



ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Online via Zoom
September 25, 2021

Call to Order: NPCA Board of Directors Chair Maricarmen Smith-Martinez called the meeting to order at 11:37 AM Eastern Time. The Chair declared that a quorum was present.

Minutes of the 2020 Meeting: The motion to approve the minutes of the [NPCA 2020 Annual General Meeting](#) held on September 27, 2020 online via Zoom was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gretchen Upholt reported that NPCA's budget is growing every year. Operating results are scattered, but generally positive. Revenues from individual contributions and investments continue to grow, while earned income is declining. Liquid Unrestricted Net Assets (LUNA) is a measure of an organization's operating reserves (or safety net). Our LUNA is positive for the first time in five years, with a balance at the end of 2020 of \$615,601, which translates to about 3.2 months of operating reserves. Non-profit best practices are to have one to three months of cash on hand and a positive number of months of working capital; NPCA ended 2020 at 2.7 and 4.6, respectively.

President's Report: NPCA President & CEO Glenn Blumhorst began by highlighting three significant events that took place in recent days leading up to Peace Corps Connect and this Annual General Membership Meeting:

- Panel presentation hosted by Constituency for Africa and sponsored by NPCA: Strategies for Increasing African American Inclusion in the Peace Corps & International Careers
- Marking the Moment 60 years after the Peace Corps Act was signed into law on September 22, 1961
- Wreath laying ceremony at JFK's gravesite in honor of Peace Corps' 60th anniversary

He then provided key accomplishments over the past year in each of the three pillars of our work as a Peace Corps community.

Advocacy: Help the Peace Corps be its best.

- Past Peace Corps directors reach out to President Biden, express the need to grow the program
- It's time to give Peace Corps a raise, after six years of flat funding at \$410.5 million
- Our goal for FY2022: \$450 million to support Volunteer redeployment in a changed world (\$600 million by FY2025). The House of Representatives has proposed a budget of \$430 million. We are still waiting on the Senate.
- Our Peace Corps community members are sharing their ideas and expectations for a new vision for Peace Corps
- The main focus of our work is on the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2021

- How is the Peace Corps community getting the job done? By using our voices in Congress and in the media. Thank you!

Community: Empower members and affiliate groups to thrive.

- In March 2020, NPCA launched our bridge between Peace Corps service and a lifetime of Peace Corps ideals: Global Reentry
- Through the Global Reentry Program, NPCA helps returned Volunteers with readjustment at home after service, providing resources that make an impact in communities back home — and to overcome challenges and take the next steps toward healthy lives and successful careers following their Peace Corps service.
 - Career Services
 - Health and Well-being
 - Educational & Learning Opportunities
 - Continued Service Opportunities
- Our Affiliate Group Network has grown to 185 groups, coming together by country of service; cities, regions or workplaces; and around causes to tackle issues critical to our community.
- At the Affiliate Group Network Annual Meeting last week, the groups voted to award the Loret Miller Ruppe Award for Outstanding Community Service to the Peace Corps Community for Refugees
- Nearly 70 groups now use NPCA's Community Builder platform offering website hosting, membership management and technical support
- Through Peace Corps Community Connect, affiliate groups are expanding their reach and their engagement, because together we are stronger.

Service: Amplify the Peace Corps community's global social impact.

- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) are volunteering around the globe through our partnerships with the Farmer-to-Farmer program
- Through a relaunched NPCA Emergency Response Network, RPCVs are working as contact tracers at the state and local levels to mitigate the impact of COVID-19
- Other partnerships expand services to marginalized communities through TCP Global (affordable loans to micro-entrepreneurs) and Water Charity ("Water for Everyone" initiative)
- NPCA's Community Fund provided over \$40,000 in grants to more than 15 projects, supporting the unfinished business of evacuated Volunteers
- The 2021 Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service was awarded to Sherry Manning, the Founder and U.S. Executive Director of Global Seed Savers
- Please help us tell the story of service and impact by responding to our survey.
- We expanded distribution of WorldView magazine to reach key audiences, including as many evacuated Volunteers as we could with the print edition and beyond through WorldView digital

Looking ahead

- Spring 2022 anticipated opening of Peace Corps Place, the hub of the Peace Corps community
- "A Towering Task: The Story of the Peace Corps" is coming soon to PBS+
- The Museum of the Peace Corps Experience will have its initial home at Peace Corps Place
- The Peace Corps Commemorative is completing the final design process, now securing permits
- Key dates in March 2022:
 - Peace Corps Week March 1 - 5
 - Capitol Hill Advocacy Day March 3
 - Shriver Leadership Summit March 4 - 5

Glenn concluded by recognizing and thanking the many who make this all happen: staff, consultants, advocacy coordinators, pro bono supporters, interns, Peace Corps Connect sponsors, and affiliate groups. For Peace Corps Connect, a special thank you to the PCC Program Committee chaired by Martha Fedorowicz and Evelyn Ganzglass and Federal Conference for event production and hosting.

Adjournment: The 2021 NPCA Annual General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM Eastern Time.

Mary Owen-Thomas, NPCA Board Secretary

Note: Visit the [2021 AGMM event listing](#) on the NPCA website for the agenda and PowerPoint presentation.