

CTRPCV Quarterly Board Meeting Notes

Attending

Benedicte Naudin
Jillian Winterkorn
Maureen Shanley
Allegra Itsoga
John Rosario
Mike Hilton

Announcements

• **Future Quarterly Board Meeting**

- December 6, 2022 - Soul de Cuba
- February 6, 2023 – 7:30 pm
- May 8, 2023 – 7:30 pm
- August 7, 2023 – 7:30 pm
- August 12, 2023 – Summer Picnic Allegra's house
- November 6, 2023

Call the Annual Meeting to Order

Board approved minutes

Maureen motioned to approve. Allegra seconded

Board approved Jonathon Rosario as new President.

Maureen motioned to approve. Tom seconded

• **Finance Updates**

Update from Mike 11/27/22:

- Business account has a balance of \$7,512.49.
- We have paid our mail chimp fees (\$200), donation button fees, mail box fee, \$600 to file taxes and rent for CT Forest and Parks \$100. Bene asked if why we still have CT Forest and Parks fee and if we plan on using the building. Jonathan proposed having an event there and if we don't use it maybe we cancel our renewal.

- The Vanguard Investment Account has a balance of: \$69,377.40.
- Mike mentioned how Eversource/United Health have been supporting us. There are RPCVs working that might have donation programs they're unaware of. Mike proposed initiating an effort to access these.

- **Engagement - Newsletter & Events**

- Soul de Cuba dinner. Allegra will send out Mail Chimp invite. Previously we paid \$1000 for food. Maureen asked if we're doing the same thing. Jillian proposed paying for an appetizer on each table. Maureen will get in touch with Jesus Puerto at Soul de Cuba about food plan. Guests will pay for their own drinks and additional food. We won't mandate vaccination cards, but will encourage people to use caution.
- Bene hosted volunteer trail crew event at Joshua Trust a few weeks ago. They created a new trail. There were 6 people that showed up.
- Jillian is working on setting up a volunteer day with Darien Book Aid for Jan/Feb. Darien Book Aid reported that things have been slower, but could use assistance in 2023.
- Jonathon proposed putting together a list of contacts per organization. Jillian offered to put together list of who does what.
- Maureen mentioned Iris 5k, which is an event we can support. Maureen also mentioned Madison 4th of July parade.
- Bene is going to reach out to Sara Porter to showcase her for the newsletter. Sara who has been planning a Trivia Night for RPCVs.
- Bene stated we have a new NPCA person who has been a good contact for us.
- Allegra will add fundraising pitch to newsletter.
- Mike Hilton will see if he can get a story on Ukraine for the newsletter.
- Jonathon raised a question on how to drive more people to the calendar on the RPCV site. Bene said that we do get some traffic.

- **Community Service Grants**

- Maureen provided overview of Community Service Funds. When Maureen receives a grant, she reviews application to make sure it's focused on sustainability, not salary or conference. Maureen then sends grant out to 2 other committee members to address any questions. Peace Corps Partnership are preferred projects to pay because they have been vetted, they are easy to pay, but to support them we need to move quickly. Maureen is requesting permission to pay Peace Corps Partnership request using her credit card. PPPs are on the Peace Corps website which means that it is available to everyone. Since CTRPCV only supports PCVs from or connected with and RPCV in CT, we need to be able

to act quick. Community service fund came after the bylaws so they are not in the bylaws, Mike stated bylaws need to be updated.

- Annual limit for grants is \$4,000. Maureen stated we have had a \$4,000 limit since 2005 and suggested increasing it.
- Mike stated we need to decide as a group if we want to support aid (natural disasters) in addition to projects.
- Jonathon requested list of projects. Maureen has list of projects we've supported over the years and will provide list to Jonathan.
- Maureen asked if board can vote on increasing the \$4,000 grant cap and that board members review her proposal. Jillian proposed having a flat cap, as opposed to varying the cap according to how the market/Vanguard fund is doing because it will be more difficult to manage a varying fee and we have lost money in the funds.