

ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Newington Town Hall

May 11, 2023

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

Members: Chris Prue (Vernon), Pete Gostin (N. Britain), Sue Larsen (So. Windsor) Fred DeCaro (Greenwich), Sue Burnham (So. Windsor), Jeff Rogers (Montville), Darlene Burrell (Suffield), Annalisa Stravato (Wilton), Tracey O'Haus (Chester), Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury), Karen Birck (Wilton), Christine Psathas, Willington, Brian Smith, Norwalk

Note: The bylaws were reviewed with everyone. Voting members are the Executive Board and the County Chairs.

I. Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of 1/12/2023 was made by Jeff Rogers, Montville and seconded by Darlene Burrell, Suffield. The vote was unanimous.

II. Treasurer's Report:

April 2023

Primary Checking Account:

- Starting Balance as of 4/1/2023- \$132,217.62
 - Total credits- \$22,769.47
 - Total debits- \$93,421.32
- Ending Balance as of 4/30/23- \$61,565.77

Conference Checking Account:

- Starting Balance-\$1,172.53
 - Total credits- 0
 - Total debits- 1,172.53
 - Ending Balance- \$0
- All money has been transferred to the primary checking account.

Scholarship Savings Account:

- Starting Balance-\$7,265.39
 - Total credits- \$3,780.12
 - Total debits- \$2,750.00
 - Ending Balance- \$8,295.51
- 11 Scholarships were given out at \$250 each

- CD balances

One CD is set to expire after a 5 year term. There is \$32,278.85 over the 5 CD's.

Chris Prue, Vernon, developed a worksheet that would help the treasurer account for the money from Ways & Means.

III. County Reports:

- A. Fairfield County- No Report.
- B. Hartford County- The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 13th.
- C. Litchfield County- No Report. Chris Prue, Vernon, will be calling for a county meeting.
- D. Middlesex County- They met at the end of April. The group discussed canvass and referenda. Appointments were made to the Legislative, Technology and Ways & Means Committees.
- E. New Haven County- No report
- F. New London County- Next meeting will be on the 18th. SOTS will attend a pot luck meeting on June 22nd.
- G. Tolland County and Windham County- They held a pot luck dinner together with SOTS as their guest.

Chris Prue, Vernon, asked to make sure all appointments to committees be done by July 1st. He is working on the website to update the committee information.

IV. Committee Reports:

- **Conference Committee -**

There was positive feedback from the conference. The food was pretty good. Lauren Olson, Ashford and Chris Prue, Vernon, have reviewed the bill and will discuss the issues with Wyndham.

- **Education Committee-**

Classes were well received. Chris Prue, Vernon, will be sending out an email to get suggestions for the fall conference.

- **Handbook Committee-** *Everyone is still working on their assignment. Using the AVS is now a requirement at referenda and a tabulator must be used unless the town has a compelling reason not to. The handbook will contain a link for press releases.*

- **Legislative Committee:**

Early voting passed in the House. The Senate will probably take it up next week. The House bill has Early Voting starting next year. We still need CVRS to be updated which will not be ready until June or July of next year. There may be funding of around 4.5 million dollars to reimburse the early voting expenses.

The Presidential Preference Primary bill has not been taken up yet.

A discussion about the new tabulators raised a lot of issues. SOTS is looking at a tabulator that only handles white ballots. This will not work for us.

The EMS moderator returns must be updated.

- **Technology Committee-**

The contract for CVRS has been signed. It is a canned program that will be modified for us. EMS will be incorporated into CVRS.

SOTS is moving forward on new tabulators. We must support the funding for new tabulators.

UCONN has a group looking at the tabulators and pollbooks. ROVAC will have members on the committee.

- **Ways and Means-**

We made \$1,065 on the 50/50 raffle. \$2,474 was made on the county baskets. Sue Burnham, South Windsor, is still looking for the 50/50 winner on Wednesday.

V. Old Business:

Chris Prue, Vernon, discussed the asset disposal of items ROVAC can no longer use. Jeff Rogers, Montville, thought we should auction them off. We could do it on the website or at the fall conference. 2 speakers, 6 laptops, and 3 projector screens are no longer usable. Annalisa Stravato, Wilton, motioned to dispose of those items. Jeff Rogers, Montville, seconded. The vote was unanimous. Chris Prue (Vernon) would like to sell 2 speakers with their power cable, 3 units of 8 microphones each, and 2 microphones that are single use only. Jeff Rogers, Montville, motioned to sell the items. Peter Gostin, New Britain, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Darlene Burrell, Suffield, suggested the original price be included so people have a comparison.

The fall conference proposal was presented. It will be at the Windsor Mariotte in September. The dates are still up in the air due to the discussion on holidays, primary dates and such. August 21st will be the cutoff date for booking the hotel at the \$132.00 rate. The hospitality room will be in a private room. The motion was made by Peter Gostin, New Britain, and seconded by Tracey O Hause,

Chester, to accept the contract with new dates to come before the ROVAC Board (or via email) for approval..

Southbury Wyndham needs time to make the renovations necessary before we go back.

Darlene Burrell. Suffield, asked why we were not told about the 14 days of early voting. We still have issues with the storage of ballots with the Town Clerks.

The spring Conference will be at the Bristol Event Center. Chris Prue, Vernon, and Lauren Olson, Ashford, did the site tour. ROVAC would be housed in the Double Tree at \$132 per night. We have 120 rooms and after that rooms would be at \$179 per night. The hospitality room will be in the Double Tree. The dates will be April 10th, 11th, and 12th. Jeff Rogers, Montville, moved to accept the contract. Peter Gostin, New Britain, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The discussion on the EMS system failure of the November 2022 election was tabled.

Peter Gostin, New Britain, and Brian Smith, Norwalk, will discuss a new bank and report back at the next meeting.

VI. New Business:

Chris Prue, Vernon, proposed the purchase of 4 digital microphones with base for \$749.00 each. They are omnidirectional with 80 channels. We may need to buy cases. Jeff Rogers, Montville, moved the purchase of the microphones. Seconded by Peter Gostin, new Britain. The vote was unanimous.

VII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:37. Next meeting will be held on June 8th at 1000 at the Newington Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue W. Larsen

Registrar of Voters, Town of South Windsor, on behalf of Lauren Olsen ROVAC Secretary