



CT RPCV
CONNECTICUT RETURNED
PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

Executive Board Virtual Meeting

Monday, February 6, 2023 – 7 pm

Attending

Benedicte Naudin
Jillian Winterkorn
Maureen Shanley
Allegra Itsoga
Jonathon Rosario
Mike Hilton
Tom Burns
John Martin

Announcements

• Future Quarterly Board Meeting

- May 8, 2023 – 7:30 pm
- August 7, 2023 – 7:30 pm
- August 12, 2023 – Summer Picnic Allegra's house
- November 6, 2023 – 7:30 pm

Opening Business

- Meeting called to order.
- Board approved meeting minutes from November 27, 2022. Maureen voted to approve, Tom seconded

Reports

- President
 - a. Jonathon laid out priorities for the group as the new president which predominantly focus on adding structure and increasing membership. Jonathon suggested adding transparency by putting our minutes and cost on the website. He also suggested adding biographies and in the long run adding a map with pins using the Google mapping tool where RPCVs served. We can start by creating biographies for the executive board. RPCVs bios would

include where RPCVs served, who they are/story of service and what you're up to now. The goal to increase membership involves reaching out to new and old members. For example, Sarah Porter recently moved to CT and has started a RPCV trivia and documentary series, we should work with her to conduct more events. Jonathon reached out to board members including Jillian to talk about the group. Lastly, Jonathon has a \$50 group filing fee that needs reimbursement. Mike will reimburse, but needs Jonathon's address to mail a check to.

Bene responded that we can upload bios to the website with docs, but we should hold off on the map because it requires too much work and she is at capacity. Allegra said she will take the lead on creating Microsoft Forms questionnaire. Jillian agreed to add board members to Google drive so they can see minutes and bylaws.

- Treasurer
 - a. Currently have \$8,451.96 in accounts. We had to pay fees to IRS (for being a non-profit), paid for CT Forest location, mailbox cost \$125, monthly mail chimp fee.
 - b. Vanguard - grew 74,394.17 (60% return since it was started). Maureen explained Vanguard money was donated
 - c. Jillian asked if we need CT Forest Building which costs money. Allegra agreed we don't and also offered her work office if we need to meet in person. Membership ends in Sept., board agreed to keep it until then and try to use it. Jonathan asked about the schedule. Mike said you need to call to ask when it is available. Bene asked about organizing a potluck there or hike and picnic event. Board agreed to look at hosting a May hike/picnic event at the building.

Items for Discussion

- Annual holiday party summary was a success with over 30 people there. Maureen said she personally contacted people to get them to attend.
- Upcoming events
 - a. Feb 12 – IRIS 5k - Jillian posted to website, Allegra sent out reminder
 - b. Feb 18 – Darien Book Aid – Jillian posted event to website, created a facebook event and Allegra sent out reminder
 - c. May 8, 2023 – 7:30 pm board meeting
 - d. May – potential CT Forest hike/picnic
 - e. August 7, 2023 – 7:30 pm board meeting
 - f. August 12, 2023 – Summer Picnic Allegra's house
 - g. November 6, 2023 – 7:30 pm
 - h. Sarah Porter (Macedonia 2005-2007) and Alicia Haley (Namibia 2003-2005) are organizing Trivia and movie nights. Jillian said she believes Sarah is away for the winter and will reach out about posting events.
 - i. Allegra brought putting together a cookbook and doing a call for submissions.

- j. Kristina Vagos (Romania 2002-2004) reached out to Jonathon about doing volunteer days through Fish and Wildlife – ex. control invasive species, weed in a pollinator garden, beach clean-up, Milford Audubon Society, Norwalk Islands event. She offered to organize, but will need a headcount ahead of time to do events 10-15. Jonathon suggested doing a survey to see what interest there is and what day people would be available then follow up once its scheduled.
 - k. Jonathon asked if the PC Director is planning on coming to CT at all this year. Maureen offered to follow up on that. A CT RPCV said they will pay for wine/cheese if Director came to speak to RPCVs
- Potential changes to bylaws – Jonathon typed up the bylaws , bylaws need to be updated/refreshed to show how we currently updates. Jonathon asked everyone to review bylaws and make comments for changes that need to be made. Jillian added bylaws to Google drive.
- Community Service Grant Fund
 - a. Maureen explained conditions required for receive grant and process. In order to apply you must be a PCV from CT, or connected to a RPCV from CT. We don't fund salaries or projects that aren't sustainable. There are 3 people on the committee Maureen, Helen and Michael. They review apps and ask for clarification where needed. John offered to help. Maureen made a proposal to increase the current \$4,000 per year cap. Jonathon agreed we should increase cap which is \$4k and asked where parameters around. Bene said parameters are on the webpage. Board will review parameters and proposal.
- CTRPCV Scholarship
 - a. Jonathon updated application to make it less cumbersome, Al suggested increasing it over \$2k. Jonathon will work w/ Al on getting the word out. We need to define who is in charge of it. Al gets emails on application. Process needs to be written out.
- Donate button under Allegra has shifted platforms. Allegra and Jonathon will touch base on how to update it.

Close Meeting