

Minutes of MEEOA Executive Board Meeting
Zoom Virtual meeting

April 16, 2020 • 1-3

In attendance: Steve Visco, Casey Henderson, Nikolas Lallemand, Tony Staffiere, Mary Sinclair, Karen Keim, Eric Pratt, Andrew Long, Samantha Prosser, Lisa Black

Call to Order Welcome; call to order at 1:04 pm

Roll Call Quorum established

OFFICER REPORTS

President's Report:

- Steve presented the agenda. Mary Sinclair motioned to approve and Andrew Henry seconded--all approved.
- Steve welcomed 2020-2021 President Elect, Samantha Prosser! Casey will add Sam to Box Drive.
- The 2019-2020 Board has two more planned meetings for this year, with one in-person June meeting that may need to be adjusted pending travel restrictions. One bigger task we will need to tackle at the June meeting is reviewing our current strategic plan.

Past President's Report:

- Mary Kate reported that we had a successful virtual vote for new board members.
- Still working on recruiting volunteers for the 2021 conference committee.
- SSS Directors met on 4/15/20—other groups are also meeting by program. Everyone is waiting on the Dept of Education's upcoming FAQ sheet to learn about new regulation allowances in light of COVID-19.

President's Report:

- Mary attended TRIO/GEAR UP advocacy day and the Virtual Policy Seminar.
- She has also connected with new President-Elect, Sam Prosser. They have plans to collaborate more in the near future. Mary reported that Katharine Lualdi & Chris Young want to help with the 2020-2021 Board in some capacity.
- Mary has also been reaching out to Maine state TRIO directors, especially those in SSS.

Treasurer's Report:

- Nik reported that there have been only 3 expenses since the March meeting--we are at \$26,888 with a reimbursement for COE Leadership pending.
- Mary Kate motioned to approve, Andrew Henry seconded. All approved.

Secretary's Report:

- Lisa presented notes from the January meeting and the minutes that Mary Sinclair took at the March meeting (thank you, Mary!)
- We didn't have a quorum at the January meeting due to weather. After discussion, the Board decided to keep an unofficial record of the meeting. Mary Sinclair motioned to approve the January meeting record as notes. Andrew Henry motioned to second, all approved.
- Mary Kate motioned to approve the March minutes, Andrew Long seconded, all approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**Alumni Committee:**

- Andrew Henry reported that he and Mary have met to discuss plans to further develop the alumni committee and leverage the alumni database.

Conference:

- Mary will follow up with Chris Young's GEAR UP office to see if they would like to work together to co-chair the 2021 conference.
- Steve is in favor of continuing to move around state, possibly rotating every other year with the Black Bear Inn in Orono.

Development:

- Andrew Long hopes to renew outreach this summer but is sensitive to the ability of businesses to donate given current events.
- Steve suggested one interim activity could be for Andrew and Karen to decide what a reasonable budget looks like for next year given the realities of COVID-19.

Government Relations:

- Eric reported that he, Steve, and Mary met with Katie Brown, Senator Collins's education aide. Their meeting went well and they were able to report the success of Maine's TRIO programs.
- Eric has begun renewing his work with Jen Rudolph regarding state-level advocacy work.

- Eric sent an email to the MEEOA membership regarding the importance of reaching out to legislators right now regarding emergency funding for TRIO programs. TRIO is not currently reflected in CARES emergency aid. COE is proposing \$450 million in emergency aid for TRIO with \$200 million earmarked for connectivity for participants.

Membership: Nothing new to report.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Public Relations:

- If anyone is doing anything right now that Tony could/should promote, please send it along! Fingers crossed we are able to have an on-site TRIO/GEAR UP Advocacy Day next year.

Fair Share:

- We will think about plans to ramp up fundraising when things are a bit more settled.

Technology:

- Casey reported that PayPal is in the works for next membership year.

Old Business: Nothing to report

New Business: Nothing to report

Adjourned at 2:05

Eric motioned to adjourn. Mary Kate seconded.