

MINUTES

MAEE Board Meeting

Monday, July 11, 2011 / 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Wargo Nature Center
7701 Main Street
Lino Lakes, MN 55038



Board Members:

Present: Erin Zoellick, Britt Gangeness, Stefan Theimer, John Smith, Scott Alsleben, Kristi Pursell, Nicole Pokorney, Amy Markle, Anna Dutke.

Not Present: Faith Krogstad, Dan Schutte, Ben Bishop.

Quorum Present? Yes.

Others Present: None.

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 4:04 p.m. by President, Britt Gangeness.

Today's agenda was amended and approved.

Meeting minutes from May 12, 2011 were approved.

Partner sharing and toasts

- Board members present highlighted each others' progress on MAEE-related initiatives.

President's report provided by President, Britt Gangeness

- The Legal Corps consult is underway and the lead attorney on the project has been in contact with Britt. Will soon be meeting with Britt to convey their findings. Britt invited other board members to attend the final meeting.
- The administrative assistant will likely be slightly under budget for the year. NAAEE affiliate workshop will likely not have scholarships available as in past years, but having a Minnesota attendee available has been important and useful in the past. John is interested if money is available, if others know of anyone attending the conference from MN please let Britt know.
- Britt has created a sign-up sheet for us to gather auction items for the silent auction at the NAAEE national conference. The NAI national conference is coming to Minneapolis this fall, and Britt asked whether we want to contribute something to MNA for their conference (like the auction basket) or have some other presence.

Communications report provided by Committee Chair, Stefan Theimer and Committee Members Scott Alsleben & John Smith

- Stefan had several general communications items on his work plan that he did not manage to accomplish since the last meeting and he apologized.
- Scott reported that with the printing of the last newsletter having been delayed, MAEE received a discounted bill for the spring newsletter. He has been working on the summer newsletter (with the theme "play") which is nearly finished. He could use some more help with corraling articles for the next newsletters- even starting small. Next theme will be

“school.” Brief discussion ensued regarding posting of past issues of the newsletter with a delay so as to preserve it as a benefit of membership.

- Archiving past conference pages was discussed. Stefan will hide the pages, duplicating some for 2011, and add details from this conference to the past conferences page, along with the program.
- John and Adriane continue to work to get Wild Apricot to bend to their will. There were some problems with document anchors in the last e-update, but these issues will be worked through.

Membership report provided by Committee Chair, Kristi Pursell and Committee Member Dan Schutte

- Kristi has been sending some personal requests for organizational memberships to fill in some of the gaps on the website. She plans to meet with Stefan to address questions about website automations.

Treasurer’s report provided by Treasurer, Erin Zoellick

- Erin discussed the 2011 adjusted budget. After examining the budget numbers, a discussion ensued as to where we might be able to save some money in the budget. While these things may not be able to change this year to the extent that would completely erase the deficit, they would help us to plan ahead for next year and can impact our next year’s budget. **MOTION** by Kristi to approve the 2011 amended budget as discussed; seconded and passed. See “2011 approved adjusted budget,” as posted on the MAEE website.

2012 board roles

- Britt commenced a brief discussion regarding the situation with board roles with existing members, and any new recruits.

2012 board recruitment & elections

- Anna discussed the need for board recruitment and stressed that now is the key recruitment time. Nicole had a solid formal teacher who expressed interest. Erin had a contact in financials at MN Power, will follow up. Kristi had a contact at U of MN Extension, and will follow up.

Awards program

- Amy reported that the program was moving forward.

Scholarship update

- Britt reported on Ben’s behalf that no applications were submitted for NAAEE scholarship money.

NCLI and ELP update

- John and Stefan reported that the committee had call in June and has a work plan between John, Jeff, and possibly Stefan. Group has not had another call or moved forward since the government shut-down.

Joining the MN Green Schools Coalition

- John described the MN Green Schools Coalition. He has become involved in the organization and attended meetings. As was discussed at the last meeting, MAEE could sign on. Brief discussion ensued. **MOTION** by Scott to join the MN Green Schools Coalition as a signee; seconded and passed.

Event report and 2012 conference topics

- Nicole reported that some of the evaluation results included good ideas for the 2012 conference.
- Nicole is doing a webinar with the topic of "reflection" as an educational tool, and has offered to make it into an MAEE event, at no cost to us, but offered to our membership.
- 2012 Conference- Logo needed still. Committee roles for the conference are being formed.
- Amy met with University of Minnesota site director to determine lodging plans. The U of M is excited to have us there, but can't help with lodging, would like to help us with field trips (bog walk, bird hike). Mississippi Headwaters Hostel - reserved an entire wing of the hostel that can accommodate 18 people- money is due to them in January, has showers, rooms with several beds, general gathering area, have also allowed a few tents on their property in the past as a backup. Group camp site was also reserved and can accommodate 70 people. Discussed some more sessions/keynote and other options.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Stefan Theimer. Edited and submitted by Secretary, Faith Krogstad.