

Maine Counseling Association
Executive Board Meeting Agenda
October 7, 2016
Husson University

Welcome & Introductions

Conference Committee meeting summary

Things seem to be going along well – we are ahead of last year respective to registrations and call to programs submissions. Committee is looking to focus in on increasing the number of exhibitors – looking at loyalty discounts. Talked about entertainment, including keeping the cultural option during Monday's lunch.

Committee Reports

Secretary - April LeClair- minutes were sent out via email.

Dean first

Erin second

All in favor

Membership – Andrea Hallett

Overall membership is up over last year according to paid invoices - regions are down but it is mainly due to a computer glitch

Treasurer- Andrea Hallett

Balance is \$17,974.58 which does include the division membership as well. There is about \$2,000 on conference charges that are being charged to this year's budget year due to timing of getting bills paid. Expenses paid out so far include our tax preparation bill, liability insurance and the book for the VT Counseling Association. Leadership was \$1,100 – all mileage – MMA covered the rest of the

Kevin first

Stan second

all in favor

Newsletter – Jill Bouchard Cairns

Reminder that January 8 is the next deadline to submit for the Winter Newsletter which will publish on January 23.

Website – Dean Collins

Sent out the newsletter to about 450 contacts. Updated the design of the front page. Trying to get different pieces up and running. Encouraged folks to submit articles to highlight off of the website – as long as we get permission from the editor we are OK to post. Tracy updated the group on how Dean is working on officer email addresses and a shared google drive. Discussed increasing our contact base that we are allowed to house in our website – the increase would be going from \$30 to \$70 per month if we decided to move forward with this. Our current cap is 500 – Stan asked if we would consider increasing to 2,000. Kevin motioned to increase, Nick seconded, all in favor. Tracy asked about whether we sell our membership email list to others – we do not. Ben made a motion to post events (if

determined to be valuable for our membership) but not send out email blasts. Stan seconded the motion and all approved. Tracy will look at ACA's policy regarding their posting policies and advertising of positions

Public Policy - Ben Milster

Bills are not coming in yet – will be coming in January. Poliquin is supporting HR 2759.

Professional Standards/Ethics/Counselor Education – Deb Drew

Annual time to remind people that workshops given under the umbrella of MeCA and give CEU's need to go through Deb. Policy needs to be disseminated to the board and the website needs to indicate that this process is in place. We will be audited this January.

Historian - Kevin O'Reilly

If we hear of anyone retiring or passing away please let Kevin know. Rena let us know that Ethal Hill has retired – Kevin will follow up.

ACA/NAR- John Yasenachak

Nothing to report at this time – John passed around meeting minutes from April's meeting. VT is now debunk – fizzled out due to lack of participation. MA is trying to get up and running. John will follow up on branch development funds.

Regional Reports:

Northern - Erin Benson

First meeting was in mid-September at UMPI which included a College Board presentation.

Representation included all county schools. Had our NMeCA meeting after lunch – talked at length about aspirations.

Downeast – Carol Wolf

Not in attendance

Eastern - Rena Lolar

Meeting tonight at Seasons at 5pm for an informal gathering to plan for the year. Facebook page has started to pick up. Autism safety education training is being considered as well as a DART team through Matt Brown. Stan added information about the Career Fair committee – they discussed a potential school attendance workshop.

Central - Lisa Ellrich

Not in attendance

Southern – Andrew King

Nothing to report but had a few questions. Asked about why southern ME is not well represented and also asked about what he'd like for the region to accomplish. The group offered several avenues and ideas for Andrew to explore.

Division Reports:

MeSCA- Jill Davis

Not in attendance

MCDA- James Westhoff

Fall workshop on November 4th – still time to register. Elizabeth Sanders Park is their keynote speaker and will focus on career barriers. Today is the last day of early bird registration. Starting Monday there will be a special discount offered. Winter workshop is February 3rd – Jim Peacock will be doing a session on card sorts. Annual conference is in May 19th at Thomas College – keynote will focus on developing passion as a skill – Greg Lavoie is the keynote this event. Regional career cafes are held monthly and are very well attended, especially in Southern Maine.

MEASGW- Joel Lavenson

Discussed that according to by-laws there needs to be a minimum of 10 members – we've not reached this target in a number of years. Tracy outlined some ideas that were discussed at the Summer Leadership meeting at MMA this summer. It was decided in the summer that we would give it a year to try to increase membership and if that can't be done we would have to dissolve the division. It was reiterated that the effort to move forward would be with Joel as the lead and that the board would help when necessary. Moving forward we need to ensure that this group has a defined purpose and reason for existing.

MeMHCA- Bodhi Simpson

Not in attendance

MCAA – Erin Benson

Met in the summer – participation from most of the colleges in Maine. Focused on transcripts from proficiency based schools. Very fruitful discussion.

Old Business:

Strategies for revival of the Maine Association for Specialists in Group Work

- Discussed above in MEASGW report

Update on collaborative effort between NAMI and MeCA to sponsor Suicide Assessment training

- Training will be mid-November

Conflict of interest must be signed by any Board Member who has not already done so

- Form was passed around for everyone to sign off on

Graduate student projects

- Tracy has 8 graduate students who are working on a variety of projects – examples are LCPS/LSW reimbursement, school counselors vs. social workers in schools