

## AROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Newington Town Hall

May 12, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Chris Prue at 10:00 AM.

Members: Chris Prue (Vernon), Lauren Olson (Ashford), Pete Gostin (N. Britain), Sue Larsen (So. Windsor) Fred DeCaro (Greenwich), Karen Birck (Wilton), Chris Psathas (Willington), Sue Burnham (So. Windsor), Jeff Rogers (Montville), Darlene Burrell (Suffield), Tim DeCarlo (Waterbury), Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury), Loreen Hegan (Canterbury), Annalisa Stravato (Wilton)

I. Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of 4/4/2022 was made by J. Rogers. and seconded by Pete Gostin passed with one abstention.

### II. Treasurer's Report:

Primary Checking Account:

- Starting Balance as of 3/31/22- \$103,812.73
  - Total credits- \$28,622.00
- Dues deposits of \$160.00, Spring Conference payments of \$28,280, Board games/ bags of \$182.00
  - Total debits- \$72,123.59
- Ending Balance as of 4/30/2022- \$60,318.00

Conference Checking Account: See attached document for specifics.

- Starting Balance-\$2,073.19
  - Total credits- 0
  - Total debits- \$774.56
- Ending Balance- \$-774.56

Scholarship Savings Account: See attached document

### III. County Reports:

- A. Fairfield County- No Report
- B. Hartford County- No Report Next meeting June 10, 2022
- C. Litchfield County- No Report
- D. Middlesex County- No Report
- E. New Haven County- No Report.
- F. New London County- No Report Meeting the following Thursday, with C. Prue visiting.
- G. Tolland County- No Report Meeting next Wednesday.
- H. Windham County- Next meeting on 6/9/2022 in Ashford

### IV. Committee Reports:

- Conference Committee-
  - The fall conference will be in Southbury on September 8-9.
  - Chris Prue (Vernon) took point in requesting refunds. Went day by day. First day they offered \$250, we countered with \$1,000 and settled on \$500 for the first day's food. For the second day food the food was better and had other issues, we are receiving \$500. The third day they ran out of food, and out of desserts. We are receiving \$1,400 for the third day of food. Then with the issues of the hotel rooms, there was a disagreement with what the contract said. They are refunding us another \$900. The total refund was \$3,300. We still have outstanding dues and payments outstanding. There were other things that we were unaware now. We procured this hotel prior to COVID and would have lost our deposit if we had gone to another hotel.
  - 15 people tested positive for COVID after the conference. Chris Prue (Vernon) sent out a notice to all the attendees.
  - Dues Report- There are six towns that still have not paid bills.

- *Education Committee- Only positive responses for the conference classes were received. The committee did a wonderful job, especially with the many challenges they faced.*
- *Handbook Committee- Nothing new to report.*
- *Legislative Committee-*
  - *The absentee ballot legislation bill still is not signed as of this date. Voters will not be notified if their ballots are not being accepted.*
  - *Our tech bill got held up in the Senate again. We have been dealing with this tech bill for a long time, and it is supported by everyone but one person.*
  - *All appointed staff in SOTS office have resigned, looking for new positions in Government.*
- *Technology Committee- A short meeting was held at the conference. Focused on the transition from I.E. to the new platform for using CVRS. The new CVRS is now in the hands of the committee to decide where we are headed. There will be another meeting closer to the primary. It was asked whether there will be a stress test prior to the primary. Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury) said that she would ask.*
- *Ways and Means- Sue Burnham (So. Windsor) thanked all her friends that work with her at the conference. \$1,937 was made from the baskets raffle, other sales (Games, Rovac leftover gifts) brought in an additional \$763 for a total of \$2,700 for the Judi Beaudreau Scholarship.*

V. *Old Business: None*

VI. *New Business:*

- *Three payment cancellation requests:*
  - *Greenwich requested a refund for Mary Hegarty. Motion by Lauren Olson (Ashford) and seconded by Jeff Rogers (Montville) to refund the conference fee due to illness. Motion passed with one abstention.*
  - *Stafford requested a refund for Sheila Welch for one day of the two she planned to attend. A motion by Jeff Rogers (Montville) and seconded by Fred Decaro (Greenwich) to deny refund passed with 11 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention.*
  - *Thomaston requested a refund for Lauren Budis who couldn't attend one day due to illness. A motion to approve a refund was made by Lauren Olson (Ashford) and seconded by Jeff Rogers (Montville) passed unanimously.*
- *Approved funds for new chrome books, the computers worked really well. Looking for a vote for monies for two new laptops. The old laptops are no longer able to be upgraded. We have just two. Want to replace the last two laptops. The proposal is \$750 for each chrome book. A motion by Jeff Rogers (Montville) and seconded by Peter Gostin (N. Britain) to spend \$1,500 on new computers, passed unanimously.*
- *We need a formal process on getting rid of outdated computers, etc. A form and process will be created for this process. We could find a new home for something that still works and destroy those that have no value. Fred will rework a form he already has and bring it to the next meeting.*
- *Chris Prue (Vernon) would like to purchase table clothes or table runners with the ROVAC logo. Chris will look into this and bring it to the committee.*
- *Spring Conference-There was a substantial overage for this conference because we had interrupted contract. There were also some major issues that needed to be dealt with. We knew that the cost of things would increase due to the cost of doing business. There were issues with food all three days along with other issues. We were finally refunded \$3,300.*
- *Pete Gostin sent out all the checks for the scholarship winners. A form will be created in the future for scholarship nominations, along with a deadline for submitting the scholarships. It is called the Judi Beaudreau Scholarship Nomination Form. After discussion, some changes may be made. Allow as many submissions but only allow 2 people per town. Another suggestion would be to have the nomination come with a written statement. Tim DeCarlo said there is a policy for this, so Lauren Olson (Ashford) and Chris Prue (Vernon) will look for the policy.*
- *Chris Prue would like to look at something called a "Challenge coin" that could be handed out to Registrars who went above and beyond.*

- *Another fund raiser opportunity would be to have shirts with the ROVAC logo that Registrars can order.*
- *Jeff Rogers (Montville) brought up the movie 2,000 Mules. There was a short discussion. It was brought up that we have a PR budget with our lobbyist. We can do some PR regarding safety issues regarding voting by Absentee Ballot. SOTS is also preparing public announcements regarding elections.*

*VII. Adjourn: A motion was made to adjourn at 11:12 by Tim DeCarlo (Waterbury) and seconded by Jeff Rogers (Montville)*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Lauren L. Olson*

*Registrar of Voters, Town of Ashford, ROVAC Secretary*