

Meeting Date: July 8, 2021

Members: Chris Prue (Vernon), Lauren Olson (Ashford), Pete Gostin (N. Britain), Mike Wyman (Tolland), Fred DeCaro (Greenwich), Sue Burnham (S. Windsor), Darlene Burrell (Suffield), Ann-Marie Mastroianni (Bethlehem), Bonnie Anderson (Cromwell), Jeff Rogers (Montville), Sue Larsen (S. Windsor), Karen Birck (Wilton)

Guests: Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury), Marie Fox (Newington), Christine Psathas (Willington)

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Prue at 10:01. Chris thanked the Town of Newington for the use of their facilities.

I. Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Peter Gostin and seconded by Sue Larsen, passed unanimously.

II. Treasurer's Report:

- Scholarship balance-\$2,450.15 We have collected donations of \$1,676 this year. 8 checks were sent out. A \$500 donation was given by Kevin White, a friend of Fred DeCaro and Lou DeCilio. Pete Gostin has also received an additional \$100 from Fidelity Charitable Foundation, also a friend of Fred DeCaro.
- Total monies collected- \$39,271.19
 - Dues collected were \$22,435.
 - The largest costs to our budget are Legislative expenses followed by website development and storage costs.
 - More money was made on the virtual conference since there was just the cost of Zoom.
- Dues still outstanding- @\$1220.
- Pete Gostin and Lisbeth Becker need to connect to discuss treasurer issues.
- Discussion occurred regarding how to handle outstanding balances.
 - If no registrar, should we collect dues?
 - Should we wipe the slate clean and start with a new policy going forward.
 - If you are not a member of ROVAC, can one attend conference. ROVAC policy states that you could go to conference if you paid additional fee.
 - Should they be allowed to attend? What fee should be charged? There is already an increased fee but should the fee cover the cost of their membership.

III. County Reports:

- A. **Fairfield County-** Three meetings were held this year. The last meeting in June, Petitions were discussed. The list of representatives on ROVAC committees were sent to C. Prue and S. Larsen, Tech committee reps were sent to L. Becker. F. DeCaro is having a special election so some new registrars were invited to Greenwich to watch the preparation of an election.
- B. **Hartford County-** There was a meeting on June 29, both in-person (27) and zoom (33). The county voted to raise the dues from \$6 to \$10. Sheena Hodges from the IT division of SOTS to discuss the installation of Cytrex. SOTS will only help the small towns with no IT departments. Sheena is the contact for issues. Pete Gostin shared information regarding the new legislation. Committee reps were appointed.
- C. **Litchfield County-** There will be a meeting sometime in August.
- D. **Middlesex County-** There was no meeting. Hope there will be a meeting this month.
- E. **New Haven County-** No Report
- F. **New London County-** June 24 was the first in-person meeting with a few people opting to call in. A retirement party was held for Dianne Slopak. July 15 is the next scheduled meeting at the Montville Town Hall.

- G. Tolland County-** Planning a potluck meeting sometime this month.
- H. Windham County-** Had the first in-person meeting. Discussed Conference, legislation and asked for volunteers for ROVAC committees.

