Call to Order: NPCA Board of Directors Chair Joby Taylor called the meeting to order at 8:36 AM Eastern Time. The Chair declared that a quorum was present.

Minutes of the 2015 Meeting: The motion to approve the minutes of the NPCA 2015 Annual General Meeting held on June 5, 2015 at the University of California, Berkeley CA was seconded and carried.

Acknowledgements by Board Chair: Board Chair Joby Taylor noted that we are celebrating the 55th Anniversary of Peace Corps this year. He introduced NPCA staff and asked Board Directors to stand. NPCA advocates had over 300 meetings with members of Congress this week. Our advocacy efforts impacted the $30 million budget increase for Peace Corps this year.

Treasurer’s Report: Reporting on behalf of Treasurer Tony Barclay, NPCA President Glenn Blumhorst noted that NPCA has had a gain in assets of $20,000 due to increased donations and that the current budget is $1.3 million. A complete written report was distributed to Members.

2016 Annual Report: NPCA President and CEO Glenn Blumhorst emphasized that NPCA continues to focus on helping affiliate groups thrive, working toward 10,000 PCVs in the field, and extending the global impact of Peace Corps service. Some of the highlights for 2015-2016 are

- NPCA Membership is free for everyone since January 1, 2016.
- A new member-platform, database and website is being finalized.
- A Community Fund now consolidates all fundraising.
- Next Step Travel has expanded to include trips to Cuba and Iran.
- NPCA is advocating for an enhanced health care act for Peace Corps Volunteers.
- NPCA collaborates with Water Charity in developing countries around the world.

The President thanked the members of RPCV/W (Washington DC), RPCVs of Northern Virginia, Maryland RPCVs, Women of Peace Corps Legacy, the sponsors and speakers, and all who contributed to and attended Peace Corps Connect 2016.

Discussion: Questions from the Membership included clarification of free membership, who will replace Sam Farr as the Peace Corps champion in Congress, and the status of the Peace Corps Commemorative (in design stage).

Adjournment: The 2016 NPCA Annual General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM Eastern Time.

Jane Bardon, NPCA Board Secretary

Attachments: 2016 Annual General Membership Meeting Summary Report
Welcome to Peace Corps Connect and to NPCA's 2016 Annual General Membership Meeting

The past year has marked one of the most transformative times in NPCA’s history, highlighted by the expansion of membership through the elimination of membership dues, the addition of a third “impact” goal in our 2014-2018 Strategic Plan, the launching of the Community Fund, updates and revisions to our governing bylaws, and a positive change in net assets for the year ended 2015 added to our financial bottom line.

At the December 2015 Board of Directors meeting, NPCA adopted a revised Strategic Plan for the years 2014-18. Adjusted to reflect input from the community, this version includes a key addition of a third goal to complement the original two goals. The Strategic Plan focuses our energy, activities, and financial resources on (1) enabling members and affiliate groups to thrive, (2) helping the Peace Corps be the best that it can be, and (3) increasing the Peace Corps community’s development impact.

Our ongoing activities and new initiatives this year reflect this strategic approach, for example:

- The elimination of membership dues for both individuals and affiliate groups opened the doors for a rapid expansion of our community. The application rate for new affiliate groups is accelerating to a current average of two per month. Our individual membership continues to grow, with many members enhancing their support through donations as Mission Partners.
- Our reformulated business model to a community-driven approach took us to new destinations in our Next Step Travel program. Our initial Cuba trip (25 travelers) sold out quickly. Seventeen members explored the history and hospitality of Iran in our inaugural “Bridge to Iran” program coordinated in partnership with NPCA affiliate group, Peace Corps Iran Association.
- Modeled off our first grants towards Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in 2015, we are expanding our Community Fund support into Girls Education and Empowerment to reflect our partnership with the First Lady’s Let Girls Learn initiative. Initial grants are building schools in Zambia, empowering girls through dance in Moldova and increasing awareness of diversity issues in Uganda.
- Working on behalf of RPCVs who face post-service health challenges, NPCA established a national Day of Awareness (June 25) and an RPCV support network to better connect those in our Peace Corps community in need with those who can help. We are also framing out a new Benevolent Fund to support RPCVs needing a small financial boost to get them back on their feet following hard times.
- Using our new click-to-send platform, a record number of NPCA advocates are making their voices heard with their elected officials on Capitol Hill. Their 17,000+ messages since we launched the system a year ago empowered our campaign that helped secure a $30.5 million funding increase for the Peace Corps last December. The $410 million Peace Corps receives is the highest funding level in its history. In March of this year, our annual National Day of Action brought 122 citizen advocates to Washington, DC, with 180 meetings held.
Financial results for 2015 showed a positive change in net assets of $19,499, moving NPCA on a path to sustained financial health. Increases in individual contributions - especially from a growing Shriver Leaders Circle, as well as enhanced earned income - were key factors in the improved revenue picture. To ensure the long-term sustainability of NPCA’s support to the Peace Corps community, we established the Legacy Fund, our unrestricted endowment.

After a year of encouraging progress on many fronts, we once again extend our thanks to the wide range of Peace Corps community members who provide NPCA with indispensable support. NPCA is your organization and exists to serve and support you in all that you do to live your legacy of a lifelong commitment to Peace Corps values.

Joby Taylor  
Chair  
Gabon 1991-1993

Tony Barclay  
Treasurer  
Kenya 1968-1970

Glenn Blumhorst  
President & CEO  