

## **MAEO Board Minutes-October 26, 2017-La Senorita Restaurant, Lansing, Michigan.**

**Present:** Karen Van Epps, Deb Baughman, Rhonda Phillips, Colleen Deaven, Mallory Soffin, Denise Cadwell, Rob Pawloski, Chris Maes, Amanda Miller, Lisa Boschma

**Absent:** Lisa Klink, Dave Groenenboom, Erin Sullivan

**Welcome and Roll Call:** Karen Van Epps

### **Presidents Comment/Board Warm Up Exercise-Deb Baughman**

Seems like everyone is feeling a bit stressed. Kids are overwhelmed and their lives are complicated. Lots of workshops going on about trauma and struggles for kids.

What are you thankful for? Deb Baughman asked the board members: Thankful for not smoking for one whole year! Thankful for new wife and new holidays! Thankful for kids choosing parents as vacation options. Thankful for staff with breast cancer doing well and responding to treatment! Thankful that aging parents are experiencing good health! Thankful for fall season! Thankful for great friends! Thankful for an administrator that is a great team member. Thankful for trips with college age daughter to Minnesota. Thankful that my social worker is staying another year! Thankful that my daughter is coming home and her mental health is much better!

### **Approval of Minutes from September 28, 2017**

Corrections to be made to the 9/28/17 minutes: Fix the paragraph with bullets to read better. Add November not December for names due to be submitted for possible breakout sessions. Scholarship process clarification paragraph should be articulated better. In the comments about STARS Colleen had offered to assist with the brochure for STARS.

Chris Maes motion to approve with the above mentioned changes. Second by Mallory Soffin.

### **Board Reports:**

- A. **Past President:** Dave is absent
- B. **Conference and Membership:** Denise reported that the Link is on the website for the hotel rooms for the 2018 Spring Conference. The Membership of MAEO has increased to 460 members within this past month.
- C. **STARS:** Mallory reported that we have four school registrations for the fall kickoff, two of them are new schools to the MAEO programming.. Discussion that we may need to cap the MAEO Spring Event to around 55 students. It is difficult with time, space and judges to have many more than 55 students. Amanda Miller has given the MAEO Stars committee some contacts for possible judges such as the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce and Bay Arenac Community High school Board of Directors. Amanda has made the initial contact and Mallory will follow up with the contact people from the organizations. Fall kickoff, November 14, 2017. Discussion of of possible of Drug

Addiction Speaker for the kick off. Amanda Miller has a contact of a speaker and will follow up and share those names with Mallory Soffin and Deb Baughman.

- D. **MEA:** Rob reported that The McMillian Case (3%) is going to before the Michigan Supreme Court on December 12, 2017. No predictions on how it will go. Early 2018 is the expected date for hearing the decision. SB 574 has passed the Senate. This bill would allow that any time a Michigan County or Region passes and enhancement millage this would allow charter and virtual school "Head Quarters" in that area receive some of the collected millage revenue. Six counties have pass this bill so far Kent, Kalamazoo, Wayne RESA, Midland, Monroe an Muskegon. Potential financial result could be the drop in per pupil costs by approximately \$25.00 per student.
- E. **Treasurer's report:** Rob reported that there was not much activity in our account this past month. He made note that we paid a \$20.00 Non profit fee to the State of Michigan. Current balance is \$50,161.03

Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Chris Maes, Second by Rhonda Phillips. Motion passed.

#### **Board Matters/Task Updates:**

MAEA-Deb likes the ribbon that scrolls on the national site that has tweets scrolling. Discussion if we should a similar feature. Deb really encouraged the board members to continue looking at this national site for things we like and do not like so that we can continue to add to ours.

**Website /Newsletter Update:** Everything looks really great on the website, Thank you Amanda! Photos/ Bios are still missing. Amanda has a call into the help desk at Weebly to ask questions about the forum and how to improve that functionality. Amanda will be adding some legislative updates to the website and perhaps the newsletter. Additionally, Amanda wants to move the interactive forum on our website to be reached from the first page, perhaps enticing increased action and use. Today is the due date for the Newsletter. Publish by November 6, 2017.

**Facebook/Twitter Update:** Chris Maes reported that there is not much twitter traffic. Chris posting about MAEO Stars and the Award Season on Facebook. Discussed that Facebook is not used so much by the younger generation any more.

**Communication with and between board members:** Amanda shared that we need to pose some questions on the forum so it looks like an "active community". Move the forum section more prominently on the website.

