



****DRAFT Subject to Approval at 2023 AGNAM ****

AFFILIATE GROUP NETWORK ANNUAL MEETING (AGNAM)
via Zoom
August 27, 2022

Welcome and introduction – *Mary Owen-Thomas, NPCA Board Chair*

Mary welcomed attendees and introduced Dan Baker, who assumes the position of NPCA interim President and CEO, effective August 29, 2022.

Mary announced the creation of a Governance Reform subcommittee, led by Kristina Owens and John Evans.

Attendees honored affiliate group founders and leaders lost over the last year with a moment of silence.

Call to Order – *Kristina Owens, Affiliate Group Network Coordinator, NPCA Board of Directors*

Kristina called the meeting to order and reviewed the objectives of the Affiliate Group Network (AGN).

- To connect affiliate groups and to share best practices
- To provide group leadership with direct insight into NPCA capacity-building initiatives, projects, and opportunities
- To help groups stay connected throughout the year

Kristina presented the purpose of the meeting.

- To inform
- To reconnect
- To inspire

Participants used the meeting Chat to introduce themselves and their affiliate group(s) representation.

New Affiliate Groups – *Kristina Owens*

Welcome to new affiliates that have joined since the last meeting: RPCVs at DHS and LGBTQI+ RPCVs.

Approval of 2021 minutes – *Kristina Owens*

Minutes of the [2021 AGNAM](#) had been circulated electronically in advance. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Kristina Owens and seconded by Maggie Reuter, then approved. (See Appendix for registered voting delegates)

Advocacy Report – *Jonathan Pearson, NPCA Advocacy Director*

Jonathan introduced the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1456 in the House; S. 4466 in the Senate), which has been approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Jonathan asked for help writing letters to Congress in support of this bill and working with NPCA to coordinate action meetings through December.

NPCA Task Force Reports – *Beto Whitaker and Evelyn Ganzglass, NPCA Board Directors*

Beto and Evelyn provided updates on the NPCA Task Forces.

The Community Concerns Task Force made the following recommendations to the Board.

- Create a Governance Reform Committee
- Convene affiliate group meetings to gather community input
- Better define the role of directors under the current governance structure
- Clarify existing avenues for resolution of complaints
- Strengthen contracting policies, onboarding, and accountability processes.

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force made the following recommendations to the Board.

- Establish a standing DEI Committee
- Establish a DEI Advisory composed of a larger group of internal and external stakeholders
- Conduct unconscious bias training for the Board and RPCV community
- Enhance HR policies and organizational culture by ensuring the establishment and articulation of processes in the HR Employee Handbook

Loret Miller Ruppe Award Nominee Presentations – *Kristina Owens*

Finalists for the 2022 Loret Miller Ruppe Award for Outstanding Community Service were announced.

- RPCVs of Wisconsin - Madison
- RPCVs for Environmental Action
- A joint project by RPCV Alliance for Ukraine, Friends of Moldova, and Partnering for Peace: Peace Corps Friends of Rotary

Videos prepared by each nominee were presented, followed by breakout sessions to allow nominees to share additional information. The winner will be announced at NPCA's Annual General Membership Meeting on September 24, 2022.

Affiliate Group Network Strengthening Presentation – *Arianna Richard, Affiliate Group Network Program Manager, NPCA*

Arianna presented an overview of NPCA's past work to strengthen the AGN and goals to support ongoing collaboration among groups. The future focus will be on creating a more connected network, through two steps.

1. Building infrastructure that better facilitates community connection and uses a more intersectional approach to tackling important issues
2. Improve information sharing to promote sustained collaboration between affiliate groups

To achieve this goal, Arianna introduced the Affiliate Group Network Forum¹, which will bring together representatives from different types of affiliate groups, NPCA Board members, and NPCA staff to facilitate communication and enhance collaboration across our community.

¹ The Affiliate Group Network Forum is now called the Affiliate Group Network Advisory Committee, as defined in NPCA bylaws.

