

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

In-Person and Virtual

September 23, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: John Lee Evans, Dan Baker (Ex-officio). James Baldwin, Carla Brown (**virtual**), Bridget Davis, Kevin Elliott, Kristina Owens, Sue Forster-Cox, Gretchen Upholt, Jeffrey Janis, Michael Roman and Faith Van Gilder, Malorie Jones

Directors to be confirmed -Tracey Haugen, Sue Forster-Cox (re-elected), Helen Petrozolla, JJ Singh, Lisa Convery-Lopez, Ryan Plesh, Joe Shaffner, George Economides, James Diegel (**virtual**) and Dan McAllister (**virtual**)

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Orrin and Molly

Meetings begins: 11:06 ET

CALL TO ORDER – John Lee Evans – Board Chair

MOTION 1: Approval of the Agenda

Motioned by Mike Roman. Seconded by Sue Forster-Cox.

Votes - 11 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

Action - Presentation of the minutes from June 2023 Board meeting

MOTION 2: To approve the June 2023 minutes

Motioned by Kristina Owens. Seconded by Sue Forster-Cox

Votes - 11 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

MOTION 3: To approve the seating of the member elected and re-election of board-elected directors

Motioned by Faith Van Gilder, Seconded by Malorie Jones.

Votes - 11 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

MOTION 4: To approve the nomination of the board officers

Motioned by Jeffery Janis. Seconded by Malorie Jones

Votes -21 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

Chair John Lee Evans Report

- John excited to work with the new board
- Staff and board CEO relationship has been unique and collaborative relationship because the board is young and limited staff
- Last year the large community questioned the life/existence of NPCA so we have done a lot

Update by Dan Baker – President and CEO

- **Content of NPCA strategic plan by pillar**
 - **NPCA Pillar 1 - Help Peace Corps (PC) be the best it can be**
 - Board and Community member (Judith, Chic, etc.) really stepped up to support NPCA which is why NPCA is still here
 - Accomplishments PC Connect - Annual affiliate meeting and the annual general leadership meeting. The larger community gave great, positive feedback
 - PC Connect - The desire is that PC be in person and a large lift. Venue is not identified but the tentative time period is August 2024
 - PC Director has financial challenges BUT we do hear they appreciate and acknowledge NPCA's support for advocacy
 - PC budget - Anticipation is that we PC can expect the same budget level
 - There is not as much support on the Hill for PC
 - CEO feels that even though the re-authorization Act is watered down, NPCA should still support it
 - **NPCA Pillar II- Supporting Affiliate Groups to Thrive (Kathleen is the staff person)**
 - Open society grant ends in December 2023. This is the priority funding need
 - Resources needed to pay for Kathleen
 - **Pillar III Amplifying RPCV making a difference**
 - Major gift from Maureen Orth still in the development stage
 - Farmer to Farmer in partnership with ACDI-VOCA (20k)
 - IREX grant that facilitate exchange programs (counterparts and home stay families)

- **Unforeseen expenses** - cost related to the transition from Silkstart to Blackbaud. It is 4 months behind. Main issue has been to get data released to us.
- **Q4** - Priority is to develop a new 3-year strategic plan. Expects changes in the plan.
- **Q4** - Worldview magazine we will only have 3 magazines instead of 4 this year. Cost is 200k and NPCA makes 100k in ads
- **Staffing update** -Recruitment has been challenging for Accountant and executive assistant/board liaison position both positions are on hold.

Committee Presentations

Kristina Owen - Governance reform Sub-committee

- Terms for board members are based on the term they were elected to fill when replacing people
- Elected board members and member elected board members seated
- Decided to increase to 21 members
- New board members wanted to know why there was a decision to increase the number of board members
- Bylaw changes were made including making it the bylaws gender neutral
- Chip thanked the board for its support, and he will continue to work with the committee

Kristina Owen – Affiliate group network advisory committee

- She can appoint the advisory committee herself, but instead she chose to work with the manager to identify a strong advisory committee
- Advisory groups expanded term from 1 to 2 years
- Kristina explained that the goal of the advisory committee is to support affiliate group

MOTION 5: To approve the application of the Tualatin Valley Returned Peace Corps Association and Friends of Mexico as affiliate groups of the National Peace Corps Association

Motioned by AGNAM. Seconded by JJ Singh.

Votes -21 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

Jeffrey Janis - Fundraising committee

- Working on developing a culture of philanthropy
- Board supported stewardship (thank you letter, and calls for 2023 year)
- Announced that NPCA is seeking clarification on the Bequeath: Legacy of Peace and Legacy Fund Endowment. Titles are confusing so NPCA is seeking clarity

DEI committee - Michael Roman

- As a member network organization, the NPCA Board is responsible for the framework and monitoring.
- Affiliate groups will be the drivers of its implementation

Finance Report - James Baldwin

- NPCA received a 300K anonymous donation
- Review of financials show that NPCA is getting stronger financially
- Provision of NPCA current financials

MOTION 6: Motion to empower a working group made up of fundraising and finance committee members to address the confusion of the Legacy Fund and the Legacy of Peace Fund.

Motioned by Jim Baldwin. Seconded by Jeffrey Janis.

Votes -21 In favor, 0 Opposed and 0 Abstention

Motion approved

New Business - None

Adjournment – John Lee Evans

The meeting was adjourned at **1:06 p.m.** ET.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Brown-Ndiaye, Secretary

Executive session

Started at 1:25ET