planning. Board members participated in strategic retreats, national
176 and regional conferences, and governance activities, including the National Council Session,
177 where membership dues changes were approved at the national level.

178

179 Additional highlights included support of fund development efforts such as the Women of
180 Achievement Gala, donor engagement events, and the Girl Scout Cookie Program through
181 initiatives like Cookie Boss Sweet Stops. The Board also welcomed new members, continued
182 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice efforts, and remained actively engaged in
183 community and council events.

184

185 Shanna recognized the contributions of Board members, staff, volunteers, and partners, and
186 expressed appreciation for their continued leadership and commitment to advancing the
187 mission of Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey.

188

189 Sandra Kenoff and Shanna recognized Katelyn Liloia as the recipient of the Girl Scouts of the
190 USA National Gold Award Scholarship.

191

192 Katelyn shared remarks about her Gold Award project, which involved creating an online
193 resource, “Katelynspages,” to support child life professionals by providing over 1,000 activities
194 for children in hospital settings. Inspired by her own experiences, the project has been utilized
195 by professionals nationwide.

196

197 Katelyn expressed gratitude for the scholarship, noting its impact on her academic journey and
198 continued commitment to service. She is currently pursuing a degree in Family Science and
199 plans to become a Child Life Specialist.

200

201 Shanna announces that the business portion of the meeting is over. Motion was made by Lori
202 Verbel of Allendale and a second by Paulette Gareri of Lyndhurst to adjourn the Eighteenth
203 Annual Meeting of Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey. **Motion carried.**

204

205 **There being no further business, the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of Girl Scouts of**
206 **Northern New Jersey adjourned at 7:47pm.**