



ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
University of Texas, Austin, TX
June 22, 2019

Call to Order: NPCA Board of Directors Chair Maricarmen Smith-Martinez called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM Central Time. The Chair declared that a quorum was present.

Acknowledgements by Board Chair: Board Chair Maricarmen Smith-Martinez thanked Heart of Texas Peace Corps Association for hosting an amazing Peace Corps Connect. She recognized NPCA founding members in attendance - Margaret Riley, Katy Hansen and Greg Flakus - and acknowledged NPCA's 40th anniversary.

Minutes of the 2018 Meeting: The motion by Katy Hansen to approve the minutes of the NPCA 2018 Annual General Meeting held on August 24, 2018 at the Shawnee Institute in Shawnee on Delaware, PA was seconded by Margaret Riley and Karen Keefer (simultaneously) and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Patrick Fine outlined the progress NPCA has made on its financial objectives to eliminate our deficit and build reserves. We did not achieve our objective to improve our net assets. However, NPCA is a strong, vibrant, "scrappy" organization and is not in financial danger. We received an unqualified opinion with the audit. Finances are managed with integrity; we've always had clean audits. Thank you to our members and to our staff. Please continue to support NPCA. It's the right thing to do.

2018 Annual Report: NPCA President and CEO Glenn Blumhorst thanked Heart of Texas Peace Corps Association for an outstanding conference and added thanks to our events consultant, Jenna Smith. For the financial report, he added that from 2015-2017, operating revenues exceeded expenses and net unrestricted assets increased, although we had a net loss in 2018. We scaled up our mission, staff, and reach, balancing growth with financial health. He made a special thanks to our many conference sponsors: Clark University and TetraTech (gold level); FHI360, RTI International and Thunderbird School of Management (silver level); and NYU School of Professional Studies and SIT Graduate Institute (bronze level).

NPCA aligns along three pillars of our work as a Peace Corps community. Key accomplishments for 2018-2019 include:

- **Pillar I: Advocacy/Helping Peace Corps be its best.** Thanks to your help, the Sam Farr and Nick Castle Act passed last year. We had record signers to the annual Dear Colleague letter. The Walker Amendment was defeated 110-315, spurred on by over

9000 communications in five days from the Peace Corps community. Our next priorities: giving Peace Corps a raise; the Respect for Peace Corps Volunteers Act.

- **Pillar II: Community.** We reached a record high 184 affiliate groups. The services and support we provide help them achieve their objectives. We redesigned *WorldView* magazine. Thank you, David Arnold, for your years of outstanding work as editor. We will shortly roll out a digital *WorldView* via an app. We launched a special pilot program supporting three affiliate groups - Kentucky Peace Corps Association, Peace Corps Iran Association and Peace Corps Community for Refugees - to explore how best to support issue-based advocacy through affiliate groups. We continue to home in on issues of concern to our community. We will do more research on what those issues are and how our community can respond. Many thanks for the increased engagement of our NPCA community and affiliate groups around issues of concern. We look forward to scaling this effort up.
- **Pillar III: Service/Local and Global Humanitarian Impact.** We are working via two Farmer to Farmer grants to provide short-term technical assistance. Through our partnership with Water Charity, we completed our part of the project to provide water to everyone in Liberia and now look to achieving the same for Togo and The Gambia by 2023. We're stepping up our game in that partnership to fund Peace Corps projects throughout the world, including \$600,000 worth of projects with the Peace Corps Partnership Program. As the NPCA Community Fund grows, we will share success stories of completed projects. Affiliate group TCP Global targets small communities with zero-overhead microloans, currently in seven countries. We continue to look for other replicable RPCV programs.

Our 2019-2024 strategic plan includes the launch of several new initiatives: in particular, the change you can see. Our new base in Washington, Peace Corps Place will be a gathering place and a resource center for our community. Our longer term vision: the Peace Corps Community Center in the former historic Langston School building.

Adjournment: The 2019 NPCA Annual General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM Central Time.

Mary Owen-Thomas, NPCA Board Secretary

Attachment: [2019 Annual General Membership Meeting PowerPoint Presentation](#)