

MRPA MID-YEAR MEETING - MISSOULA

FEBRUARY 29, 2008

ATTENDEES: Kory Thomson, Jennifer Young, Rick Harbin, Jerry Walker, Sue Harkin, Todd Garrett, Doug Habermann, Jenny Alexander, Rob Thames, MC Beeby, Rachel Lovett, Jocelyn Dodge, Gene Blackwell, Donna Gaukler, Chad Fincher, Bob Walker, Ken Sodeberg.

- 1.) TREASURERS REPORT** – Kory Thomson presented current MRPA Financial Report with information from Debbie Jones.
 - a. Minutes from MRPA Business Meeting in Whitefish 2007.
 - b. Motion to approve minutes from Rich Harbin, second by Jerry Walker – motion passed.
 - c. Balance on hand \$7931.42.
 - d. Motion to approve Financial Report by Donna Gaukler, second by Rick Harbin – motion passes.
 - e. Proposed Budget by Executive Committee for 2009 to be presented to the membership at annual Conference in Helena. Motioned by Donna Gaukler, second by Rick Harbin – motion passes. Amended motion to create interim budget to help conference committee in Helena by Sue Harkin, second by Doug Habermann – amended motion passes.
 - f. Whitefish conference revenue \$1717.75. (Includes \$1500 start-up from MRPA).
 - g. Discussion regarding the outstanding bill (\$2000) from the Lodge at Whitefish Lake for guest rooms not used.
 - h. Fairmont Conference 2006 revenue of \$1746.42 received at the meeting. (Includes \$1000 start-up from MRPA).
- 2.) MRPA AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS** – Rick Harbin presented information on the MRPA Membership.
 - a. Make nominations to Awards Committee in the spring.
 - b. Motion to name committee members to include Rick Harbin, Rob Thames and Rachel Lovett by Donna Gaukler, second by Sue Harkin – motion passes.
 - c. List of past winners would be beneficial to the committee.
- 3.) MEMBERSHIP REPORT** – presented by Jenny Alexander.
 - a. 60 members have yet to pay their dues for 2008.
 - b. Billing to be sent out to those who have not yet paid.
 - c. Dues are for calendar years, not accepted at the annual conferences.
- 4.) NEWSLETTER REPORT** – presented by Todd Garrett.
 - a. Possible changes to newsletter format with the addition of a website.
 - b. Further discussion with Website at the annual conference in Helena.
- 5.) LEGISLATIVE REPORT** – Gene Blackwell reports on issues effecting the organization.
 - a. Discuss to create contact tree for communication on issues that affect MRPA and local and state agencies.
 - b. Bring items from local and state agencies to Helena Conference for round table discussion.
- 6.) 2008 HELENA CONFERENCE** – presented by Ken Sodeberg **“GO FOR THE GOLD”** at the Park Plaza (9/23-25).
 - a. Montana Children and Nature Summit on Tuesday 9/23 designed to attract others to MRPA.
 - b. Cost of the Summit paid for through sponsorship fees.
 - c. Bob Walker looking for ideas for Breakout Sessions with Tracks including Administration, Finance, Programming, Education, Facility Management and Security. (Call for presentations).
 - d. CEU’s will be available through MRPA Conference Committee and MRPA President – Summit included.
 - e. Student Scholarships funded through MRPA Budget – motion by Sue Harkin, second Doug Habermann - motion passes. (Student Scholarships will no longer be a Conference Expense).
 - f. Motion to approve start-up money (\$1000) for conference by Ken Sodeberg, second by Jocelyn Dodge – motion passes.

7.) 2010 TRI-STATE CONFERENCE IN WEST YELLOWSTONE – presented by Sue Harkin.

- a. Both Wyoming and Idaho have agreed to participate. Dates most likely 3rd week of September 2010.
- b. Sue Harkin will be retiring at the end of 2008 – Gene Blackwell has agreed to take the Conference Chair for MRPA.

8.) 2008 NRPA NATIONAL CONGRESS – BALTIMORE (October 13-17, 2008)

- a. Jennifer indicates she would like to represent MRPA at the Congress in Baltimore.
- b. Motion to have MRPA pay for all travel, meals, registration and lodging for Jennifer to attend the NRPA Congress by Doug Habermann, second by Bob Walker – motion passes.

9.) MRPA WEBSITE

- a. Rachel Lovett presented information on a proposed website development for \$600. Site hosted through register.com for \$150 per year. Updates to the website would be an additional cost per update.
- b. Kory Thomson presented information on site development through Crytech of Billings for \$2000, hosted by Crytech for \$185 per year.
- c. Motion by Sue Harkin, second by Donna Gaukler to approve the Executive Board recommendation to enter into the contract with Crytech for the website development (\$2000) and hosting (\$185/year) with the Billings Parks and Recreation Department providing the on-going site maintenance and updates at no cost to MRPA. Motion passes.

10.) MRPA BY-LAWS – revisions discussed by By-laws Committee (Doug Habermann, Gene Blackwell, Donna Gaukler & Sue Harkin)

- a. The last time the By-laws were reviewed and updated was in 1995.
- b. Creation of an Advisory Team to the Executive Committee, instead of the Section Chairs.
- c. All revisions and updates will be presented to the membership at the annual conference in Helena for their approval.

Meeting adjourned