



Peace Corps visioning potluck Feb. 11, 2025

Columbia Public Library

On February 11, 2025, members of the Central Missouri RPCV group, their families, and friends gathered in the Friends' room of the Columbia Public Library for a potluck and Peace Corp-style visioning session. The goal of the event was "to discuss our vision for the Mid-Mo RPCV group: What is the future of this organization? What are we willing to contribute to make our vision reality?" More than 25 community members participated in the event.

After dining, we reviewed the group's mission, vision, and goals, and engaged in a participatory facilitated discussion to enumerate and prioritize the group's activities. This document summarizes the results of that process and makes recommendations for action.

Individual participants who were interested in leading specific efforts are noted below.

- If you see your name listed below, get movin'!!
- If you don't see your name below but want to help, we can put you in touch with the designated leader.
- Items without names... might not happen!?! (Want to step up?)

Recommendation: Based on our visioning session, we recommend that the Central Missouri RPCV group update the bylaws to reflect the top priorities of the current group members:

1. Connect with other Mid-Mo RPCVs through regular gatherings
2. Service to the Mid-Mo community and to the PC community
3. Promote Peace Corps locally/ nationally

Priorities as discussed Feb. 11, 2025:

1. Connect with other Mid-Mo RPCVs through regular gatherings
 - a. Potlucks, dinners, happy hours, book club **Megan, Don (book club), Lisa (potlucks/ book club), Pat & Elena (potlucks)*******
 - i. It would be good to offer a mix of hosted and non-hosted events (potlucks, happy hours in public)
 - ii. Kid/ family friendly events—make it clear when our events are/are not
 - b. Storytelling event **Caleb, Mike B, Jeff *******
 - c. Database of RPCVs: **Ashlee*******
 - d. Newsletter: **Erin*******
 - e. Regional meetup ** **Megan**
2. Service to the Mid-Mo community and to the PC community
 - a. Ongoing Loaves & Fishes **Caleb, Lisa, Steve (etc) *******
 - b. Elm Street cleanup **Don, Stacey *******
 - c. Small one-off events of interest
 - d. Fundraise for PC grants: Trivia night **Erin*****
3. Promote Peace Corps locally/ nationally
 - a. Panels at high schools and colleges **Mike B ***
 - b. Maintain MU connections – Honors college, CAFNR **Don, Alec, Shannon, Kerry, Dennis*******
 - c. Connect with bigwigs
 - d. Revitalize PC Prep? ***
 - e. Table at Earth Day **Steve**
 - f. Table at job fairs*
 - g. Advocacy
 - h. Maintain affiliation with NPCA

Keeping our organization afloat: Admin-related ideas

1. We are supportive of maintaining 501c3 status.
2. Elect/appoint new board members: Potential new board members: **Maggie, Stacey W., Megan**
 - a. When do board elections happen? Can we call a special election to expedite this? Board members, can you make this happen?
 - b. For newsletter/social events, we need broader access to the group email list.
 - i. Board: who has this information? Can you share it with Megan and Erin to enable group communication?

*Each asterisk indicates ~one “sticker” of support.



Submitted by Caleb O'Brien and Lisa Groshong
Feb. 23, 2025