

**Resolve New England, Inc.**  
**Board Meeting**  
**November 28, 2022, at 6 p.m. EST**

The Q4 meeting of the Board of Directors of Resolve New England, Inc., a Massachusetts nonprofit corporation ("RNE"), was held by Zoom at 6 p.m. EST on November 28, 2022.

Upon notice duly given, the following Directors, constituting a quorum, were present by Zoom or phone:

Board Members present:

President - Jennifer Redmond; Vice President - Chrissy Hanisco

Catherine Tucker, Jill Kniebel, Lauren Wilson, Dana Solomon, Aaron Styer, LaMone Downey Leonard, Robyn Gallagher, Aprill Lane (by phone), Lee Michael McLean

Board Members not present: Lisa Rosenthal; Mary Zanol; Ben Lannon; Kerry Kavanaugh

Invited guests also present during the regular meeting were Kate Weldon LeBlanc and Emily Lindblad (RNE staff), Monique DeSimone (Brandeis board fellow), Sarah Glatt (Paper Crane), and Firdaus Faiz (Paper Crane intern from BU.)

Attendees at the meeting could hear, be heard and speak with each other throughout the meeting.

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

**B. On motion made and seconded, minutes from September 2022 Board meeting were approved.**

**C. Strategic plan: Sarah Glatt, Paper Crane Associates  
(Full Presentation is saved on Board Page of RNE Website under November meeting)**

Sarah presented an update on the RNE strategic planning process, with a focus on the strategic goals that are emerging for discussion (not decision making) tonight. Particular discussion points included:

- What are the specific action steps to move these strategic goals forward? (The next step in the process will be adding priorities under each goal).
- There was some concern raised about budgeting based on projected increases in revenue vs. our typical more conservative approach, which was discussed.
- There are ways to make the Walk and Conference more profitable, it isn't all adding new things.
- What are ways that RNE's fundraising can grow in the coming year(s)?
- Separate but tangled relationship with RESOLVE seems to be even more tangled, and time to transition more fully away. Name change is a likely next step, in the meantime we will continue to verbally distinguish when we talk to people. There is no financial share between the organizations. We will ask RESOLVE not to list our programs as their

own (such as on the state scorecards), although they may still list our groups on their website. This also benefits them if they do not have a similar offering, such as Cancer and Fertility group.

**D. Treasurer's Report/2023 Budget**

**(Proposed Budget, Budget Memo, and January-September Budget vs. Actual report are all saved on Board Page of RNE Website under November meeting for review)**

All are welcome to reach out to Kate or Lisa with any questions. We have no concerns about RNE's current financial position.

The Board will not be voting on the budget tonight as it was only completed and shared today. We plan to vote in December. Shout out to the Finance committee and particularly to Lisa as Treasurer for working towards the goal of an approved budget prior to the new year starting.

Kate walked members through the Budget memo. This budget is more aspirational than we usually do but still realistic. RNE is not making wild projections without rationale (i.e. we are budgeting for both the expense of 3 months of a grant researcher/writer AND increased grant revenue).

**E. Board Update – Jennifer**

We will table the Give/Get document to a future meeting as it was inadvertently not shared in advance of this meeting. Jennifer will be sharing this by email.

Giving Tuesday is tomorrow. If anyone has not yet donated this year, or wishes to give again, please do so! If anyone is curious about where you are with the Give/Get for this year, feel free to reach out to Kate or Jennifer. In future years we plan to provide this update proactively to all Board members.

Thank you to Monique, whose Board Fellowship ends in December. RNE plans to have another Board Fellow in 2023, but Monique will be missed!

Heartfelt gratitude and goodbye to Robyn, who has resigned from the Board to spend more time with her family. Robyn has helped RNE so much, particularly in growing our fundraising efforts and with peer support. Thank you Robyn!!

Dana will be the Chair of Development committee (thank you Dana!).

**F. Executive Director Report**

RNE has hired a lobbyist in Vermont to help RNE lead an effort to pass a fertility insurance bill there. It might be a marathon and not a sprint (i.e. they have a very short legislative session), but we are looking forward to this campaign. Vermont is now the last state in New England to pass such legislation (and when people in Vermont have heard this, they are upset and surprised, since they are such a progressive state).

RNE also plans to contract with our Maine lobbyists again because the law there does not take effect until 1/1/24 and "rulemaking" will be done to determine the details of implementation.

None of our MA bills passed so we will be refiling many of them and working on others as well. Still trying to get the PCOS bill passed before year end.

Emily provided a brief overview of the RNE conference (while we work on a full recap). This year's virtual conference had more attendees and more engagement than in 2021 so it felt successful. There was discussion about if the 2023 RNE conference is live (30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conference) than we also want to make sure there is online content for those that can't join in person - if not all then some part of it (and/or other content tailored to be shared by video).

Thank you to Catherine and Aaron (and the other panelists) for a great panel discussion at the RNE conference about fertility and family building post-Dobbs. Also, shout out to Catherine for an op-ed she authored that was published in New Hampshire newspaper, which raised concerns because Senate candidate Don Bolduc who had said he was not opposed to a national ban on IVF! He did not win the election.

#### **G. Committee Reports**

Jennifer shared an update from the Nominating committee, which has set a goal of adding two new Board members in Q1 of 2023. Additional board members will be voted on at the June meeting. If anyone has potential candidates, please contact Jennifer.

We have discussed adding posts seeking new board members on more websites, including the non-profit networks in the New England states.

Separately we have discussed adding board member bios to the RNE website in the new year (perhaps photos too).

Other committee reports are on the Board website.

Adjourned 7:52pm EST.