

February 2023

THE
REACT
ER
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.



**PRESIDENT'S
DAY**



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Editor's Position

REACT International is looking for a Editor for The *REACT*er! This position offers a nominal salary, which will be determined at the time of hire. The successful candidate will have excellent writing skills, the ability to collect information and news, particularly Team News, for the magazine, and be able to work either with Adobe InDesign, Adobe Page-maker. The *REACT*er is the primary communications tool between the members and *REACT* International and so plays a very important part in the organization.

Contact *REACT* International Office at (301) 316-2900 or email at RI.HQ@REACTIntl.org



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John Capodanno
Editor

DEADLINE: 15th of the Month
prior to publication (i.e: 7
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REGION 6
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meet **OUR**
OFFICERS

**REACT International, Inc.,
Officers**



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President
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Chris Wiackley
Executive VP
New York



Lorinda Fong
Secretary
California



Russ Dunn
Treasurer
Idaho

By-Laws?

Stanton Walters
Chairman,
Bylaws, Policies and Publications Committee



Constitution & Bylaws

There are many organizations in the world. Some are very informal like the neighborhood quilting group or a few couples who meet to play cards once a week. Other organizations are very formal like library systems, government agencies and public corporations. And we have every kind of organization in-between. The ladies quilting group does not need much in the way of leadership. But larger entities like home owners associations, and other corporations that have organized governance by boards and committees need something to prevent total chaos at meetings.

This is most often often accomplished using rules of order in association Bylaws. An organization's Bylaws describe the various reasons for existing, who will be the membership of the organization, who will govern and how they will govern.

If an entity is incorporated under state law, they will have Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. If an entity is not incorporated, then a Constitution is used in place of Article of Incorporation. These documents work together to describe the reason for existing and how the entity will be governed during its life.

State laws usually govern what is included in Articles of Incorporation. Unincorporated entities don't need a constitution but its good to have one. All applicants for a *REACT* International, Inc. Team charter are required to provide Articles of Incorporation or a Constitution along with Bylaws upon approval of their team name.

This demonstrates there is leadership and order within the applicant organization and allows *REACT* International, Inc to maintain its compliance with IRS rules for its tax exempt status. Teams that do not have their own tax emt status can inherit that status under a 1972 ruling between *REACT* International, Inc. and the IRS.

That's all for now. I hope to make this the first of a series of informative articles.



REACT Nariva/Mayaro County Renovates Local Bus Shelter

Submitted by Franklyn Maraj, Team President

REACT Team 6009 Nariva/Mayaro County had built four Bus Shelters in the community to serve school children and citizens, by shading them from the elements in the tropical climate of Trinidad and Tobago.

On Saturday 4th February 2023, the shelter located at the St. Therese R.C. Primary School, Naparima Mayaro Road, Rio Claro was refurbished. The works completed included:

- Removal of deteriorated galvanize sheets on roof and re-sheeting,
- Rust removal and re-painting of the structures, and
- Sanitization of the immediate surroundings.

The project commenced at 7:30 a.m. and ended at 12:30 p.m.

Eight persons attended to volunteer their services. Present were four members of the Team, namely,

- Balchan Khaloo
- Rupnarine Mahadeo
- Franklyn Maraj
- Gary Dookeran

Four community members also joined to assist. A total of 22 man hours was volunteered. Materials and supplies were donated by members of the Team. There was a great level of satisfaction upon the completion of the project and members pledged to complete refurbishment works on the other bus shelters during the upcoming months.



New Teams in Region 9

Submitted by: Ravindranath “Robby” Goswami, 9Y4R/NZ4RG, Region 9 Director

REACT should be in every territory around the world!

Given the organization’s motto of “*Public Service Through Communications*”, the service provided by *REACT* should be embedded in every community around the globe. Communication is needed for public service events – cultural, sporting, etc. and is critical for emergencies and disasters. *REACT* provides a unique opportunity for any citizen of any Country to volunteer to provide communications to meet these needs.

REACT operates on the basis of chartered Teams. To become a member of *REACT*, this is achieved by joining (or starting) a *REACT* Team.

If you are reading this article and are not a member, and there are no Teams nearby, consider starting one. It takes just 3 persons. A quick thumb through The *REACT*er magazines or by browsing the various social media sites of Teams should give a good idea of the purpose and activities undertaken by members. While communications underpin *REACT* activities, Team activities can vary by geographic and local circumstances. Some Teams do various public service events such as races (walkathons, marathons, cycle races, etc.). In contrast, others are more geared towards emergency communications, working closely with served agencies and first responders.

Being a *REACT* member requires that you give of yourself, your time, talent, and effort, in order to fulfill the organization’s mandate. It is not often easy. However, if you like to give back to your community or looking for an opportunity to serve, *REACT* can be the avenue. Apart from providing communications, getting involved in Team administration is also encouraged. There are annual dues, and IDs are issued to each member every year. Recruitment of new members for existing Teams, as well as chartering new Teams, are both necessary to keep the organization moving forward and with new and fresh innovations.

In 2023, Region 9 (all areas outside of the United States of America) saw two new Teams being chartered.