Collaboration for Change: Climate Change and Poverty Presentation – *Karyne Bury, Global Allies Program: Partners Ending Poverty with RESULTS*

Karyne presented a model for collaboration, demonstrated by the partnership between Global Allies Program and RPCVs for Environmental Action. The goal of such partnerships is to increase collective impact on important issues and to achieve common goals by sharing knowledge, resources, and networks.

Karyne introduced Meredith Miller Vostrejs from RPCVs for Environmental Action and Carissa Patrone Maikuri from Project Drawdown to further describe the goals and initiatives of the partnership.

Participant Reports on Breakout Discussions

1. Country of Service (Recent/Current)

Major Topics

- Impact of the generational gap between volunteers with varying years of service
- Influence of large-scale world events in uniting and catalyzing younger generations of volunteers

2. Country of Service (Past)

Key Takeaways

- Multiple reasons for the discontinuation of service
 - Change in government, religious differences, lack of communication, growth of wealth in some countries that negates the need for Peace Corps to return
 - Some countries might like to reestablish Peace Corps but have not been able to re-initiate contact
- Some groups where Peace Corps no longer serves establish projects with other partner organizations

3. Geographic Groups

Major Topics

- Many state and regional groups face challenges serving members across vast geographic areas.
- How do we increase engagement and board representation from areas where the population may be smaller or not centrally located.

4. Cause-related, Workplace, and Affinity groups

Major Topics

- Intersectionality of issues offers opportunities for groups to collaborate to increase social impact.
- Federal WAGs are uniquely positioned to share access and insights relevant to other groups.

Key Takeaways

- An increase in collaboration among groups could help increase engagement and fasttrack solutions for issues that are intersectional to the mission of multiple groups.

Adjournment – *Kristina Owens*

Kristina moved to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was concluded.

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A recording of the meeting was subsequently posted on the NPCA unlisted YouTube channel, [here](#).

Affiliate Group Registered Voting Delegates

Affiliate Group

Amigos de Bolivia y Peru
Amigos de Honduras
Cincinnati Area Returned Volunteers
FEMA RPCV
Fiends of Kenya
Friends of Afghanistan
Friends of Botswana
Friends of Colombia
Friends of Guinea
Friends of India
Friends of Jordan
Friends of Kenya
Friends of Liberia
Friends of Malaysia
Friends of Micronesia
Friends of Moldova
Friends of Morocco
Friends of Namibia International
Friends of Niger
Friends of Paraguay
Friends of the Dominican Republic
Friends of Togo
Global Allies Program: Partners Ending Poverty with RESULTS
Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
LGBTQI+ RPCV Affiliate Group
Museum of the Peace Corps Experience
NorCal PCA
NoVa RPCV
Partnering for Peace
Peace Corps Association of Utah
Peace Corps Community for Refugees
Peace Corps Alliance for Intercultural Understanding
RPCV Alliance for Ukraine
RPCV NJ
RPCV of Buffalo & Western New York
RPCV of Colorado
RPCV Oral History Project
RPCVs at DHS
RPCVs for Environmental Action
RPCVs of Wisconsin-Madison
SEAPAX
TCP Global

Delegate

Gloria Levin
Loren Hintz
Susan Robinson
Chau Lai
Carolyn Kari
Terry Dougherty
Norman Spurling
Patricia A. Wand
Lillian Mattiaccio
Roger Olson
Ken Finley
Carolyn Kari
Rebecca Martinez
Thaine H. Allison Jr
Jonathan Pearson
Courtney Jackson
Tim Resch
Cedar Wolf
John Baird
Maggie Reuter
Kim Herman
Martin Havlovic
Karyne Bury
John Bigelow
Carey Johnson
Patricia Wand
Danice Guzman
Lisa Martin
Steve Werner
Vicky Wason
Peter Deekle
Anthony Agnello
Cortney Copeland
Violet Espila
Brett Claydon
Charlie Hunt
Evelyn Ganzglass
Jonathan Keenan
Kate Schachter
Martin Havlovic
Kathleen Sebastian
Helene Dudley