IV. Committee Reports:

- A. Conference-** There was a good turnout for the Spring Conference. If you signed up, you will get credit for the days you were registered. Chris is working with Todd Reisel to find the best way to add the credits to the portal. Fall Conference will be held on September 23-24, at the Southbury Wyndham Hotel. The room cost is \$102 per room. The Spring 2022 Conference will be held at the Windsor Marriott.
- B. Education Committee-** Working with the Conference Committee to prepare for the upcoming conference.
- C. Handbook Committee-** There were no changes since the last meeting. Since the new legislation, changes will be discussed at the next meeting.
- D. Legislative Committee-** SB5 passed in the implementer bill which consists of 837 pages. Included in the bill: White AB boxes are permanent, there is a voter registration requirement for high schools on the last Tuesday of September, Covid precautions are extended until Nov. 3, there is a new election monitor for Bridgeport for the next election, Early voting (2022) and no excuse absentee ballots (2024) will be on ballots. There are 3 task forces that we will be included: Limited Risk Audit representatives are Tim Beeble and Lois Timms- Ferrara. The other two groups have not been formed as of now. Chris, after discussion with Tim, sent a letter to Ted, asking for guidance for Registrars.
- E. Technology Committee-** CVRS will stay on IE until the new CVRS site, when a change may occur. There was a special meeting with Tom Miano and the new project manager for CVRS project, Shawn Zier formerly of PCCC. Proposed group with Registrars and Town Clerks but that has not been approved yet. Finally finished the laundry list of what Registrars want. The deadline for the procurement is December. Could have the new CVRS by 2022. They may go with a canned system and change it to meet our needs.
- F. Ways & Means-** There was no conference so limited funds (\$1,676) were raised.

V. Old Business:

- Please send committee representatives lists to Chris.
- Chris will attend County Meetings, if requested.
- 2019/2020 Dues: There is \$1,640 outstanding, many of the towns had no Registrars. Proposed motion: To erase the 2019/20 unpaid dues and start fresh going forward was made by Mike Wyman and seconded by Sue Larsen. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2020/2021 Dues: There is \$1,220 outstanding. Proposed motion: To make one last effort to collect outstanding dues now. If ROVAC doesn't hear within 30 days, the unpaid dues will be erased and we will start fresh going forward to 2021/22 was made by Ann-Marie Mastroianni and seconded by Mike Wyman. The motion passed unanimously.
- Information: Chris will instruct Todd Reisel to change the portal invoices so the invoice will reflect everything that is owed: dues or conference.
- Information on Payment for Conference: There are different rate for members (All forms of Registrars), nonmembers and guests (Cog monitor). When registering for conference, if a registrar's dues are current, the portal goes directly to the member rate, if not, the portal goes directly nonmember rates.
- Proposed motion: To change conference registration policy to make the fee for nonmembers to be the conference cost, the membership cost plus additional fee to incentivize people to become members. Discussion ensued. No action taken.

- Proposed motion: If you are not a member of ROVAC, there is no vehicle for Registrars to go to conference. Will have to find an additional way to get the required SOTS training. The motion, made by Sue Burnham and seconded by Jeff Rogers: If Registrars are not dues paying members of ROVAC, they are not eligible to attend the ROVAC sponsored conferences. The motion passed with two members voting no and one abstaining.
- Discussion on allowing guests to attend the conference. Suggested motion: that we leave the guest fees as they are but define guests are "other than registrars, deputies, assistants and emeritus". Motion was made by Jeff Rogers and seconded by Bonnie Anderson. The motion passed.

VI. New Business:

- Communications- Sue Larsen and Chris Prue will meet to transfer the constant contact credentials to Chris. Chris is working with Todd to connect constant contact with the ROVAC portal to improve communications between the board and members. All updated information will be entered into the portal. Members will now get a message asking if the people listed in town are still active. Any changes will now transfer to constant contact.
- All the temporary committee chairs will stay except for the Conference Committee, until the committees meet and elects new chairs. The Conference Committee will choose a new chair.
- There was confusion on the bylaws change the exact wording should have read: "Except as hereafter provided at any annual meeting or special meeting, 50 members shall constitute a quorum. Under special circumstances determined by the ROVAC president a quorum is defined as members present or visible by electronic means." This statement should refer to the first meeting, not the second meeting.
- There was clarification on the motion regarding the amount of the annual dues for ROVAC. The dues for ROVAC are \$80 as voted on by the Annual Meeting.

VII. Adjourn: A motion was made by Jeff Rogers and seconded by Lauren Olson at 12:54 PM. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren L. Olson
Registrar of Voters, Town of Ashford
ROVAC Secretary