

# MRPA MID-YEAR MEETING – GREAT FALLS

## MARCH 13, 2009

### 1.) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – presented by Jenny Alexander.

- a. New fee structure implemented for 2009 membership application.
- b. Membership renewal notices just sent out prior to meeting – 16 have already been paid.
- c. Need for updated email list to include all current members.

### 2.) TREASURERS REPORT – Kory Thomson presented current MRPA Financial Report with information from Debbie Jones.

- a. Minutes from MRPA Business Meeting in Helena 2008
- b. Addition to Minutes to include the election of Advisory Team - Donna Gaukler, Rebecca Richards and Jerry Walker (list of officers from Doug Habermann).
- c. Motion to approve minutes from Doug Habermann, second by Jenny Alexander – motion passed.
- d. Matured CD#21163 (\$5637.01) deposited into MRPA account.
- e. Two other remaining CD's #22513 & #22110 set to expire in October 2009. Decision to roll-over or cash out at the Annual Conference.
- f. Ken Soberberg discusses the 2008 Annual Conference financials. Final Conference revenue (not including the Summit) was \$2991.23.
- g. The revenue generated from the Summit (nearly \$1000) will stay in an account, in an agreement with the National Park Service, and be dedicated for Children and Nature educational opportunities which supported the Missoula Summit.
- h. Monies received from the Silent Auction are not used to offset conference expenses – they are used for student scholarships.
- i. Discussion for the need of better financial information and management.
- j. Rob Thames makes a motion to form a committee (selected by the President) to investigate the relationship between MRPA and MLCT including the financials, second by Ken Soderberg – motion passes.
- k. Motion to have MRPA look into car-pooling to NRPA in Salt Lake City for 2009 National, second by Ken Sodeberg – motion passes.
- l. Motion to accept MRPA Budget as proposed by Jenny Alexander, amended by Doug Habermann to reflect 2008 revenue and expenses, second by Rebecca Richards – amended motion passes.

### 3.) MRPA AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS – Jennifer Young presented information on behalf of Rick Harbin.

- a. Award Nominations now being accepted and are available on the MRPA website.
- b. Media and Citation Awards available to Great Falls area recipients.
- c. Doug Habermann directs President to investigate putting together a list of past award winners.

### 4.) NEWSLETTER REPORT –NO REPORT (Todd Garrett not present at meeting.)

### 5.) 2008 NRPA NATIONAL CONGRESS – BALTIMORE (October 13-17, 2008)

- a. Jennifer represented MRPA at the Congress in Baltimore.
- b. Meetings held to look at implementing the Pacific Northwest Region back into NRPA.

### 6.) PRESIDENT ELECT AND BY-LAWS – Doug Habermann reports on issues effecting the organization.

- a. Updated listing of committee's formed.
- b. Donna Gaukler recommends amending the By-laws to include advocates who support parks and recreation under Associate and clarify President Elect increased role in procedural matters. Amended changes will be brought forward at Annual Conference.

### 7.) MRPA WEBSITE – Joe Fedin reports on MRPA website

- a. The website has seen some increased visibility from outside Montana.
- b. Kory Thomson makes a motion to only advertise Employment Announcements for jobs in the state of Montana, second by Jenny Alexander – motion passes.
- c. Copyright issues were discussed for photos and logos.
- d. Discussion on need to continue quarterly newsletters at Annual Conference.

**8.) 2009 GREAT FALLS CONFERENCE, "IT'S CHILD'S PLAY" (9/21-23) – presented by Rebecca Richards.**

- a. Discussion on educational sessions to be presented.
- b. Discussion to get the college students back to the Conference.

**9.) 2010 TRI-STATE CONFERENCE IN WEST YELLOWSTONE – presented by Bob Walker.**

- a. Wyoming may not be attending the conference – they are having their state conference in Laramie on Sept. 21-24.
- b. The preferred dates for the Conference to be held are October 5-7, 2010 at the Holiday Inn.
- c. Kory Thomson makes a motion to have Bob Walker, Jerry Sepich, and Doug Habermann draft a letter to Wyoming indicating that to have Wyoming included in Conference they would have to provide resources, financial and personnel, to be included in the conference. Motion seconded by Jenny Alexander, motion passes.
- d. Discussions to have the FWP State Trails Conference overlap with the Tri-state. Kory Thomson makes a motion to have the State Trails Conference follow the Tri-state with possibly one day of overlap between the two, second by Doug Habermann – motion passes.

**10.) NEW BUSINESS – FUTURE GOALS FOR MRPA**

- a. Advisory Team duties to include direction for future goals and mission for MRPA.
- b. Strategic Plan updated proposal. Potential to hire consultant or part-time executive director to be discussed at Annual Conference.
- c. Doug Habermann makes a motion to have Advisory Team, headed by Donna Gaukler, along with Bob Walker to review our Strategic Plan and report back to Executive Board at Annual Conference, second by Kory Thomson – motion passes.

Meeting adjourned