For the first time, a Team was chartered in India, Team 6274 Tripura India *REACT*. The convenor is Mr. Arup Dhar. In Trinidad and Tobago, which already has several Teams, the 10th Team, Team 6278 *REACT* County St. Patrick TT, was formed. The convenor is Mrs. Angela Henry-Small, who is no stranger to *REACT*. Thanks to both convenors for their leadership. On the following page, we have maps to show the general locations of the new Teams. We will hear more about these two new Teams in the coming months.

We warmly welcome both Teams and their members.

Let’s *REACT*!



World Map Showing Locations of India and Trinidad and Tobago



Map of India



Map of Trinidad and Tobago

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Region One

Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

Hello Region One Teams and Members,

Allow me to introduce myself, John Mahon in Massachusetts as the recently appointed Director for Region 1 to fill the remainder of the current term, ending in June, 2024. As some of you may know, our previous Director, Warren Deitz and his Team have elected to surrender their *REACT International Inc.*[®] Team Charter. Per our *REACT* Bylaws, all Director's must be a member of a Team in good standing. With the surrendering of the Team Charter Mr. Deitz is not eligible to serve in any official capacity.

The Director's seat is not new to me. I opted to not seek reelection in 2021 due to a number of personal reasons and other pursuits of interest. I have always offered a helping hand to the office staff with whatever I can do to help. Having been in the REACT program since the Blizzard of '78', serving in many positions, from the team level to REACT International operations, has certainly been educational to say the least.

One of the biggest member complaints is not being able to reach or speak with the Directors of our organization, to the point that it has caused the loss of Teams and members, not Regionally, but Nationally. During my 2018-2021 term as Director, one of the frustrations was the high number of Members and Teams with inaccurate contact information. There will be continued efforts to use the contact information you provide during renewals or updates, but I invite you to contact me with any and all questions, concerns and especially any ideas to help us grow our Auxiliary Communication Service to our Communities.

I have also been asked to chair the Training & Development Committee. The lack of progress, structure or updates with this committee lead to the discovery of the disqualifying events of previous chairman. It was acknowledged that he did not have interest in the training aspect. This is a requirement to maintain standards throughout all Auxiliary Communication Disciplines, be it ARRL, ARES, RACES, MARS, Salvation Army or even GMRS radio operators. None of whom can be effective if we do not speak the same language.

Finally, I am including both the official *REACT* International methods of contact, as well as personal methods through my local team. There are eight ways for you to reach and talk to, at or with me. Try one or all of them, especially the Winlink system, which is new for me, again.

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SUBMITTING **TEAM NEWS** Is **EASY!**

Just follow this guideline...

NAME of Person Reporting— **TEAM NUMBER**— **TEAM LOCATION**

DESCRIPTION of **ACTIVITIES** (Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How)

Provide this info for each event in your report

INCLUDE PICTURES—attach them to your email—don't send .PDFs

(Caption: **WHO**, **WHAT** and **WHERE** each picture shows)

NAME of Photographer

SEND the entire report (with pictures attached) to:

EDITOR@THEREACTER.COM

SEE HOW EASY THAT WAS?

So Easy, even a caveman could do it! (sorry, Geico, I couldn't resist)



MINUTES
REACT International
Special Board Meeting
January 18, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM, PDT via Zoom teleconference. by Chairman Capodanno, Minutes Taken by Recording.

Directors:

R1 – Vacant
R2 – Vacant
R3 – Joe Zych - Present
R4 – Matthew Vizzuso - Absent
R5 – Vacant
R6 – Vacant
R7 – Jerry Jones – Present
R8 – John Capodanno - Present
R9 – Ravindranath Goswami – Present

Officers:

President – John Capodanno - Present
Executive Vice President – Vacant
Secretary – Vacant
Assistant Secretary – Vacant
Treasurer – Russ Dunn - Absent
Assistant Treasurer – Vacant

Guests Present:

John Mahon, Mary Hicks, Christopher Wiackley, Stan Walters

It was confirmed that a Quorum was established.

Agenda

Director Zych moved to accept the agenda, second by Director Capodanno.

R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Meeting minutes

Director Capodanno moved to approve the minutes from August 28, 2022, second by Director Jones.

R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Director Capodanno moved to approve the minutes from December 06, 2022, second by Director Zych.

R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Announcements

REACT International investigation found that Duchess/Putnam County *REACT* accepted the donation of Duchess-Putnam County vehicles, an ambulance and Chevy Tahoe. The Team was supposed to destroy the municipal registration plates and register the vehicles in the team's name and get their own insurance. *REACT* requested a response by January 07, 2023. An Email was received from Duchess-Putnam County Team 4938 on January 17, 2023, announcing their intent to surrender the Team Charter alleging a vague lack of transparency of *REACT* International without specifically citing a single complaint. The surrendering of the Team Charter is a disqualifying event preventing Mr. Deitz from continuing as a director or in any capacity for *REACT* International.

