



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

MeCA Summer Leadership Retreat Maine Maritime Academy Harbor View Room – Alford Student Center July 20 & 21, 2017

Thursday, July 20

Conference Committee Meeting: 11:00 – 1:30

Working lunch - provided by MMA

Executive Board Meeting: 2:00 – 4:00

Started 2:15 pm

Welcome and Introductions- Nick Umphrey, Beth Doane, April LeClair, Erin Benson, Holly Khriel, Lois LeBlanc, Joe Vienna, Jill Davis, Cameron Reni, Rani Belanger, Wes Lavigne, Tracy Corbin, Andrea Hallett, Kevin O'Reilly, Stan Pelletier, Jill Cairns, Dean Collins, Bodhi Simpson

- Spent some time thanking our guest for joining us today. Gave some information about the different regions as well as those who are active and nonactive at this time.
- Also discussed how the regions are split up, conference and who presents, the types of workshops we presented.
- Displayed all the roles of Executive and Conference Committee
- Spent time about all the different Divisions and it seems that it is the same across the nation. Seems like MeMHCA is LCPC focused, MeSCA- is elementary and middle, MeCA- is more high school and college admission. Continued to have conversations about collaborating.

New Members – Wes Lavigne, Treasurer
Rani Belanger, NMeCA President
Special Guests – Maine School Counseling Association
Maine Mental Health Counselor's Association

Regional Reports:

- a. Central- Lisa Ellrich- could not be able to make it and no report
- b. Downeast- Carol Wolf- nothing at this time. Tracy and Nick had plans to visit to work on the relationship. The meeting was not able to happen. Conference

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Committee decided to do the meeting at Downeast. Hoping to have UMaine Machias host our meeting.

c. Eastern- Rena Lolar

d. Northern- Rani Belanger- Introduced herself. Looking to bring more professional development into our meetings.

e. Southern- Andrew King- Beth will report for him. The group has become active again. 2 meetings this year and officers meeting in June. Please see attached report for detailed information.

Division Reports:

- a. MeCDA – James Westhoff- no report- offer many trainings- new president
- b. MeSCA – Jill Davis and Board members- Looking to develop a long term plan for Presidency. Focusing on – state model for Comprehensive School Counseling. Emerging Leadership, Professional Development opportunities- getting to all members. Want to have more social events. MeSCA is doing one state vs regions. Dean shares information about collaborating to host events. Please send any events to Dean to add to the website. They have a new website up and running. MEschoolcounselors.org ASCA does their newsletter. It is a PDF file. It's only available to members. Looking to do a social night prior to the conference. President and President elect go to ASCA annual conference each year. The majority of their members are elementary and middle school counselors. Trying to expand conference to attract high school counselors. Conversations about 24 credits and being able to work with a conditional license.
- c. MeMHCA – Bodhi Simpson and Board members- the board is in the place of new beginnings. Many new members- 7 members, fairly new. The roles were led by a few key people and that meant to restructure the board. Lost the website- there was a crash but they are starting to rebuild. Offering training and discounted membership. Reimbursement is the largest issue at this time. Look at discounted membership for dual membership. Share educational opportunities- shared executive director- link each other on website- together to advocate for mental health- joint conference- sharing cost of lobbyist, university intern monitor-MeMHCA has no longer retained a lobbyist or monitorist, since they can't afford it.- Joint annual newsletter/meeting with many entities.

Adjourn 4:02

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Adjustments to schedule - additions, deletions

Social Hour - 5:30 – 6:30

Dinner – Compliments of Maine Maritime Academy - 6:30 Many Thanks to MMA!!

