

CoCo meeting 9/9/2021

Meeting held via Zoom, members present: Josh Wronski director, Chris Brimmer Secretary, Anthony Polinia Chair, Mariel Bias vice chair, Martha Abbott assistant treasurer, Calvin Stanton, Cindy Weed, Tanya Vyhovsky, Zachariah Watson, Adam Norton. Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm.

- 1) Anthony opened the discussion of the reorganization effort and the outreach effort that requires. Lisa Gerlach is down to 10 hours a week and there is a question as to whether she can help. Martha joined the meeting and we moved into the financial questions.
- 2) Martha detailed our money issues and put the question on the table as to whether we can keep Lisa even at 10 hours. We have a \$1200 gap which is smaller than historic levels between operating and monthly but we need to close. There are some ongoing fundraising efforts but it is early to tell how that will go. The crisis is not looking as bad as it did when the issue was called but none the less this is a continuing issue. Cindy is concerned about the baseline operational budget vs. cashflow and our fundraising capacity to meet that baseline. Anthony said that we will always have ups and downs depending on the cycle but we do need to clear the backlog. Zach asked for Josh's point of view, he says that we should keep the status quo as long as we can, our legislature members appreciate the help the Lisa provides and he would be hard pressed to fill the gap. Chris asked about the monthlies, Josh said we have put the touch on them but possibly we have hit the bottom and that the effort is to increase our monthlies. Martha did say we are in a better position that we have been historically, she thinks it would be a mistake to make a drastic change based on a momentary situation. Martha wants a better effort made at reorg to raise funds. Cindy asked what amount needed to be raised to keep Lisa on the payroll by the end of the month. Martha said \$6600 by the end of the month would get us through the end of December. Marielle asked if we should think about putting Lisa on a contract basis to manage the payroll costs. Discussion moved into keeping Lisa at 10 hours a week, the perils of losing a dedicated staffer, and the use of resources to keep her on till the last moment. Tanya wants a job description, she would like to start hiring to fill specific positions rather than hiring people we like and finding work for them to do. Anthony wants us to come back at the end of the month and make decisions at that point, Zach made a motion that we keep Lisa on 10 hours a week till through the end of reorg and that the executive committee has the authority to make decisions about Lisa's employment through the end of reorg, Anthony seconded, motion carries 5-2 with one abstention.
- 3) Anthony moved into reorg. Josh gave an update, 21 have set a date 22 town are moving that way, 4 very unlikely, 12 are still outstanding. Covid has complicated things and the rules are confusing with hybrid meetings. We are losing some of our long standing members. That said while he doesn't think we will hit our peak of 60 he is confident of 45-50 which meets the threshold. Josh says he could use some call help especially at the county level. Anthony thinks CoCo members should at least be organizing their own towns. CoCo reviewed current member efforts and commitments. Tanya would like to see a more targeted approach to districts and towns in light of the shifts coming with the end of the epidemic and reformation of the economy and Federal money.
- 4) A doodle will go out to set the date for the next CoCo which has to be warned 7 days out.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm