Name: Erik C. Jorgensen

Running For: State Representative

District: 41

Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to reflect on your experience with Maine’s nonprofit sector. Once we receive your response, your answers will be posted on our website at www.nonprofitmaine.org/2016candidates. Please respond no later than Friday, September 30, 2016.

Did you know nonprofits:
- Employ 1 in 7 workers in Maine.
- Contribute $10 billion per year to the economy through wages paid, retail and wholesale sales, and professional services contracted.
- Pay $3.6 billion annually in wages, which translates to approximately $206 million in personal income tax revenue.
- Mobilize 350,000 volunteers each year to improve communities.

1. Please describe your personal and professional experiences with nonprofit organizations.
I have spent more than 25 years (my whole career) working for Maine nonprofits, 15 of these as an executive director, working at a local museum, and a statewide humanities council. I have served on boards of local, statewide and national boards and currently serve on two Maine foundation boards and a nonprofit board. I am quite familiar with nonprofit work in Maine, and believe strongly in the role of these organizations to efficiently provide valuable services to Maine citizens.

2. Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to advance policies that strengthen Maine.
Legislation I have developed in the past, around bicycle regulation and transit, was developed in conjunction with relevant nonprofit groups. I would continue to work with nonprofits as needed to create solid policy. MANP and other policy oriented nonprofits are great resources. I will continue to fight for-profit privatization of public services.

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3. What is your position on property tax exemption for Maine nonprofit property owners?
I think it’s an important cornerstone of nonprofit operations. I do, however, support local PILOT programs to cover essential services, especially in service centers.

4. Do you have any specific questions or need further information on any particular issue regarding Maine’s nonprofit sector that we can help you with?

You may submit your responses as follows:

Via email to: mecasale@nonprofitmaine.org

Online: www.nonprofitmaine.org/2016candidates

Via mail to:
Mary Erin Casale
Maine Association of Nonprofits
565 Congress Street, Suite 301
Portland, ME 04101

*MANP is a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation under IRS code 501(c)(3) and therefore cannot endorse candidates for elected office. Our goal is to promote an educated and enthusiastic nonprofit community that votes.*