

Section Report for 2000 of the ARNOVA Section on Community and Grassroots Associations

David Horton Smith, Past Chair and Secretary/Treasurer 2000-2002

(Draft #2, January 25, 2001)

- The Section was formally approved by unanimous vote of the ARNOVA Board of Directors at the conclusion of the 1999 Annual Conference in response to a petition by founding members and a formal request by David Horton Smith, Founding Chair.
- Formal members of the Section were solicited by email notices, requesting payment of the \$10 annual dues for 2000 to the ARNOVA Executive Office. There were 55 such members by December 31, 2000.
- In April, the Founding Chair, along with Carl Milofsky and Ken Perkins, refereed ARNOVA Conference paper and panel proposals related to Section interests at the request of Wolfgang Bielefeld, ARNOVA Vice-President for Meetings.
- The Founding Chair nominated two candidates for 2000-2001 Section Chair and ten candidates for the Executive Committee ("Steering Committee"), preparing a mail ballot with brief professional biographies solicited from each candidate. All were formal Section members at the time of the balloting.
- The ARNOVA Executive Office conducted the first mail ballot (contested) election among Section members in the summer. The result was that Thomasina Borkman and Carl Milofsky tied for Chair and became Co-Chairs, while the following were elected to the Executive Committee: Ram Cnaan, Siegrun Fox Freyss, John Messer, Susan Ostrander, Per Selle, and Richard Sundeen. Along with David Horton Smith as Past Chair, all will serve as the 2000-2002 Section Executive Committee, as announced by email to the Section membership. The term of office will be June 1, 2000, to May 31, 2002. (At the request of the Section, the ARNOVA Board of Directors amended Section guidelines in November to permit two year terms of office, rather than mandatory one year terms.)
- Arrangements were made with the ARNOVA Executive Office by the past Chair for the Pre-Conference annual Section Meeting from 4-6 PM November 15, the afternoon prior to the annual ARNOVA Conference. These arrangements were communicated by email to the Section membership. The incoming Section Co-Chairs, Borkman and Milofsky, planned the substance of the meeting and ran it. About 25 people attended the meeting, which included self-introductions by all attendees and general discussion of the possible role and activities of the Section for the future. (See report on the 2000 Section Meeting, hopefully soon to be available in the CGA Section portion of the ARNOVA website www.arnova.org/cga_section.html as Document 005.)
- Arrangements were made by the Past Chair to hold the first Section Executive Committee (EC) dinner meeting following the Section Meeting (7:15-9:15 PM, November 15). Eight of nine EC members attended and discussed issues regarding the Section's future after handling some other business. The EC consensus was that community and grassroots associations are something that ARNOVA has left behind in its emphasis on big nonprofit centers and big nonprofit organizations. Volunteers and small volunteer groups need to be taken account of also. The formation and vigorous activities of the C/GA Section will hopefully help to redress the perceived imbalance in ARNOVA relative to the actual voluntary nonprofit sector in North America and elsewhere.

- By-Laws of the Section were drafted by the Past Chair and circulated by email attachment to the 2000-2001 Executive Committee before the EC Meeting and in hard copy form at the EC meeting, seeking inputs by month-end. These By-Laws conform to the ARNOVA Statement on Sections of the Association and the Statement of Procedures for Sections, as amended at the 2000 ARNOVA Conference Board Meeting to allow for two-year terms of office. The By-Laws will hopefully soon be available in the CGA Section portion of the ARNOVA website <http://www.arnova.org/cga.php> as Document 004.
- The Past Chair drew up preliminary versions of the 2000 Annual Report and 2000 Financial Statement, along with a Proposed Budget for 2001, passing these out in draft form at the 2000 Section Meeting and seeking comments. (These latter two financial reports in final form will hopefully soon be available in the CGA Section portion of the ARNOVA website <http://www.arnova.org/cga.php> as Documents 002 and 003.) The Section Executive Committee approved the Proposed Budget for 2001 and it was subsequently given to the ARNOVA Executive Director during the 2000 Conference. The ARNOVA Board of Directors approved the Proposed Budget. Revisions were later made in the 2000 Annual Report and 2000 Financial Statement to accommodate subsequent expenditure data and events in 2000.
- The Past Chair wrote a report on the 2000 Section Meeting and the Minutes of the 2000 Executive Committee Meeting, emailing the latter to EC Members in November.