



Candidates' responses to the Q&A are presented in their entirety without changes, edits, or corrections.

SECRETARY

Brenda G. Larkin, APRN, MS, ACNS-BC, CNS-CP, CSSM, CNOR

1. Describe what makes you the most qualified candidate for the office of Secretary.

My qualifications for the role of AORN Secretary include extensive experience in both running and recording meetings at AORN chapter and Specialty Assembly meetings for over 10 years. I have also used my skills of active listening to record not just actions but the intentions of motions in formal business meetings and used methods that create a consistent record of discussions from one meeting to the next, so that any member of the committee, council or board of directors can easily follow the flow of the discussions and decisions made. Accuracy in minutes of an organization such as ours is not only crucial for recording our decisions but is necessary for legal obligations as a 501c6 non-profit organization. My previous experience on the board along with my experience in submitting incorporation paperwork for another nonprofit nursing organization make me the best candidate for AORN Secretary.

2. How do you plan to engage with our members and stakeholders to ensure their voices are represented in our organization's decision-making processes?

My preferred way of engaging with members is meeting with them face-to-face in-person. I want to understand what barriers they encounter in the association and in the workplace to best represent their needs and develop opportunities for our association. It is not possible to connect with all our members and potential members in person, so I maintain a presence through social media using Facebook and LinkedIn. I would ensure that the activities of the Board are chronicled in our monthly updates, which are distributed to a wide network currently and through our new online community. I would expand circulation of the Board Updates to include our Chapter Officers, and Specialty Assembly Leaders to increase board visibility. I am open to exploring a monthly podcast to inform members of events and training to ensure that there are multiple avenues to engage with me and the association.

3. What activities or interests outside of your professional life do you believe contribute to your overall well-being and your effectiveness as a leader?



I love being outdoors to recharge from work and professional life. I like to hike and to go kayaking. I find that I need to be outdoors during my workweek also to recharge and reenergize, even if it is only for 20 minutes like walking my dog. I am a firm believer in taking care of myself so that I can care for others. Some of my other hobbies can be done indoors. I love to do needlework and have completed a knitted lace shawl and am now doing a counted cross stitch picture. This type of work requires precise execution to maintain the pattern and transfer the written directions to a tangible item. My ability to attend to detail allows me to execute my job accurately and gives me the ability to concentrate solely on the topic at hand, as needed.