

# MENTOR/MENTEE MEETING NOTES



April 15, 2026

## **NAR DIRECTOR MENTOR PROGRAM – CALL RECAP & KEY TAKEAWAYS**

### **Program Progress & Engagement**

- Mentor/mentee pairs have already:
  - Reviewed the program checklist
  - Discussed NAR committee options and interests (Committee application process opened on April 1)
- Many groups are actively engaging—continued regular check-ins are strongly encouraged.

### **Preparing for the NAR Legislative Meetings (Mid-Year in D.C.)**

- Mentors should plan to:
  - Introduce mentees to NAR leadership and members from other states
  - Help mentees navigate meetings, events, and networking opportunities
- By now, all NAR Directors should have:
  - Registered for the meetings
  - Booked hotel accommodations and travel

### **What Experienced Directors Wish They Knew in Year One**

- **Understanding the NAR Committee Structure**
  - NAR's structure is more complex than state/local associations
  - Multiple committees may cover similar issue areas
  - Much of the policy work happens between meetings via virtual sessions
  - It can take time to understand where you fit—but learning this early is valuable
- **Understanding the NAR Leadership Structure**
  - There are numerous volunteer leadership roles, including multiple volunteer VP positions
  - Knowing the pathways to leadership early can help guide your involvement
- **Ask Questions Early and Often**
  - New Directors should not hesitate to ask “*why*” things are done a certain way
  - Curiosity accelerates understanding and engagement

### **Advice & Best Practices for Mentees**

#### **Building Relationships**

- Get to know your committee staff:
  - They are a key resource and welcome outreach
  - Building relationships helps you stay informed and engaged

#### **Exploring Committees**

- You may only be assigned 1–2 committees:
  - Review the full meeting schedule with your mentor
  - Attend additional committees that interest you
  - Also consider attending one committee outside your usual interests to broaden exposure

### Networking

- Attend social and networking events and mixers such as DEI, YPN, CIPS, Major Donor, state receptions:
- These are valuable opportunities to build relationships in a more informal and social setting

### Leadership Development Guidance

- If interested in committee leadership:
  - Work with your mentor to understand the process and requirements
  - Be prepared with your “**why**”:
    - Why do you want to serve in a leadership role?
- Keep in mind:
  - You do not need to be a policy expert to lead a committee
  - Strong facilitation and leadership skills are just as important

### Closing Thought

- Fantastic first meeting! Everyone’s engagement and enthusiasm are contagious, and we are excited for the year ahead. We encourage you all to stay engaged, communicate regularly, and take full advantage of both the formal program and the broader NAR experience.

### Follow up on NAR Director Allocation Formula

Lastly, the question was asked about Director assignments by association. Here's the formula from the NAR bylaws that describe how local associations receive their allotment. The numbers are actually from July 31st not the 1<sup>st</sup> as we originally thought on the call:

*“(O) 425 Directors appointed by local associations to be allocated to each local association with at least 2,000 members as of July 31st the year prior to service pursuant to the following formula: the number of primary members in the local association as of July 31st of the year prior to service divided by the number of primary members in local associations with 2,000 or more members as of the same date multiplied by 425. Fractions will be rounded using traditional rounding methods. Each Director appointed pursuant to this provision will serve a term of up to three years;”*