

MAEO MEETING February 23, 2017

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

Absent: Jennifer McKnight, Mike Squires, David Groenenboom, Mallory Soffin, Heidi Palatka

Welcome: President's message: Deb Baughman's question: What are we doing well as an organization? What do we need to work on?

"We are doing better with communication". " We need to work on connecting our members", "we are doing well at recruiting members to come to our conference", "We could do a better job of getting out DIFFERENT types of information", " We can get better at building our board back up", "The yearly conference is done well", " we need teachers on our board", "we are doing better with communication and getting the membership list in shape", " we need to work on connecting members in additional capacities", " the change in deadline of the scholarships and awards increased the numbers", "the newsletter is a very positive addition", "volume of information going out is good but only to a select few", "we need to to connect folks who are doing the same work", "I love STARS", "an increased variety of ways to communicate with each other", " we can work on some fresh ideas". "Get Michigan connected with the NAEA group".

Approval of January 26, 2017 minutes:

As submitted- Motion by Chris Maes and second by Rhonda Phillips . All Approved by vote.

Board Reports:

Communications: Website up to date reports Colleen. Newsletter will be out within the next couple of weeks. Chris Maes will be highlighting his school for the next newsletter. Kick off photos will be helpful. .

Social Media: Chris has been posting about the scholarships and service awards, STARS, legislative day and the conference.

Conference: Denise. **Theme" Fill your toolbox"** Things are moving forward for the conference. Nine presenters have been arranged. Key note will be Craig Boykin, charges \$1,000 and his topic "Make education count". Derick Allen may come and be a presenter for Friday. He would talk about "positive characteristics", price being negotiated. Changing things up so that perhaps folks will stay and hear the lunch speaker. The information will be put on the website. Denise has worked hard to listen to the feedback from the surveys that the membership has shared at the conference.

Membership: Denise. We have approximately 475 updated members. Interest is coming in regularly. May be helpful to ask folks how they have heard about the organization.

Awards and Scholarships: Denise has approximately 9 scholarship applications and approximately 7 awards.

STARS: There was a written report submitted by Mallory Soffin. March 15th is Legislative Day. Lt. Governor Calley will be the speaker. Christ Community Church is site. Deb would like to try to get Gretchen Whitmer for next year to speak. She is too busy this year to join us.

MEA: Rob. Rob will be attended a Bargaining Conference in Detroit. Bill to roll back the income tax failed.

Treasurer: Rob. Balance \$48,552.52 as of February 23, 2017. A copy of the report is available. Motion to accept as presented: Karen Van Epps Second by Chris Maes
Passed by board.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Website and Facebook- **What does the board want added?** Denise knows a gentleman who may revamp our website structure for free. Deb asked board members to further review the Minnesota and National Alternative Education Association sites to give suggestions as to what content and/or visuals we would like to enhance our site

B. Other boards/Roles:

- a. MDE: No report from MDE
- b. MCAE-No report-Can we recruit a new board member who is active in this organization?
- c. MAAA- BB tournament coming up.
Please contact Rob regarding whether you are willing to continue to serve on the MAEO board and in what position so he can make up the ballot to be distributed at the conference

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Ideas about reaching out to ISD's in counties with the State conference information. Deb to speak to RESD and Colleen will email Eric Lapinski.
- B. NAEA conference: Deb will be attending in a couple of weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS

Scholarship and Awards could be done after the next meeting. Denise will scan and send the applications/nominations to all board members the week before. We will review and decide as an entire board.

How can we link teachers/admin etc. Suggestions included emails, a list serve, Facebook or snapchat. We will continue to pursue ways to do this

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Colleen Second by Lisa. Meeting adjourned at 7 pm