

## ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Newington Town Hall

August 10, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Chris Prue at 10:04 AM.

Members: Chris Prue (Vernon), Annalisa Stravato (Wilton), Karen Birck (Wilton), Sue Larsen (So. Windsor), Brian Smith, Norwalk, Peter Gostin(New Britain), Jeff Rogers (Montville), Darlene Burrell (Suffield), Tracey Ohaus (Chester), Fred DeCaro (Greenwich) Christine Psathas, Willington, Lisa Amatruda,( Woodbury), Lauren Olson (Ashford)Tim DeCarlo,(Waterbury), Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury), Melissa Russell (Bethlehem), Sue Burnham( So. Windsor)Teresa Avey(Newington)

Highlighted in yellow are those in attendance.

**I. Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of 6/8/2023 was made by Karen Birck(Wilton) and seconded by Lauren Olson(Ashford). The vote was 10 yes and one abstention.**

### **II. Treasurer's Report:**

#### **Primary Checking Account:**

- Starting Balance as of 5/31/2023- \$64,678.79
  - Total credits- \$1,504.19
  - Total debits- \$66,182.98
- Ending Balance as of 6/30/23- \$00 M&T Bank
- Money moved to TD Bank as of 6/30/23 Balance as of 7/31/23 \$91602.12

#### **Scholarship Savings Account:**

- Starting Balance-\$8,295.56
    - Total credits- \$500.02
    - Total debits- \$
  - Ending Balance- \$8,795.68
- Money moved from M&T to TD Bank

Brian Smith(Norwalk) reported that dues are coming in. Over 101 signed up for the fall conference. Peter Gostin(New Britain) spoke about the last page of the treasurer's report. There is \$32,149.72 in CD's. ROVAC is down about \$7.000 over a 2 year period.

### **III. County Reports:**

Chris Prue(Vernon) introduced Lisa Amatruda(Woodbury) as the new Litchfield County Chair.

- A.** Fairfield County- Fred DeCaro(Greenwich) reported no meeting.
- B.** Hartford County-Teresa Avey(Newington) gave the report for Darlene Burrell. A meeting was held on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Tim DeCarlo updated the county with the legislative changes. Committee members from Hartford County were selected.
- C.** Litchfield County- Lisa Amatruda (Woodbury) reported that committee members have been appointed. She is looking for more engagement with the membership.
- D.** Middlesex County- Tracey Ohaus(Chester) reported the meeting was at the end of June. Secretary Thomas was the guest speaker. The next meeting will be after the fall conference.
- E.** New Haven County- Tim DeCarlo(Waterbury) reported the meeting was on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Ryan Bingham from Sullivan & LeShane was the guest speaker and went over the legislative session.
- F.** New London County- Jeff Rogers(Montville) reported the county held a pot luck meeting in June.
- G.** Tolland County – Christine Psathas(Willington) sent in a report. The meeting was held on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Committee assignments were accomplished. Updates were given by the legislative members and the technology members. They discussed record retention, primary petitions and the LHS contract. The next meeting will be a pot luck on August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- H.** Windham County- Lauren Olson(Ashford) reported they would have a pot luck dinner tonight. 2 towns have done a poll worker appreciation.

#### IV. Committee Reports:

- *Conference Committee – Lauren Olson (Ashford) reported that the plans for the conference are going well. Rooms are going quickly. The second payment is due today. She has started working on vendors for the spring conference.*
- *Education Committee – Chris Prue (Vernon) reported that the committee met twice so far. They have the classes but still need two presenters. Chris McCormick, EAC, is coming for lunch. New ROV class will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. The other classes are Emergency Plan, and Poll Worker training.*
- *Handbook Committee- Darlene Burrell (Suffield) sent in a report that said they met on July 31<sup>st</sup>. and worked on three chapters- Registrar's Responsibilities, Canvass and Voter Registration & Enrollment. The next meeting is Sept 6<sup>th</sup> at 1pm*
- *Legislative Committee: Tim DeCarlo (Waterbury) said the committee met on July 13th to go over the last session. The 2023 survey will be worked on before the fall conference.*
- *Technology Committee- Lauren Olson (Ashford) reported for Lisbeth. The new CVRS group came with lots of questions. The roll out is anticipated for next June. In the meantime, ROVs should be correcting items such as Mr/Mrs. Another update will be coming to remind us of the corrections. Several concerns were brought up such as why isn't the new company making those changes or why isn't Steve Mason doing it because he has done these types of corrections before. Chris Prue (Vernon) will contact SOTS to discuss these issues.*
- *Ways & Means – Brian Smith (Norwalk) reported that Darcy Beaudreau donated \$500 to the fund in memory of her mother, Judi Beaudreau. The donation was matched.*

#### V. Old Business:

*Peter Gostin (New Britain) introduced Brian Smith (Norwalk) to the CPAs. The CPAs now have the ROVAC books.*

#### VI. New Business:

*Fred DeCaro (Greenwich) stated that the rollout of early voting should not happen in early April as proposed. He would like ROVAC to send a letter to that effect saying it is not in the best interest of the voters or the ROVs. A full discussion began. The reason for the move is delegate count and the financial impact of the candidates possibly coming. ROVAC at the spring conference expressed to SOTS Thomas to not have early voting on Sunday (Easter) or Friday (Gov. offices closed). **Peter Gostin(New Britain) moved to draft a letter focusing on early voting should be postponed because of the lack of benefit to the voters. Jeff Rogers(Montville) seconded the motion.** Further discussion ensued. Options of moving the enactment date from July 1, 2023 to Jan 1, 2024, and doing a survey shortly was discussed. Testimony was already given at the public hearings so changing now would not look good. It may be better to leave it alone. **The vote was taken. Yes 3 and No 7.***

*VII. Adjourn: Lauren Olson( Ashford) motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Karen Birck (Wilton).  
Next meeting will be held on September 18th at 4:30 pm at the Mariotte in Windsor with a catered meal.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Sue W. Larsen  
ROVAC Secretary*