



**Board of Directors Meeting
February 6, 2018**

Present: Rev. Joe Auslander (UMCOR), Nathan Boor (Foodlink), Nicholas Croce (NYVOAD), Gail Farnham (PDA), Peter Gudaitis (NYDIS), Rich Hajeris (ARC), Zack Hodgson (SA), Jamie Marcella (NYS DHSES), Jan Tyson (Presbyterian Church), C. Wood

Finances/Governance:

Invoices have been sent and payments are trickling in. There have been some challenges to how members paid in the past, due to organization types and other factors. Hoping that most will have paid by the annual meeting in April. Discussion followed, on questions of how statewide networks should join/pay - i.e. Feeding America and food banks. Some food banks expected to join individually. Likewise, American Red Cross is a single organization with regional chapters.

NECHAMA application for membership reviewed and approved. They are in the process of establishing an office in New York, possibly Albany or New York City.

Further discussion re. National VOAD members considered for membership and whether a national organization should have some presence in New York State as well as the capacity to serve in New York.

Nick will draft a policy to guide the Board on decision-making for how these types of organizations should be considered. Once the policy is approved, information will be added to the application form.

A review of the bylaws is underway, with approval scheduled for April annual meeting. The general goal is to align the bylaws with our capacity - not as an independent nonprofit but relying on NYDIS as fiscal agent (approved by Board).

Nathan announced his resignation from the Board due to his resignation from Foodlink. Discussion followed including a plan to connect with Foodlink to encourage their continued participation on the Board. Rich agreed to serve as vice president and Zach agreed to serve as treasurer through April's elections (approved by Board).

All current Board members expressed willingness to be nominated to the slate of officers for the April election. Nick will investigate the question of whether a member not employed by a member organization may serve on the Board. Nominations will be accepted from the floor as well.

Evacuee Sitreps:

A conference call was held three weeks ago to collect hurricane refugee streps, primarily impacting New York City (Spanish Harlem) and Rochester. Information about Buffalo, Utica, and Albany not readily available but Board members offered to help make the connections with activities in those areas. American Red Cross will check with its chapters statewide.

All NYVOAD sitreps on evacuees can be found at:
<https://nyvoad.communityos.org/cms/node/112>

Conference:

Invitations were sent last week for the Collaborative Coalitions Conference, and plans are in place for NYVOAD meeting of the Board and Local VOAD chairs the preceding day. Board members should plan to arrive in time for lunch and expect afternoon meeting followed by dinner. Chairs of the regional VOADs will be invited. Agenda to include elections, priorities for 2018-19 and information about building the capacity of the regional VOADs. It is hoped that a rep from National VOAD will be able to attend.

Discussion followed on the status of the Capital Region COAD which is in the process of reorganizing/organizing, covering Schenectady, Rensselaer, and Albany Counties. The recent meeting was attended by 45 +/- people covering overview and mission. The group will meet again on March 21st to decide if it will officially form, which would replace the Albany DRRC.

Rochester Regional VOAD is struggling to re-establish its critical mass. Board members suggested possible contacts to involve in the discussion, including Salvation Army, Red Cross, LDR, and others.

Activation Matrix:

Nick is working on a draft "Activation Matrix" which will be designed to guide regional VOADs' coordination with EMO, DHSES, NYVOAD and National VOAD.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting scheduled for March 6, 2018, 10:00 - 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wood
Secretary