**One Day Professional Development:** Lisa Klink was not present but indicated via email that she has put together a draft survey to go out to our current members about Professional Development. She had sent it to a few board members to look at it. Amanda will send the form for the whole board to look at and then approve. Discussion about whether or not we can pull off a one day seminar this year. Deb asked about the possibility of a Webinar and the possible costs of that.

**Member Survey:** The board reviewed the draft survey prepared by Lisa Klink and made some suggestions that Amanda will share with Lisa. One suggestion is to remove November and December from the survey and modify the list of possible training options. We believe we could still have a one day training this year. There was some concerns mentioned that we would impact the attendance of the Spring Conference. Discussion was had but then determined that the one day PD would be a very different experience and would fill a different need than the three day event. Additionally we added a few more suggestions and possible training offerings and removed a few that were listed.

**Review of Goals:** Discussion by the board about our membership, networking, communication, newsletter, professional development, conference goals. We felt that we had done a good job this past month accomplishing them. County conversations will be helpful for networking and support. We are excited to hear that Colleen will be at an event in Livingston County and will do some outreach. Deb encouraged those members in counties where Alternative Education Groups meet to promote MAEO and encourage their membership and interest in PD and networking. Deb asked if emails going to members two times a month according to our goals? Denise Cadwell will make sure we are doing that. Rhonda was going to reach out to Richard Thompson from the National Alternative Education Board which was one of her duties according to our enacted goals. Rhonda will make that contact within the next month. David was going to contact a woman who was interested in starting a local Alternative Education Board in Virginia, as Dave had volunteered to do last month. Deb will follow up with him. Suggestion made that the STARS program write up that is used on our material should be reviewed and making sure that the definition of the programming is accurate. Colleen will assist with the conference brochure as she had volunteered to do last month.

**Board member submitted suggestions for possible Keynote speakers for our Spring Conference:**

Chick Moorman from Merrill- How to motivate the Unmotivated (Amanda)  
John X from Saginaw-Healing the Inside Child. (Amanda)  
Germain Galloway: Tall Cop says Stop: Hiding in Plain Site Drug Awareness (Deb)  
Roy Burton-MIRPTC.org (Rhonda)  
Shawn Washington-Substance Abuse and Trauma- (Amanda)  
Pastor Steve Peckham- (Amanda)  
"Take care of you"

**Board members submitted suggestions for possible presenters for our Spring Conference:**

David Opalewsky:Grief Recover Inc. Rob has contacted him and he expressed interest. Suicide prevention education and Understanding and addressing adolescent grief.

Amanda Miller is reaching out to a State Police Officer about current drug information.  
Confirmation by Amanda Miller topics: Great Expectations Overview and Great Expectations Rigor.

Karen Van Epps is reaching out to a speaker about Human Trafficking.

Rob Pawloski and/or Deb will reach out to Gretchen Whitmer.

Deb will reach out to a speaker on substance abuse prevention.

Mallory suggesting a speaker on social emotional issues.

Suggestion: Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce to see if they have an Educational Group that may have topic or speaker ideas. Amanda Miller to follow up.

**SCCECH/CE Credits for Social Workers**-Need to have the conference schedule to apply for the credits. Erin Sullivan was working on this but was absent from the board meeting. Lisa will follow up on SW hours.

**Relationships with State Boards:**

MACAE- Lisa Klink absent

MASSP-Lisa Klink absent

MDE- Rhonda Phillips-At risk funding legislative change exploration- How does this affect Alternative education. There appears to be no answer at the State level yet.

MAAA-Deb Baughman reported that Disk golf is starting, Volleyball is starting soon

NAEA- Deb has been looking at the website and pondering whether MAEO STARS could or should be presented at the National Level.

**Other business:**

Awards: Deb asked how can we increase awards nomination? Keep telling folks early and often. Send reminders to schools frequently. Increase the publicity for the schools that win the awards. MDE recognition?

Attendance: We need to look at our Bylaws to examine our attendance policy. The Bylaws state that you may be dismissed from the board after two absences where notification was not made.

We have a responsibility to attend the monthly meetings.

Colleen Deaven is going tomorrow to a Livingston County gathering of Alternative Education providers. Grace Damerow Fowlerville Online learning academy had set up this meeting.

Chris Maes Seconds Mallory's motion to adjourn at 7:15pm.

Next meeting December 7, 2017