

MAEO
Michigan Alternative Education Organization

Board Meeting December 12, 2019
Spartan Hall of Fame
Lansing, MI

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Present: Rob Pawlowski, Colleen Deaven, Denise Cadwell, Rhonda Marcum, Deb Baughman, Mallory Soffin, Daven Groenenboom, Karen Van Epps
Absent: Gina Wilson, Amanda Miller, Thurston King, Sara Johnson, Katie Myers

II. President's Comments: Deb is concerned about board member's attendance at meetings as well as full board participation in discussions and the work we do. She clarified that her plan tonight was to discuss the bylaws the committee had covered for this meeting, with an explicit discussion of the issue of stipends which are included in Section 4. She is asking for a recommendation on Section 4 from the bylaws committee at the next meeting in January but would like to hear from the entire board in a preliminary discussion at tonight's meeting.

III. Approval of Board Minutes September 26, 2019 and October 24, 2019

Motion: To approve 9/26/19 minutes as presented, Rhonda Marcum Second: Mallory Soffin. Motion approved. October 24, 2019 minutes, Motion to approve Mallory Soffin and second by Colleen Deaven. Motion approved.

IV. Board Reports:

- A. Past President-Dave no report given regarding MAEO.
- B. Conference and Membership- Early bird registrations for the conference are due January 17, 2020. Link for room registration is on the website. Items for the conference are on the website. Paperwork is due for presenters asap. There is still a need for presenters. Colleen and Deb are reaching out to a couple of people that they have heard at other conferences. We currently have 7 registrations for the conference. Deb will reach out to last years award winners to ask them to present and would like to establish this as a practice. Membership numbers remain stable.
- C. STARS-Mallory reported that the NAEA conference presentation went well. The goal was to encourage other states to start a STARS chapter. Mallory enjoyed the conference but felt that the conference that we put together in the Spring is equal in quality (thanks Denise). Deb and Mallory invited themselves to the presidents reception to network with other state chapters. Our regional 3 President is willing to send our conference information to other states and chapters within our region. We will also send our conference announcement to the person who manages the NAEA website. Legislative Day is scheduled March 18.

D. MEA-Rob reported that there is a conscious effort to focus on the 2020 elections. The State budget still has not been confirmed. There is some discussion that money is going to literacy coaches.

E. Treasurer-Rob reported that as of December 12, 2019 our balance is \$61,314.25 after outflows of \$2,287.71. Karen Van Epps moved, seconded by Rhonda Marcum that the treasurer's report be approved as presented. Motion carried.

V. Board Matters/Task Updates

A. Website/Social Media- Board members were not present to give a report

B. Committee Work:

1. By-laws Committee - Some small changes need to be made in the sections reviewed, the largest discussion needs to take place in regard to Section 4 board stipends. Does the term "stipend" need to be changed to "honorarium"? Rob reviewed some historical stipend data from 2002. Rob believes it is a small token of thanks for board members. Dave shared that this is the first board that he has ever been on that received an honorarium. Dave wondered if it comes from concern that some jobs are "worth" more than others? Should the amounts be equal?
2. MAEO Stars Committee: Colleen aims to have the STARS manual edits that were submitted to her complete by the end of this week.

C. Conference Presenters-Presenters are still needed for the Spring Conference.

VII. Relationships and Involvement with other state boards

A. MACAE (Board Rep)- Sarah Johnson was not present to report.

B. MASSP-Gina Wilson is not present to report.

C. MDE-Thurston King is not present to report.

D. MAAA-Volleyball season is starting.

E. NAEA- Region 3 as well as NAEA will circulate the information for our Spring Conference.

VIII. Other Business

A. Attendance at MAEO Board Meetings - The board is concerned about board member attendance. President Baughman will be following up with board members who have not been present for a majority of the meetings.

B. Colleen Deaven reported that in Livingston County they have a group of approximately six schools that are meeting to discuss Alternative Education. They will continue to meet. Colleen has encouraged involvement in MAEO..

C. Rob mentioned that at our summer conference we discussed Service Awards. Rob is worried about the perception that MAEO board members schools always win the awards. Rob suggested that a school associated with a MAEO board member not be nominated for service awards. Conversation ensued. Does the nomination process need to change? Committee change? Dave really believes that personal solicitation is

very important. Personal reach out is needed to an alternative education program to solicit nominations for awards. Further discussion in January.

IX. Adjournment/ Committees meet

Next meeting January 24, 2020