



P.O. Box 6728 Scarborough, ME 04070  
Tel. 207-252-0636 www.merpa.org

## Board of Directors Agenda

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Standish Recreation Dept, 175 Northeast Rd, Standish, ME

Conference Call Dial in Number: **641-715-0861**

Participant Access Code: 633838#

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Board Meeting

- 1. Call To Order Willette [10:00a]  
 Tracy Willette                      Karyn MacNeill                      Sabrina Best                      Steve Balboni  
 Debbie Gendreau                      Jen DeRice                      Jason Hanken  
 Lisa Thompson                      Nicole Welch                      Joe Crocker                      Doug Beck  
 Non Board Member: Tyler Stewart

- 2. Review/Accept Minutes of November 8, 2018 (DeRice/Thompson); all in favor

- 3. Monthly Budget Report                      Crocker

Joe provided a written report, he touched upon a \$20,000 profit off the ticket sales program. The amount budgeted for revenue was not met, there was a decrease in ticket sales but we were projected to generate a profit of \$16,000 of this program. Tracy suggested keeping this in mind when creating next year’s budget.

- 4. Board Discussion

- a. State Legislature & MMA Relationships

Conversations with local representatives spurred the question of ‘what does MRPA need from the State Level’. Examples should we have been more vocal during the minimum wage law etc. Another example was Portland Trails had a great article in connection with Maine Municipal Association, should we rebuild our relationship with MMA to get MRPA on the radar for cross promotion and advocacy.

Discussion on how we could better utilize the Executive Director in this field as Deb has demonstrated a strong voice with passion at previous meetings with representatives. Lobbyist was another suggestion, there are expenses involved but this could be a better approach versus volunteer board members taking it on. Doug suggested working with other organizations as they have the funding or employees to serve the lobbyist function.

Discussion on minimum wage and the impacts it has already have and will have in the future as the rate rises to \$12. Departments are forced to be more creative with working in the school department. Various members talked about how it is influencing and changing the before and after school care within their community. The impact and reaction was the bigger issue from the State Legislatures decision to change minimum wage. This is a perfect example as to why becoming more active and involved with State Legislature to be a part of the process vs. reacting. Conversation came back to using ED position with these issues and it was clarified that ED was to focus more on National efforts. How can we help take other items off ED plate such as Hot Shot to clear time for State issues. Tyler stressed the need for communication and maybe that’s where ED role starts. What is going on in Augusta and what should we be aware of and reaching out to our local reps. can we use MMA to help with this effort. It was suggested that an initial conversation with MMA president be had to explore rebuilding this relationship and how we can work together. Action: **Direction from the board is for Tracy and Deb to have an initial conversation with MMA about becoming involved with their efforts at the Legislature efforts.**

Another issue that has been brought up was paying an employee a stipend vs. hourly. Jen talked about how at the last SMART meeting every department handles this issue different all dependent on their finance and HR interpretation of the law. There was a consensus that this issue needs to be addressed with HR and Finance individuals to help define the proper way for consistency. Maybe this is another thing MMA could help with resolving. Doug suggested bringing back the Legislative Committee.

- 5. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Director Report (Attached)

Smith

Written Report

- b. Spring Conference

MacNeil

There is a committee meeting after the board and they will review sessions and talk about the Sunday night event which is a mystery and Monday will be similar to last year.

c. Hot Shot

The manual update has been placed on hold due to the development of a new JR NBA skills competition. Under Armor is sponsoring that has a similar setup with Locals, Regional's, Nationals. Finalist at the national level will be sent to NYC for the 2019 Draft. The same company LEJ Sports that runs Pitch, Hit, and Run is running this program. Auburn is hosting a Jr. NBA event and will report back. Discussion was had on would we want to leave the Hot Shot program and join the Jr. NBA program, which would be setup the same way of Pitch, Hit, & Run. Is MRPA in the business to run programs were a discussion topic? We will continue as planned with 2018-2019 Hot Shot and look to explore as a potential option. Possibly need to look at MRPA mission to define how we want to approach offering programs.

d. Membership

Smith

No Report

e. Fall Workshop

Welch

Two major issues from the feedback was Parking and Room temperatures. Working with Lewiston to secure a date.

f. Awards

Willette

Nominations are accepted year-round on the website.

g. Track and Field

Baude/Board

No Report

h. Pitch Hit & Run

Stewart

14 communities have agreed. The Northern regional's will move from Mars Hill to Fort Fairfield. Meeting with Sea Dogs in January with the MOU to secure the Southern regional.

i. Tickets

Harris

No Report

j. Students

Thompson

Lisa still needs to meet with USM. St. Joe's students are looking like the most promising to work with and bring students to the spring conference. Trend is moving to Sports Management classes it was suggested to reach out to the Community Colleges that also offer Sports Management classes. Lisa will reach out to other board members to help with college visits. UM-Machias is seeing a change from Municipal recreation to the Outdoor, Conservation, and Forestry recreation interest.

k. Northern New England Update

Thompson

Late fee for registering after Dec 1. Vender Hall is sold out and the director's workshop is close to sold out at 30. Monday Night Fireworks are no longer a go due to local fire marshal. Download the App.

l. SCORP Update

Willette

Tracy reported that there will be an initial meeting MDOT on Tues, MRPA will have representative for the State Comprehensive plan. This committee will meet several times over the next 6 months. Maine Outdoor Recreational Priority will be the focus. Doug gave some information about the process and materials that will be utilized within this planning stage including a survey.

m. MMA Affiliate

Balboni

Direction from the board is for Tracy and Deb to have an initial conversation with MMA about becoming involved with their efforts at the Legislature efforts.

n. NMCRA

Hallett/Willette

No update.

o. EMPRA

Gendreau

Ne Met last week and are only meeting quarterly and have a guest speaker join. Past meeting had a guest speaker and talked about Hot Shot to find feedback. Track and Field new structure seemed to go over well. It was decided that this would be the last year for Eastern Maine to participate instead will focus efforts on Pine Tree State Track and Field Program.

p. SMART

DeRice

Kennebunkport meeting was good, the new facility also included a room dedicated to Carol Cook. December meeting is Dec 19th in Cumberland.

6. New/Other Business

Board

Recent Scholarship Correspondence – UMF gave a thank you letter for MRPA's donation and was shared with the board. Tracy also received an email from Mark Glass with gratitude and Barb Toner sent a card thanking the board, Joe Toner sent an email, Tracy shared all of these.

Steve talked about intent to serve for the next election process and the link is on the website. The board will meet on Jan 17 at Wiscasset and can add this to the agenda.

7. Adjourn (DeRice/Thompson); all in favor 12:08pm