

Minutes of MEEOA Board Meeting

Google Hangout

March 7, 2019 / 1:00-3:00pm

In Attendance: Mary Kate Barbosa, Casey Henderson, Andrew Henry, Eric Pratt, Shelbie Ross, Mary Sinclair, Tony Staffiere, Steve Visco

Welcome

- Quorum not established, so this is not an official meeting.

Officer Reports

Past President Report- Dori Fellman(not present)

Treasurer's Report- Patrick Blanchette (not present)

- Patrick sent numbers to Mary Kate
 - Current balance: \$28100.18
 - Patrick will give updated budget breakdown soon
 - MEEOA will be paying for an ad in the NEOA Conference booklet and for NEOA membership.
 - Budget questions: How much is allocated for the NEOA hospitality suite? What is the budget for Policy Seminar?

Secretary Report- Mary Sinclair

- There were a few changes based on feedback after the minutes were sent out initially.
- No vote could be made on these, due to not having a quorum.

President Report- Mary Kate Barbosa

- Due to this not being an official meeting, and with the Strategic Plan work to be done, a MEEOA Board meeting will be held during the NEOA Conference. We will meet at the Crowne at 8:30am on April 3. Mary Kate will find a room. Meeting at this time will allow alumni to go to the Alumni Breakfast before our meeting.
- Darylen Cote is being inducted to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame on March 16. Anyone may register and attend. Mary Kate will email the invitation to the listserv.
- Upcoming MEEOA board positions: Nik Lallemand is going to run for Treasurer for 19-20. Still no President Elect.
 - Steve proposed inviting people who may be interested in serving but are unsure about commitments or responsibilities to serve on the board in an Ad Hoc manner. They could chip in as they felt needed or willing, but would at least be invited to the meetings and invited to observe different positions.
 - It would be nice to find people from underrepresented programs to serve in this way.
 - After the MEEOA Business Meeting at the NEOA Conference, we will invite people who might be interested in serving to a mixer at the Crowne Plaza bar.

Committee Reports:

Fair Share Report- Andrew Henry

- COE has sent Thank You's to all contributors.
- Next Fair Share conference call Andrew is hoping to get on early with AI and discuss changes to the notification system.
- Maine is at 64% of our goal for the year
- It is difficult for Andrew to see who is *10 For 10*, and he would like to see improvements. He does think we have attained the Maine goal.
- Andrew will be working on personalized Thank You's from MEEOA. He will wait until the summer when all the numbers are in for the year.

Webmaster Report- Casey Henderson

- Casey has been working on the storage options since the last meeting and sent out a report with the various options in regards to Google Team Drive, Dropbox, and Box (or Box Drive). Each have limitations.
- Casey created free accounts with both Dropbox and Box, using the MEEOA Gmail account for the username, to test them out. At first glance, he thought everyone would need their own account. Steve pointed out that perhaps everyone who needs access could sign in with the MEEOA account. If the password is changed yearly and shared with the board it could work as a single access point, similar to what was hoped to be achieved with the MEEOA Gmail account before Google started cracking down on logins from multiple locations.
- Box seems to work the best. Perhaps there would be more options with a paid account, but it may only be more storage and the free option looks like it could handle the amount of storage we need.
- Evernote could be another option.
- Casey will continue to go ahead with more exploration of Box.

Conference 2019 Report– Shelbie Ross (Conference 2020- Mary Sinclair)

- Still waiting for final financial figures for the 2019 conference. Shelbie thinks it was around \$8,900 in expenses.
- Mary asked what the budget for the conference is. Shelbie did not have an actual number but looked at the expenses for the previous year and used those for estimates. When she got the contract from the Black Bear Inn, a couple other MEEOA Board members look it over before signing. This was done in early September. Steve said ideally the contract is signed close to a year ahead.

Membership Report- Kate Walsh (not present)

- Kate sent numbers ahead of time: there are 101 paid individual memberships and 16 paid program memberships.

Hall of Flags/Public Relations Reports- Tony Staffiere

- Hall of Flags:
 - Many programs have RSVPed- more attendees coming than ever before.

- The legislature approved displaying an art exhibit in the Hall of Flags that should not be touched or interfered with. This may limit the space we have for setting up.
- Two students have been selected to speak, along with Senator Millette. The timing for this will depend on the Senator's availability, but likely between 9-9:30am.
- Public Relations:
 - Tony is working on putting together vlogs about TRIO. He is hoping to get more of these at the NEOA conference.
 - The Maine Women's Hall of Fame features a MEEOA member this year. How should we handle the PR of this? Is there any protocol? Tony will email the listserv to let them know about it, as well as post information to the Facebook and social media accounts.

Alumni Report- Michelle Richards (not present)

- Michelle helped with the selection of Policy Seminar attendees. She gathered information and set up the appointments. She did a great job.

Development Report- Karen Keim (not present)

- Karen could not attend but sent a report ahead of time. She has been working with new members to the Development Committee about finding new funding sources. She is working on a letter at this point.

Government Relations Report-Eric Pratt

- Eric sent a GR report ahead of time. Highlights include:
 - The 20/21 budget is set to come out in early/mid March and it looks like it will include severe cuts: up to 10% below federal spending from the prior year.
 - Chairman Lamar Alexander laid out plans for the Reauthorization of Higher Ed Act. It would simplify the FAFSA, detail repayment plans, and include employment measures.
 - The TRIO Reception on Feb 7 was well attended.
 - Updated TRIO income eligibility levels were sent to the membership.
 - The SSS APR is due tomorrow.
 - Eric will send a script for phone calls regarding the budget when needed.

Discussion:

- Policy Seminar
 - Two alumni are going: Brad was in MEOA and SSS. He went to UMA and works in Admissions at Husson now. He is working on his Master's degree. Courtney went to UMaine and was in both UB and SSS. She wants to go to medical school and recognizes TRIO as her avenue for getting where she is.
 - Both express wanting to give back, specifically to TRIO.
 - Meetings scheduled:
 - Karen is setting these up. Sen Collins is 3/26. Rep Golden, Sen King, and Sen King's Ed Aide are all on 3/27. We have not heard from Rep Pingree.

- NEOA Conference
 - Baskets- Mary Kate needs help! She will email the membership to ask for donations, possibly with a theme idea. Gift cards might be a nice option (they are easy to transport and pretty popular).
 - Hospitality Suite- Tony will coordinate. It was determined \$125 was typically budgeted for this and can be used again, with some flexibility.
- Strategic Plan (SP)- will be more thoroughly reviewed at April meeting.
 - After consultation, Eric determined that the SP should be intentionally vague to leave freedom for goals. He would like to create a list of resources within the objectives, so the details are included but technically not part of the SP.
 - Eric sent the plan draft with notes to the board, he asks everyone to look it over and come up with questions before the next meeting.

Adjourn

Submitted by Mary Sinclair