An Email was received from John Soto on November 03, 2022, questioning the discrepancies between proposed policy 1-03 versus the final version; methods for dating business communications; postal mail time and date stamps within twenty-four hours of drop off; parcels sent overnight by carrier; an incoherent rambling of policy 3-06 from 2015 where the Board of Directors passed the propose changes, without any specific point or question being asked; 2015 membership dues was answered by noting administration fee was dropped as found in the September 11, 2014, *REACT*er. The change in address from Suitland, MD to Glendale, CA was questioned, and another rambling of the release of corporate documents.

A letter from John Soto dated September 26, 2022, alleging “somewhat strange manner, somewhat violent threats unbecoming” from Facebook content. Mr. Soto interpreted his inability to research, obtain and read material in the public realm as a conspiracy by the organization to hide financials, regardless of the annual postings at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website.

A letter from John Soto dated October 02, 2022, calling for President Capodanno “immediately” respond to, and comply with, his demands within one week regarding the demands.

An Email was received from John Soto on November 04, 2022, questioning minute entries from 2010, 2011, & 2013; the revision of Policy 6.02 in 2018, questioning the changes in Bylaws in 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2006, and 2014. Mr. Soto questioned the validity of the Corporate President’s inclusion in all committees, although it is plainly stated and readily available. Mr. Soto questioned the *REACT* International website being “non-operational” on the presumption the blackout is intentionally blocking access to the membership and public, noting the limited resources available at the store for purchase. These concerns were addressed, although readily available if he had the ability to read the *REACT*er issues from 2011 to present.

A letter from John Soto dated December 17, 2022, demanding access to the 2023 Annual Board Meeting via Zoom at *REACT* International’s expense, to answer his demand for Council recognition, and demanding an itemized format of a yearly financial report from the past 5 years because there were none noted in the *REACT*er from the past five years. The posting of the 990 from 1998 – 2020 are posted on the *REACT* International website along with Minutes.

New Business

A letter sent to Glen Daniels and John Soto dated September 23, 2022, regarding their ongoing refusal to submit a completed charter application for Orange/Ulster County *REACT* Team 6041.

The Orange/Ulster County team was issued a team charter based on the word of Director Warren Deitz and was conditional upon *REACT* International Inc., receiving the required Team’s Employer Identification Numbers (EIN), the Team’s Letter from the Secretary of State, the Team’s minutes wherein electing team officers and Team Bylaws. *REACT* International forwarded the sample Team Bylaws to Mr. Daniels, John Soto, Warren Deitz and Orange/Ulster County.

Director Capodanno moved to revoke Orange/Ulster Team for non-compliant, second by Director Zych.
R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Election of Officers

The Chairman opened the floor for Executive Vice President. Christopher Wiackley. John Soto was nominated. Mr. Soto team was revoked and not eligible to run.

Director Capodanno moves to elect n Mr. Wiackley as EVP, seconded by Director Goswami.
R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Mr. Wiackley was elected.

The Chairman opened the floor for Secretary. Lorinda Fong, Lee Besing, were nominated.
A vote was taken and was a tie.

Director Jones moves to table until next meeting, second by Director Zych.
R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Director Vacancies

Director Capodanno moved to nominate John Mahon to Region one un-expired term, second by Director Zych.
R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Adjournment

Director Jones moved to adjourn at 3:37 PM PDT, second by Director Capodanno.
R1-Y R3-Y R7-Y R8-Y R9-Y Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

John Capodanno





DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

Use for nominating yourself or another member to run for the Board of Directors. Each director serves a 3 year term and 3 directors are elected per year on a rotating basis.

- 2023 – Regions 3, 6, 9 up for election
- 2024 – Regions 1, 4, 7 up for election
- 2025 – Regions 2, 5, 8 up for election
- 2026 – Regions 3, 6, 9 up for election
- 2027 – Regions 1, 4, 7 up for election

[Click Here For Form](#)

See nomination form for requirements. Must be 21+ and have been a REACT member for at least 3 years, plus have demonstrated leadership abilities at local / council or other non-profit org levels. Must reside in, and be a member of a team in, the region for which you are applying to run. Need to be able to cover own expenses incurred in the course of your duties as a director, including travel & lodging expense to attend annual board meeting.

E-mail and electronic communications (Zoom) is used heavily by the board, thus a reliable computer and hi-speed Internet connection is a recommendation for all successful candidates. There are no term limits for re-election.

REACT INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE ZELLO NET

Please join us every Saturday night at 9 pm EST
(8 pm during Daylight Savings Time) on the
REACT MEMBERS
Zello Channel

All Communicators Are Welcome!

NO LICENSE REQUIRED

use your Internet connected computer or smart phone.
The Zello app is available for download from <http://www.zello.com>



**Download the Zello Walkie-Talkie app for your platform.
Create an account with a username (i.e: a call sign) and
password, then add the REACT MEMBERS channel.**

Press the Push-to-Talk button to transmit.

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Amateur Radio



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CQ is the magazine for active hams, with a focus on the practical. Every article is clearly written and aimed at involving you, the reader... whether it's a story of operating from some exotic location, an article to deepen your understanding of ham radio science and technology, or a fun-to-build project that will have practical use in your ham shack.



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