

**National Peace Corps Association
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
McDonough School of Business
Georgetown University
Washington, DC
March 4, 2017**

Directors Present: Randolph Adams, J. Henry (Hank) Ambrose, Glenn Blumhorst (*ex officio*), Sandra Bunch, Juliana Essen, Patrick Fine, Janet Greig, Marjorie Harrison, Kathleen Long, Mary Owen, Susan Senecah, Maricarmen Smith-Martinez, Linda Stingl, Joby Taylor

Directors Participating Remotely: Angela Harris, Tai Sunnanon

Directors Absent with Apology: Tony Barclay, Jayne Booker, Corey Griffin

Staff and Fellows Present: J.M. Ascienzo (Government Relations), Anne Baker (Vice President), David Fields (Analyst), Megan Patrick (Communications), Jonathan Pearson (Advocacy), Amanda Silva (Community Fund and Partnerships), Kate Schwanhausser (Membership and Events)

Guests Present: David Arnold, Rulester Davis, Dennis Grubb, David Hunsberger, Gloria Levin, Kate Schachter, Maury Sterns, Patricia Wand

Call to Order – *Joby Taylor, Board Chair*

The Board Chair called the Meeting to order at 2:20 PM Eastern Time. A quorum was present.

Minutes Review – *The motion by Janet Greig to approve the December 12, 2016 minutes as published in the Board Book was seconded and carried.*

It was noted that the approved minutes of the September 25, 2016 meeting included the wrong set of Interim Actions. A corrected draft of the minutes was presented.

The motion by Hank Ambrose to approve the September 25, 2016 minutes as corrected was seconded and carried.

Interim Action by the Executive Committee – *Joby Taylor, Board Chair*

As provided in NPCA Policy 2015014M, the Executive Committee approved three applications for group affiliation.

EXCOM ACTION 1 – December 19, 2016

Resolved: that the Executive Committee of the NPCA Board of Directors approves the application of the **Women of Peace Corps Legacy** as an NPCA Affiliate Group.

The motion by Taylor was seconded and carried.

EXCOM ACTION 2 – January 30, 2017

Resolved: that the Executive Committee of the NPCA Board of Directors approves the application of the **Share Your Service: A Story-based Approach to Social Justice** as an NPCA Affiliate Group.

The motion by Taylor was seconded and carried.

EXCOM ACTION 3 – February 27, 2017

Resolved: that the Executive Committee of the NPCA Board of Directors approves the application of the **Friends of Peace Corps Senegal** as an NPCA Affiliate Group.

The motion by Taylor was seconded and carried.

President's Report – Glenn Blumhorst, NPCA President and CEO

NPCA's principal priorities during the first quarter of 2017 included the following:

- Positioning NPCA's advocacy program in the new political landscape
- Planning and development of National Days of Action
- Planning and development of Shriver Leadership Summit
- Planning of field-based awareness and fundraising events
- Continued onboarding of Affiliate Groups to SilkStart

Next few months critical for Peace Corps funding and will be a focus of our work.

Treasurer/Finance Committee Report – Patrick Fine, Treasurer

Preliminary financial statements show that NPCA ended 2016 with positive net assets, continuing a trend of operating with a significant positive balance. Revenue sources are more diversified. The organization is becoming more financially healthy.

The Finance Committee reviewed language in the Gift Policies to clarify that funds received through bequests are to be allocated to the Legacy Fund endowment and that unrestricted endowment gifts are to support core operational needs.

A motion by Patrick Fine on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve clarifications to Sections 3.g.i. and 3.h. of the Gift Policies as presented was carried unanimously.

At the December 2016 meeting, the Board agreed to examine our investment strategy to see how to respond to a request by the RPCVs for Environmental Action that the Global Leaders Fund divest from fossil fuel related investments. Following discussion by the Investment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee recommended that the investment policy be revised to incorporate the following provision:

Investment Responsibility

National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) maintains the highest ethical standards as an organization, including a strong commitment to socially responsible investing. NPCA supports the use of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) criteria to guide investment decisions. The use of these criteria is intended to align NPCA investments in companies whose business is consistent with the values and standards of the Peace Corps community. To this end, a fund serving the NPCA should avoid investing in companies that engage

in activities with negative social outcomes. In accordance with the application of ESG criteria, NPCA will exclude investments with companies whose principal business is:

- the exploitation, manufacture or sale of fossil fuel products
- the manufacture or sale of tobacco products

NPCA will bring the current investment portfolio into compliance with this policy as soon as possible, and no later than one year from the establishment of this policy (i.e., by March 31, 2018).

A motion by Patrick Fine on behalf of the Finance Committee that the NPCA approves the investment responsibility provision as presented was carried unanimously.

Governance Committee Report – *Hank Ambrose, Chair*

Three (3) board-elected and three (3) member-elected Directors complete their terms this year. None of those board-elected Directors will be eligible for election for full terms in 2017, but all three member-elected Directors are eligible for full terms. In addition, there is a board-elected seat to fill due to the vacancy created when Mal Warwick resigned from the board.

NPCA members who are interested in considering board or committee service are being asked to fill out a Board Interest Form. Elections will be held later this spring. Newly-elected board directors will take their seats at the Annual Board Meeting at Peace Corps Connect in August.

The Governance Committee has devoted numerous meetings, emails and phone calls to a consideration of the model for an NPCA Board to best meet our changing focus and needs, including a recommendation that each Member-elected Board position, as it next comes due for election, convert to an “at large” position.

Because of unreadiness, the Governance Committee moved to postpone a motion on the recommendation until the messaging could be clarified and outreach to the entire community carried out. The Board will hold a special meeting on March 27 to consider the recommendation.

Business and Development Committee Report – *Sandra Bunch, Chair*

The committee encouraged all Board Directors to consider hosting Shriver Dinners.

Policy and Advocacy Committee Report – *Sue Senecah, Chair*

The committee chair referred to the written report presented in the board book. National Days of Action are happening now. We need to get everyone out in force to protect Peace Corps.

Community Fund Steering Committee Report – *Glenn Blumhorst, Ex-Officio*

We have a good solid case for support and will be starting outreach in California in a couple of weeks. The committee is also recruiting for someone to chair.

Peace Corps Connect and NPCA Events Committee Report – *Glenn Blumhorst, Ex-Officio*

We need a broader board committee to look at a business model for events and Peace Corps Connect, including rotation, timing and guiding principles. Ideally, that model would be reviewed every five years.

A motion by Joby Taylor to rename the committee as a task force to begin work now and bring recommendations to the board after the next Peace Corps Connect was carried unanimously.

Awards Advisory Committee Report – *Tony Barclay, Chair*

The committee will be meeting later this month to look at how to identify and bring in more strong candidates.

Membership Committee Report – *Joby Taylor, Acting Chair*

This committee is still on hold to see if/how it could be repurposed.

Executive Session – *Joby Taylor, Board Chair*

Adjournment – *Joby Taylor, Board Chair*

It was moved, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 5:45 PM Eastern Time.

*Randolph Adams, Vice Chair
NPCA Board of Directors*