



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

MeCA Executive Board Meeting Husson University, Bangor – Dyke Center for Family Business March 3rd, 1:00-3:30

Welcome and Introductions

1:08 pm- Meeting Begins- Tracy, Andrea, Dean, Stan, Kevin, Nick, Ben, Deb, Jon, April, Rena

Conference Committee meeting summary – Stan & Nick- Things going well. Some of the details for conference like being more streamlined and who is doing what and due dates and be part of shared documents. Look at it at summer leadership. Dean shows bag and t-shirt. 5 scholarships from UMO won't be used. Deb says 8 out of 10 scholarships probably promised for. Ben has someone in mind from school for an ed tech who is looking into the program. We have agreed to offer a scholarship to her. Everyone agrees this is a great opportunity for MECA member. Keynote speaker is good. Evaluation was something that needed to be changed to meet NBBCC. Will look at it.

Old Business

- Best Leadership Development Project Award = check for \$250 + Free
Tracy will receive the award at conference. Registration for 2018 conference in Atlanta and a check. Tracy would like to know if we want to take that money to support a trip for a Graduate Student. We got the money because of the work with our graduate students. Concern about cost was mentioned. Nick states it might be a high expense for a graduate student and worried about commitment to profession. Dean states give conference registration and \$250 to them. Dean asks Deb what Husson's expectations would be for that student. It is close to graduation is an issue. Deb wants to know if there is a student registration cost instead of the full registration. Could use an application cost that would require lodging and other expenses on their own. This may help minimize those that could go and make the commitment. Let's continue to talk about it since we have time. Could we ask the graduate students to meet cost half way and begin that commitment process. We could encourage leadership development and have an essay attached to the application and ask students to get sponsors.
- Registration to 2018 ACA Conference in Atlanta, GA – what to do with this?
See above
- Institute for Leadership Training, July 16-19, who should attend this year?
President this year but if our budget will be able to support President and

MeCA is a state branch of the American Counseling Association

Past-President – Stan Pelletier

President – Tracy Corbin

President-Elect – Nicholas Umphrey



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

President Elect we should consider sending both. Dean states we could submit for awards. We considered changing the Summer Leadership dates July 20-21 in the fall. Looking at doing the end of the week. Wed- Friday. 19th is the golf day. It'll be hard for someone attending ILT. Will they be okay to miss some of the first day.

- Distance Technology for our meetings -

- <http://www.capterra.com/web-conferencing-software/>

Dean said we have looked at this in the past to help save cost. We need to look at free conference call programs. Do a side-by-side comparison of our options. Skype does not work well. But can we not make a commitment for 3 days. This should be brought to summer leadership to discuss because it has many thoughts and challenges associated with it. Husson donates this room. Deb asks if Husson might help us use the Zoom account. There are some issues with not owning our own account. The email with the number and time, etc...is important for our group. Some are free for a certain minutes and then it charges after. There are limitations to many of these accounts so we have to do good research and make sure we know all the details.

New Business

- Open positions on the Executive Board- Treasurer has resigned at the end of this year. Public Policy position will also be stepping down. Stan has offered to take on Ben's position for Public Policy. Tracy needs to reach out to Beth to determine if she is remaining as membership. Look at the bylaws regarding years of commitment. Ben is stepping down because it is just time to do something else.

First- Tracy

Second- Nick

All in favor

Andrea will be nominated for President Elect at conference .

- Consider ways to advocate for counseling profession – Nick- Sending letter to Superintendent regarding information about school counselors. This would go out to all school counselors. Dean states maybe we need to again coordinate with MESCO regarding this. We need to keep working with State Department of Education, Superintendents, etc.... State Department Education is looking at the possibility of a position to address and work on some of these issues. Position on the board as a liaison. Ben states that is our Public Policy position. But we need to continue to collaborate with MESCO. Suggested

MeCA is a state branch of the American Counseling Association

Past-President – Stan Pelletier

President – Tracy Corbin

President-Elect – Nicholas Umphrey



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

bringing this position for advocacy up at leadership meeting when Nick becomes President.

Committee Reports:

Secretary-April LeClair- minutes sent

First- Andrea

Second- Nick

All in favor

Treasurer/Membership-Andrea Hallett-

Membership- see handout. Increase in student registration. Thank you to the colleges/universities. Paying on line has helped to increase membership payment sooner.

Treasurer- Up from where we normally are. See handout.

First-Ben

Second-Nick

All in favor

Newsletter-Jill Cairns- April 28th deadline.

Website-Dean Collins- still working on it. If any questions let him know.

Historian-Kevin O'Reilly- no major changes. If presenter at the conference please send Kevin a resume.

ACA/NAR (North Atlantic Region) -John Yasenachak- no changes. They will be looking for officers. Jon suggested Tracy to go for elect position.

Public Policy- Ben Milster- see handout 850 bills out there so far. Many bills out there regarding education. Some mental health bills. Ben suggests we may want to provide testimony for some of these.

Prof. Standards/Ethics/- Deb Drew- Deb feels we conquered our audit and we should be good for three years but we do need to make sure we continue to document. Need to make sure we are getting good information with Master information to determine the category presenters will be in and how we can get credits. We need to work to hold on to that ability. If NCE approved it helps with licensing.

MeCA is a state branch of the American Counseling Association

Past-President – Stan Pelletier

President – Tracy Corbin

President-Elect – Nicholas Umphrey



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

Regional President Reports:

Northern (NMeCA)- Erin Benson- we are continuing to work on the Career Fair for March 29 and will be selecting a new president and secretary/treasurer at our April meeting.

DownEast (DMeCA)- Carol Wolf- One is an effort to have local career fairs include more information on vocational and technical careers. We feel strongly that information about these kinds of excellent jobs has been overshadowed too long by the "college for everyone" movement--where "college" refers only to a two or four-year academic experience. We are exploring collaboration with our local technical center and community college as well as with statewide unions and technical organizations. Possibilities include developing a -based broad technical "career" fair for students in Washington or expansion of existing career fairs to include more information about these opportunities.

We are also looking at the intrusive nature of financial aid forms for non - dependent financial aid applicants. Students are repeatedly asked to provide very personal information which is already available to government and aid agencies from other sources. This additional reporting requirement could be just enough to deter some students from pursuing post-secondary opportunities.

Eastern (EMeCA)- Rena Lolar- sending out a survey to members for information gathering and get feedback of new people in the area and the work they are doing. Feature a counselor from this information. Help to put faces out there. Will be doing this at the conference. Participants in meetings have been low. Look at using technology to help increase participation.

Central (CMeCA)- Lisa Ellrich- no report

Southern (SMeCA)- Andrew King- meeting coming up March 29, 2017

Division Reports:

Maine Career Development Association (MCDA) – James Westhoff- no report

Maine Mental Health Counselor Association (MEMHCA) – Bodhi Simpson- no report

Maine College Admissions Association (MCAA) – Erin Benson- no report

Maine School Counselor Association (MESCA) – Jill Davis- no report

MeCA is a state branch of the American Counseling Association

Past-President – Stan Pelletier

President – Tracy Corbin

President-Elect – Nicholas Umphrey



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

Maine Association for Specialists in Group Work (MeASGW) – Joel Lavenson-
no report.

Adjournment: 3:30pm

- Next Meeting is April 10-11 at the annual conference, Rockland ME

MeCA is a state branch of the American Counseling Association

Past-President – Stan Pelletier

President – Tracy Corbin

President-Elect – Nicholas Umphrey