

ROVAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

NEWINGTON TOWN HALL

MARCH 12, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President Melissa Russell

Members Attending: M. Russell, B. Brenneman, P. Gostin, S. Larsen, M. Wyman, S. Woodward,
D. Burrell, T. DeCarlo, F. DeCaro, K. Cheyney

Non-Members Attending: S. Krawiecki, K. McCauley, C. Prue, L. Cultrera

Minutes: Motion made by D. Burrell, seconded by P. Gostin, to approve the minutes for the February minutes, passed unanimously. Notes & Clarifications: 1) K. Cheyney to give a civics presentation at the spring conference; 2) M. Wyman + T. DeCarlo + A.M. Mastroianni to give report on Sunshine committee procedures at April Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report: S. Larsen reported that checkbook has \$37,196.86 on hand. Income received: \$1,530 from Reuters/IPSOS and Republican American for November 2014 election (ROV cooperation for reporting results) plus \$660 between conference fees and dues. Expenses: \$50 to Aaron Nash (website); \$177.92 to Darlene Burrell (Newbie Day); \$122.50 to Moon Beams (? / Newbie Day); \$1,058.23 to Mastercard (ROVAC Board dinner in January).

Discrepancy arose regarding filing of IRS Form 990; was due to fiscal year timing.

County Reports:

- Fairfield – F. DeCaro reports a meeting held on Feb 27. General consensus on a variety of issues, many of them regarding legislation at Capitol.
- Hartford – D. Burrell and S. Krawiecki report a meeting held on March 10. Many kudos offered to M. Russell, S. Larsen and T. DeCarlo for their work on behalf of ROV's on Legislative committee & SOTS bill (SB 1051 – appoint registrars).
- Litchfield – M. Russell reports a meeting in late February; discussed GAE legislative agenda. All pleased with ROVAC's Legislative committee efforts.
- Middlesex – K. Cheyney indicates a meeting to be held on March 12.
- New Haven – T. DeCarlo reports a meeting held in February; discussed Legislative agenda.
- New London – No report.
- Tolland – M. Wyman reports next meeting to be held on March 25. Pot luck supper.
- Windham – S. Woodward reports next meeting to be held on March 16.

Standing & Ad-hoc Committees:

- Conference – C. Prue states Spring Conference / Annual Meeting at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell is ready for April 22 – 24. Prior hotel contact person was fired; new contact is working very well with us. RSVP email messages have been sent out to ROVAC membership; some email addresses are missing – county chairs are asked to review their lists. Themes for conference have been laid out.
Fall Conference Report – C. Prue has visited three hotels: Southbury Crowne Plaza, Farmington Marriott and Hartford Sheraton. Of these the best choice is

the Southbury Crowne Plaza as it is best layout for getting to and from rooms (smaller area within the hotel but is contained in one general area). Food offerings were very good as well. Other considerations: room rates will be \$89/night (committed to 20 rooms for Night 1 then 70 rooms for Night 2); discounts available for restaurant on premises; \$2,600 for all instructional room rentals (down from \$5,000 last few years). Dates are Sept. 10 & 11 (Thursday & Friday). Hotel room included free of charge for Wednesday evening. Draft of contract was handed out. B. Brenneman motioned to accept, P. Gostin seconded. Unanimously approved. F. DeCaro recognized C. Prue for excellent work done on both upcoming conferences! Added notes: C. Prue indicates monies on pre-paid credit card were used for Newbie Day held in February. Also, a speaker has been purchased for smaller instructional conference rooms at conferences; need a few larger ones as current speakers are inadequate for larger areas. C. Prue will ask his Deputy (and close friend) to take over his prior job of running logistics for the conferences as he assumes the duties of general chairperson. He asked for approval of \$350 as compensation to deputy. S. Larsen suggested this cost be put under conference costs and not general budget.

Motioned by B. Brenneman and seconded by F. DeCaro. Approved unanimously.

- Education – No chair or member at this meeting. M. Russell states that Katie Blinstrubas (Prospect) is new chairperson, and classes may include presentations on or by SEEC, K. Cheyney (civics), Moderators, Paddi LeShane (ROVAC lobbyist). SOTS Day – M. Russell sent email to Peggy Reeves extending invite to Secretary Merrill and suggested she may want to consider an alternative way of communicating with registrars at the Spring conference (i.e. send James Spallone or Ted Bromley or video).
- Technology – M. Wyman, S. Larsen, M. Waggner, C. Prue and other ROV's met with Ted Bromley in February. Electronic poll books requirements from SOTS were reviewed. Consensus is these will render useless all known vendor products as they could not meet the specifications! T. DeCarlo suggested e-poll book vendors to send a letter to SOTS and GAE committee indicating they couldn't meet specs. This is yet another example of ROVAC asking for technology improvements but not receiving it. S. Larsen reported seeing at this meeting a demo rollout of Election Night Reporting screens but they were not very detailed. A big change with ENR program – will now perform Unknown vote tabulations and report them by district with tabulator tapes being used. This looks promising.
- Handbook – D. Burrell reports that many meetings have been held and that all updates should be completed by March 17. Efforts have been made to work with SOTS on formal acceptance of handbook revisions but SOTS refuses to endorse a process their office hasn't initiated.

- Legislative – S. Larsen reported that she, T. DeCarlo, M. Russell and P. LeShane have been meeting frequently at Capitol. Great turnout by many ROV's state-wide at GAE hearing on March 9. Push should be made to support HB 6950 (overvotes) as it is a ROVAC bill. GAE is listening to us – they put forward SB 1083 (task force bill to study election of registrars) with report back date in January 2016. Per M. Russell, Madison ROV is looking into legality of mandatory registrar certification and removing ROV's via statutes. It's possible since ROV's are elected by statute, not by state constitution. Further discussion at GAE level could help resolve issue.
- Nominating – S. Woodward reported four resumes received for executive officers: one each for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. None received for Executive Vice-President.
- Ways and Means – No meeting.
- By-Laws – S. Krawiecki handed out copies of new proposal. Changes in blue are technical & administrative in nature and will look to be passed in their entirety. Changes in red will need further discussion. To be voted on by ROVAC membership at spring conference.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- B. Brenneman stated no meeting was held but presented paper copies of a new budget (via S. Larsen). Suggests increasing dues to \$65 and a one year lobbyist contract (not two years) with Sullivan & LeShane at \$19,000 (includes \$3,000 for media piece). Overall budget suggested at \$137,580 (current budget is \$125,350). To be voted on by ROVAC membership at spring conference.
- M. Russell to provide number of county sign-ups regarding SOTS teleconference training sessions held on three Tuesdays before last November election. Rep. Haddad (GAE committee) asked for the information. Purpose is to verify SOTS contention that not many ROV's called in or listened to sessions via computer link.
- Next meeting date TBD.

Motion to adjourn: Made at 12:15 p.m. by T. DeCarlo, seconded by S. Larsen. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Gostin

Temporary Secretary (not in waiting ☺)