

MAEO
Michigan Alternative Education Organization

Board Meeting September 24, 2020

Spartan Hall of Fame Cafe

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93161393412?pwd=SC9OQ1F3TWQ4Szk2cU1ZYjFOWmYwdz09>

Meeting ID: 931 6139 3412

Passcode: Ts2JiJ

Meeting Minutes:

I. Welcome and Roll Call:

Present: Rhonda Marcum, Denise Caldwell, Rob Pawolski, Katie Myers, Yolanda Brown-Spindell, Joel Asiala, Joel Hoppa, ,Mallory Soffin, Paul Shanks, Deb Baughman, Sarah Johnson, Tammy Glupker, Amanda Yount-Miller

Absent: No One

II. President's Comments:

Discussed reporting out of COVID cases and not being reported publicly depending on the district. Discussed staff good news going on personally and professionally.

III. Approval of Board Minutes July 13-14, 2020:

Deb moved to approved the board minutes; Joel A seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Passes.

IV. Board Reports:

- A. **Conference:** Tentatively at the Double Tree. Willing to work with us. Denise/Rob talked to Double Tree after the retreat about cancellations. We have some flexibility. No deadline on if we need to tell them about cancelling. Working on presenter forms and registration.
- B. **Membership:** New members still coming in. Denise is adding as they come in. Yolanda was not getting membership emails, trying to figure out what's going on, Denise suggested she sign up again. Denise will also check the master list.
- C. **Treasurer:** Checks are from summer board retreat/supplies/rooms/meals. Another check for Amanda's moms memorial. LARA non-profit fee for licensing. One scholarship paid out. 1 of 5 scholarships have been paid out. Motion to accept from Amanda, 2nd by Deb. All in favor. Non opposed. Motion Passes.
- D. **MEA:** Budget approved 9/23/20. Foundation will stay the way it was, but there is extra money for the blended count. \$500 hazard pay for teachers, and \$250 for full time support staff. Also approved new teacher evaluation

model that will be rolling out next year. Joels company on the tech side is a sponsor of the program. Process starts in January. Available to all districts next year. Based on Massachusetts model.

- E. **STARS:** Sarah is working on ideas for what we can do virtually. Deb and Mallory will start looking at dates in early to middle November.

V. Board Matters/Task Updates

A. **Website/Social Media:** Amanda shared that the website is updated since the 1-day conference. New Facebook group is now linked as well as Twitter. Amanda is looking for any additions or testimonials/resources/handouts for a follow up piece from the one-day conference. Spring conference forms will be updated as they are supplied to Amanda. As well as STARS.Handouts will also be provided.

Newsletter: Katie and Amanda have been working on the newsletter. Gaps in the area of Action for Admins and in the section of Equity. Please send to Amanda. She will send an email out tomorrow. Dr Sheldon Eakins – equity. Yolanda will share a video as well for Equity.

Twitter: Amanda is following as many education groups to Twitter as possible for more re-tweets.

Facebook: Working to transition members over to new page. Will start posting some more that is non-conference/ resources/etc.

B. Committee Work:

1. **1 Day PD:** About 20 people attended the one-day conference. People were able to come in and out as they wished, which was helpful. Yolanda would like to consider the infrastructure we need to be virtual and what we have in place to become more virtual. Yolanda would like to continue to offer one-day conferences throughout the year for better networking and to grow members. Yolanda offered to use her zoom account. Discussed MAEO zoom account needed as well for additional things like STARS, April Conference, etc. Rhonda believes that we should purchase ourselves through MAEO. Google form for registration. Deb motioned to offer a series of ½ day conferences. Yolanda 2nd. Discussion on motion: Rhonda suggested that promotion of the conference was out further ahead of time to increase participants. Denise also discussed that she would get the final draft of the promotion to send out to the members. All those in favor of ½ day PD series on the 3rd Saturday of the Month for October, November, January, February. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes.
2. **Scholarship Committee:** No comments

3. **Service Awards:** No comments

VI. Relationships and Involvement with Other State Boards

- A. **MACAE:** Tammy reported advocacy branch has been working on funding. Discussed increases of per pupil funding, adult ed funding, hours/days waiver reinstated yesterday and due October 5th. Fall conference will be virtual. November 5/6. Cost may be \$50.
- B. **MDE:** No report from Joel H.
- C. **MEMSPA:** Joel A reported that he will report any new info, nothing now.
- D. **MAAA:** Deb said not much information because of transportation issues. Deb plans to reach out.
- E. **NAEA:** Conference October 23rd through zoom. \$53.
- F. **Added to agenda: MEMSPA:** *Joel A reported that he will report any new info, nothing now*
- G. **Should be on Agenda: MICOOP:** *Not on agenda but Joel A said at the retreat he would be reporting on this. No report at current meeting due to not being on the Agenda.*

VII. Other Board Member Matters

- A. **Meeting with MDE & MACAE:** Rhonda met with both organizations representing MAEO. MDE wants us to partner in some way with MACAE to be a voice in Lansing. They want us to be heard. When we combine memberships we are force. Jeff and Steve from MDE are making the recommendation that we work cooperatively to have a voice in Lansing. Rhonda reached out to MACAE 2 times to set a second meeting to meet with their outreach coordinator, Patrick Brown, and the president was out of town so no contact has been made.

What would it look like to work cooperatively with MACAE? If this is something we want to do, and have a voice in Lansing, we need to pair up. Tammy reported that MACAE has moved forward with nice connections with Lansing. She loves the idea of cooperating with them. Rob asked if MACAE is a non-profit 501c3. Tammy believes they are. Rob believes because we are a 501c3 we can't lobby as a group because it would violate our status. We need to ask MDE if we can do this and go to Lansing and speak as an organization and not disrupt our non-profit status. Tammy believes there is a gray area where you are lobbying but not a paid lobbyist. Rhonda reported MDE was not specific on what they wanted, but just wanted to guide us that our voice is stronger together.

Members discussed this possibility. Rhonda/Sarah will have a meeting with MACAE. Joel H will reach out to Patrick for a response to a meeting because he has not responded to Rhonda yet. We will then invite a member at the December meeting.

- B. **1 Day PD Series:** Yolanda is proposing once a month to have a topic of conversation ½ day conference– offer for free. Alternate SEL and Academic throughout the months until February. Keep it consistent on the same Saturday each month. Also get input from participants on what they would like to see at the 1-days. Sarah suggested ½ day teasers to the 2-day conference. Yolanda mentioned that we could do a zoom recording with the presenters and put as a link on the website/social media like a movie trailer. Denise mentioned that we want to make sure we don't duplicate presenters because at the 2-day conference a lot of people make comments if the presenters have been there before. Discussion continued about the intimacy of the 1-day conference and logistics of holding a series of conferences.
- C. **Events and registrations:** Registrations moving toward google forms and continuing using something free.

VI. Adjournment: 6:49 adjourned.

Next Meeting is October 22, 2020.