Friday, July 21

Breakfast provided by MMA 8:00 start 8:41 am

Key turn in

Executive Board Meeting 8:30 – 11:00

Committee reports:

- a. Secretary- April LeClair minutes were sent via email
First: Erin
Second: Tracy
All in Favor
- b. Treasurer- Andrea Hallett/Wes Lavigne
 - See report- Divisions will change after deposit. Make sure scholarships need to go through website rather than through pay pal for payment. This was only an issue for UMaine. One year extension for Wild Apricot. Actual cost of conference was \$26245.34 There was an increase by 3000. Maybe we need to look at a better venue if increase continues to be an issue. Conference committee will need to look at different cost saving measures. Dean- April- Wes- Andrea- and current President Nic need to be part of the sub committee. Continue to explore collaboration with other Divisions to look at increasing a combined conference. Also discussed looking at other ways to do our meetings. Maybe poly com some of our meetings. October and March- google hang out. Look at three sites to do this. Stan also stated maybe we could stream line some of the conference for a nominal fee. Dean will send email to go forward.

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First: Dean
Second: Erin
Favor:

c. Membership- Andrea Hallett-

Our numbers currently are good. 197 active members. 398 total. If we increase membership by \$10 would help our cost. Let members know ahead of time. No membership cards are mailed to us. Maybe look at getting a printable membership certificate. We will look into getting LCPC information for purposes of conference vendors.

d. Public Policy- Stan Pelletier- see report.

45 items on the report. LD 952 passed – access to opiate addiction treatment, LD 1335- youth mental health first aid training in law, 1429- opiate abuse- allowing funds forfeited to be assigned by court into law enforcement and agencies to get services for opiate seize property with conviction- suspected not convicted- reassigned to law enforcement. LD- act to ensure to access behavioral health services passed at house to explore reimbursement for behavioral health services. Also passed in Senate. Stan would like to be more proactive in sharing new bills going forward to help increase more support to all members after the approval of the board. Grad student would like to be part of this.

e. PR/Newsletter- Jill Cairns-

Discussed FB page for MeCA. Save the dates:

September 8, 2017 – deadline for submitting articles for September 18, 2017 newsletter

January 12, 2017 – deadline for submitting articles for January 22, 2017 newsletter

April 27, 2017 – deadline for submitting articles for May 7, 2017 newsletter

f. Website- Dean Collins- continuing to get the updates through for the website. Link the access to your gmail account.

g. Prof. Development- Deb Drew- no report at this time

h. Counselor Education- Deb Drew- no report at this time

i. Admissions- Erin Benson-

During the Samoset meeting, the small group expressed an

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interest in having a summer meeting that might include the new education commissioner. I tried to arrange it but it proved too difficult. So, I have already been working with the Commissioner's scheduler for Summer 2018. We will include:

- **Commissioner of Education**
- **Someone from the Department of Labor to discuss the future labor market and do we have the right majors**
- **Diana Doiron from MDOE to update PBE**
- **Rosa Redonnet from UMS to discuss work on statewide attainment**

There is continuing discussion about PBE transcripts. I will explore ways to share information among admissions people around the state. My intent is to explore SAT and the way Maine high schools register students for the purposes of buying names.

j. Historian- Kevin O'Reilly- remind people reports digitally. Retirees and deceased members.

k. ACA/NAR- John Yasenchak- no report at this time

Old Business

- Extra 2018 ACA Registration- move to October
- Down East Region reconnection update – October meeting- see above

New Business

- Dates of Conference Committee and Executive Board
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SAVE THE DATES for 2017-2018 MeCA meetings

Richard E. Dyke Center for Family Business

Husson University

**October 19, 2017
(Downeast-WCCC)**

**Conference Committee 11:00-1:00
Executive Board 1:00-3:30**

November 17, 2017

Conference Committee *only*

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Google Chat 12:00-2:00

December 15, 2017 Conference Committee only 12:00-2:00

**January 26, 2017 Conference Committee 11:00-1:00
Executive Board 1:00-3:30**

**March 2, 2017 Conference Committee 11:00-1:00
Executive Board 1:00-3:30**

- Conference Committee meeting summary – Tracy- Samoset is our vendor, changes to be made- Keynote is still undetermined. Looking at Rural Poverty. Focus maybe on Resiliency.
- Open positions- no open positions at this time. Do we consider a social media position? Holly willing to be part of that process for the time being. Do we consider a social justice position on the board? We need to discuss this further. Maybe be part of the Public Policy Board. Maybe we need to consider a liaison position for all the Boards.
- Other- nothing at this time.

Adjournment 11:28 am

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