

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 17, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: John Lee Evans, Dan Baker (Ex-officio). James Baldwin, Carla Brown, Bridget Davis, Kevin Elliott, Kristina Owens, Gretchen Upholt, Jeffrey Janis, and Faith Van Gilder, Tracey Haugen, Lisa Convery-Lopez, Ryan Plesh, George Economides, James Diegel, Helen Petrozolla and JJ Singh

Directors Absent: Dan McAllister, Mike Roman, Joe Shaffner, and Sue Forster-Cox

Staff Present: None

Meetings begins: 5:10 ET

CALL TO ORDER – John Lee Evans – Board Chair

Quorum is met

MOTION 1: Approval by consensus of the Agenda as it stands and the minutes as amended

Motioned by **Jim Diegel**. Seconded by **Kristina Owens**.

Votes – **12** In favor, **0** Opposed and **1** Abstention

Motion approved

Board Chair Report

- Provided an overview of NPCA's current focus areas
- Emphasized that board support is needed in order to prepare for the PC Connect event

Update by Dan Baker – President and CEO

- **Major activity of NPCA**
 - Working with PC to help identify potential volunteers. This should be done through the affiliate groups
 - Peace Corps would like NPCA to continue its advocacy efforts to increase PC budget. Since PC cannot advocate on their own behalf, NPCA is well placed to support them. One example of how to support PC is through story telling.
 - Per the Affiliate groups (this was a listening year for NPCA and we also administered a survey), NPCA needs to provide more support to groups and support volunteers when they return in 2024.

- **Updates for our PC support on the Hill** – The goal was to support the reauthorization act approval process BUT unfortunately it was not successful. Since the failure it hasn't gotten any time on the floor.
 - The outstanding issues seem to be the non-competitive eligibility and worker compensation provisions. Director Spahn stands behind these two provisions.
- **Internal updates** – There was a strong launch of the year-end appeal. However, the loss of the development manager was a challenge.
- **Staffing update** – 4 staff positions are open. They are the accountant, the affiliate network manager, the deputy to CEO and the executive assistant/board liaison. However, the leadership decided not to fill the executive assistant position. Instead, we will hire a deputy for John Pearson.
- **Strategic Framework** – Minimal changes were made to the goals and objectives.

MOTION 2: To approve the 2024-2026 strategic framework with the operational plan being completed during 2024

Motioned by **Jim Diegel**. Seconded by **Carla Brown-Ndiaye**

Votes - 14 In favor, **0** Opposed and **0** Abstention

Motion approved

CEO priority goals for 2024

- **Pillar 1** - Socializing how NPCA communicates with affiliate groups, signing a new MoU with Peace Corps and recruiting a Director of Operations
- **Pillar 2** - Fundraising (i.e. using the CRM), maximizing social media AND planning Peace Connect 2024 (In person end of July)
- **Pillar 3** - Reestablish/reinitiate the awards program and solidify the continuation to service work
- **Pillar 4** – Maintaining current fundraising strategies and prioritizing fund diversification

MOTION 3: To approve priority goals for 2024 with staff positions being adjusted by the CEO according to skills and needs

Motioned by **Kristina Owens**. Seconded by **Bridget Davis**

Votes - 13 In favor, **0** Opposed and **1** Abstention

Motion approved

Committee Presentations

Finance Report - James Baldwin

- Discussion on whether this is a conservative or ambitious budget? CEO feels that \$1million is attainable

MOTION 4: To approve the budget as presented

Motioned by **Faith Van Gilder**. Seconded by **Jeffrey Janis**.

Votes -13 In favor, **0** Opposed and **1** Abstention

Motion approved

MOTION 5: To accept the 2022 audit report

Motioned by **Jeffrey Janis**. Seconded by **Jim Diegel**.

Votes -14 In favor, **0** Opposed and **0** Abstention

Motion approved

MOTION 6: To approve the name change from the “Legacy fund” to “NPCA endowment”, and state on the website that the “Legacy of Peace” is a gift that goes to the general fund of NPCA

Motioned **James Baldwin**. Seconded by **Jeffrey Janis**.

Votes -14 In favor, **0** Opposed and **1** Abstention

Motion approved

Fundraising committee

- General update

Kristina Owen - Acting Governance committee

- Jim Diegel has agreed to be the Chair
- Focus on updating the bylaws
- Looking for are a replacement for Malorie

Motion 7: To change the Affiliate Advisory Group to a Standing Committee

- Motioned by **Kristina Owens**. Seconded by **Jim Diegel**.
- **Votes -15** In favor, **0** Opposed and **0** Abstention
- **Motion approved**

I. Adjournment – John Lee Evans

The meeting was adjourned at **7:51p.m.** ET.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Brown-Ndiaye, Secretary

Executive session

Started at **7:52** ET