

VMCTA Education & Certification Committee
January 25, 2019 • 12:30 pm
Barre Town Offices

PRESENT: Tracy Borst (Thetford), Donna Kelty (Barre Town), Heidi Racht (Huntington), Patti Lewis (Fayston), Clyde Jenne (Hartland)

VIA SPEAKERPHONE: Diane Judd (Holland), Deb Beckett (Williston), LaDonna Dunn (Westfield)

ABSENT: Deb Hawkins (Pawlet)

ALSO PRESENT: Donna Kinville (South Burlington) via speakerphone

MINUTES: Patti Lewis / Heidi Racht

The meeting was called to order at 12:38 pm, chaired by Tracy Borst.

Tracy Borst reviewed agenda and all agreed to allow Donna Kinville to speak first.

Kinville confirmed the VMCTA Annual meeting will be September 12 and 13 at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee. The contract is for one year.

She went on to speak of a group called Democracy Works and a one-day conference she had participated in in Washington. She was pleasantly surprised to hear discussion dealing with not only voter interests but election security, poll worker, money and security issues, differences between rural and city elections, and finding ways to promote engagement. She brought up the idea that this group might present at the annual meeting.

The Vermont SOS office has limited and non-varying training possibilities and this might be a good alternative. No election training is mandatory for 2019 but is for 2020. However, some thought that training the year prior to an election year is a better scenario. Kinville talked of shifting focus of SOS trainings (and their expectation of training time at each annual meeting) from “they are doing us a favor” to “we are doing them a favor.” Kinville will forward Democracy Works information and Borst will forward to the rest of the committee for consideration.

COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR, SECRETARY

MOTION: In the absence of volunteers, Patti Lewis nominated Deb Beckett as VC and Heidi Racht as Secretary; second by Clyde Jenne. Both lucky nominees agreed to serve. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2018

Changes were made to the minutes, as follows:

Donna Kelty was added to the attendance; Diane Judd was added to the attendance and removed from the speakerphone attendance; LaDonna Dunn was absent.

Other minor changes were made.

MOTION: Donna Kelty moved to approve as amended; seconded by Patti Lewis. Approved unanimously.

SPRING TRAINING

The Committee discussed the venues for the Spring training. Overall, the two sites – Danville and West Rutland, have worked quite well, but it is a good idea to move the locations around, so as to reach attendees, who may need a closer site. Georgette Wolf-Ludwig has offered the newly renovated Fairlee Town Hall and the Committee decided to keep one venue this year, so as to not have too many new changes. LaDonna Dunn will contact the Danville TC Office staff and explain the changes with an emphasis on how much the VMCTA appreciated the hospitality and the change was part of the cyclical location strategy. Clyde Jenne will contact West Rutland and confirm the site.

The trainings will be two weeks apart on April 18 (Fairlee) and May 2 (West Rutland).

After a bit of lively discussion, the Committee came up with the following potential presenters (the name of the committee member contact follows in parenthesis)

Clerks

Vitals & Licensing: Carol Dawes (Borst)

Recording: (Joyce Mazzucco (Racht)

Elections: Heidi Racht

Discussion – The Things Nobody Told You: Donna Kelty/Diane Judd

Treasurers

Reports & Audits: Deb Beckett

Tax Collection - Duties & Responsibilities: Bobbie Brimblecomb (Lewis)

Cash Handling & Ethics: Stacey Jewell (Lewis)

Roundtable – What Every Treasurer Should Know: Sue Johnson & others (Racht)

Racht will put together the postcard.

Judd will collect the registrations and the checks.

Dunn will organize the swap table

2019 Annual Meeting in September 12 & 13

Free flowing discussion around presenters and topics:

Municipal Law- Jim Barlow (Lewis)

Practical Planning for Disaster – grants, plans for records management – Meghan Wheaton-Book / Carol Dawes (Kelty)

Tax Management – investing, cash flow, maximizing interest earnings / Jeff Fothergill (Kelty)

High Points of Tax Collection / Following the Money; date and time, steps, when does it get turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector / Jayce Mazzucco (Borst)

General Speakers

Heather Shouldice

Chris Pudlinski

Anne Ueker

Yvette Murry

\$3500 is budgeted / Community National Bank (CNB) sponsorship \$2500

Discuss Certification applications/promotion and deadline.

Minor update to instructions with emphasis on the NEMCI requirement and timing for certification. Also, separate form for PR information.

Racht will do basic changes and bring to next meeting – or send out before meeting.

Set Next Meeting Date(s):

Monday, February 25, 9 am, Barre Town.

Tuesday, March 26, 9 am, Barre Town

Adjournment:

Patty Lewis moved to adjourn; Clyde Jenne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.