

ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Zoom Meeting

March 7, 2024

Meeting was called to order by President Chris Prue (Vernon) at 10:06 AM.

Members: Chris Prue (Vernon), Annalisa Stravato (Wilton), Karen Birck (Wilton), Sue Larsen (So. Windsor), Brian Smith, (Norwalk), Peter Gostin(New Britian), Jeff Rogers (Montville), Darlene Burrell (Suffield), Tracey Ohaus (Chester), Fred DeCaro (Greenwich) Christine Psathas,(Willington),Lisa Amatruda,(Woodbury), Lauren Olson (Ashford), Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury), Sue Burnham(So. Windsor),Pennell Hamilton(Woodbridge)

Highlighted in yellow are those in attendance.

I. Minutes: **A motion to accept the minutes of 2/15/24 was made by Jeff Rogers (Montville). Seconded by Lisa Amatruda (Woodbury). The motion passed unanimously.**

II. Treasurer's Report:

Cash is coming in for the Spring Conference. The 3rd deposit was made for the conference.

Beginning Balance: \$36,514.25
Income: 7,610.30
Expenses: 724.44
Ending Balance: \$43,400.11

III. County Reports – None

IV. Committee Reports:

- Conference Committee – Chris Prue (Vernon) reported that the agenda is set. The rooms are \$179 for the rooms left. The hospitality room is set up for 5pm to 10pm. Kevin McCauley1a (Bristol) will get dinner reservations for us. The cutoff for rooms is this Saturday. The Board will meet in the Niznik Room at 4:00 pm on April 9th.

- Education Committee – Chris Prue (Vernon) reported the agenda:

Wednesday – AM Class in excel, class on Handbook & budgeting, SEEC Lunch: Website Widget
PM Breakout groups on early voting (3)

Thursday - AM Annual meeting, Record retention, Early voting issues for the disable Lunch –
Ryan Bingham (Sullivan & LeShane) PM Canvass & ERIC, excel

Friday – SOTS

Barbara Konow (Franklin) was elected chair and has done a great job.

- Handbook Committee- No Report

- Legislative Committee: Sue Larsen, South Windsor, reported Tim DeCarlo has officially taken the job with SOTS. He will still help with legislative.

- Technology Committee – No report.

- Ways and Means – Sue Burnham (South Windsor) reminded everyone about the county baskets.

V. Old Business:

Chris Prue, Vernon, reported that he reviewed all the comments and said the Judi Boudreau scholarship is not a true scholarship. The scholarship will remain the same. All applicants need to be given to Chris Prue (Vernon) by the Friday, April 5th.

VI. New Business:

A new budget was presented. Dues will remain the same. Dinner budget will be reduced. The Lobbyist will go up \$1,000. There is a small increase in storage fees. The conference chair stipend should be \$500. Peter Gostin (New Britain) said the layout of the budget needs to be reviewed. 2 towns have not paid their dues (Union and Deep River).

Peter Gostin (New Britain) made the motion to accept the budget with adjustments and a correction for the format. Jeff Rogers (Montville) seconded the motion. The vote was yes except for Lisa Amatruda (Woodbury) abstained.

Chris Prue (Vernon) asked to have the Sullivan & LeShane contract amended to do info graphics on early voting. They would also update the current graphics to remove Election Day Registration with Same Day Registration. Soon there will be more public relations training for early voting and the Presidential election.

Lisa Amatruda (Woodbury) motioned to sign the contract with the new graphics. Darlene Burrell (Suffield) seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chris Prue (Vernon) presented the options for the Fall Conference. The first option is the Wyndham in Southbury. The dates would be Sept. 17 and 18. The rooms would be \$149.00 per night. They offered the chef to attend the first night in the hospitality room. The second option is the Mariotte in Windsor Locks. Same dates. The rooms are \$133 per night. The suites are \$233 per night. There will be 6 comp rooms included.

Jeff Rogers (Montville) motioned to approve the Hartford/Windsor Marriotte for the Spring Conference Sept. 16 – 18 (Includes first night for ROVAC Board). Darlene Burrell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Peter Gostin (New Britain) said we should go back to approving contracts at least one year in advance. Chris Prue (Vernon) said Laurel Olson (Ashford) is already getting proposals for next spring.

Reminder: All reports are due by March 20th.

The ROVAC Board meeting will be April 9th at 4:00pm in the Niznik Room.

Jeff Rogers (Montville) asked where to get polling signs in Spanish. Darlene Burrell (Suffield) said you can order them through SOTS.

Chris Prue (Vernon) will email a training module he did to help with early voting.

The website needs to be updated for County Boards and Committees. Please send all the latest information.

EMS is still a problem. Ballot order info should be input now. The system won't allow for changing a moderator so delete the name and reinsert. Do not add the early voting location.

If you have a problem and send an email to Kristin Sullivan, the email will be sent to the attorneys before you get an answer.

VII. Darlene Burrell (Suffield) motioned to adjourn at 12:04. Jeff Rogers (Montville) seconded the motion. It was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue W. Larsen
ROVAC Secretary