



**Annual Spring Business Meeting  
Monday, March 19, 2018  
Samoset Resort, Rockport, ME**

Minutes from Spring Business Meeting

Called meeting to order – 1:00 p.m.

Steve thanked Past Presidents and Annual Conference Committee

Steve thanked Landscape Structures and ME O'Brien as key sponsors; Northeast Charter and Tour and Kompan; Musco Lighting; Funtown/Splashtown

Video Contest – Yarmouth Community Services; Skowhegan Outdoor Adventure Program; Windham Parks and Recreation; Houlton Parks and Recreation- winner was Houlton Parks and Recreation

Current Board members were recognized for their contributions; Steve encouraged participation by others for committee involvement

**Secretary's Report:** (Willette, MacNeil) – All in favor

Proposed Budget – Steve reported that we are in good financial shape – loss of Russell was very difficult for the membership due to his many years of contribution to the board; Deb Smith has stepped in to manage the treasurer's duties in his absence; Steven explained budget is fairly standard – a few minor changes, including the Russell Packett Scholarship Fund that will be continually funded separately; (Willett, Kaherl) – All in favor

**Committee Reports:**

Student Reports: (Andy) – Explained his personal MRPA goal of having more students attending the conferences; 6 students applied (most so far) with 4 recipients present due to the MRPA Scholarship; Some Board members have been speaking at local colleges (SMCC a few weeks ago; SJC on Wednesday)

Spring Conference: (Karyn) – Breaking records with attendance over-all; Karyn thanked delegates and vendors; thanked Nicole Welch as the speaker chair; Karyn recognized all of the conference committee members and for their roles; Karyn stressed the importance of delegates meeting with the vendors and the contributions that the vendors make, which enables us to keep our costs down.

Scholarship: (Steve) – Steve explained the MRPA Scholarship fund (separate from the Russell Packet Fund) – encouraged members to apply for this 2x/year opportunity and also encouraged people to take part in scholarship fundraisers

Fall Workshop: (Nicole) – Will begin working on this late March, and get it done before summer camp begins; encouraged people to bring forth topic ideas

Track & Field: (Tim) – New Balance and Northeast Charter and Tour will be sponsors; 3 regionals – 6/26, 2/27 and 6/28 – Regional tournaments; July 10 – State meet; Looking for volunteers at regional and state meets

Pitch, Hit and Run: (Tyler) – Event starts locally; Boys and Girls from 7-14; 3 Regionals to be held late May or early June; Winners move on to Fenway

Golf Tournament: (Steve) – Bill Bonneyman Tournament on September 7; money raised traditionally goes to Scholarship Fund; Last year, proceeds (approximately \$8000) went to Russell's family

Ticket Program: (Kate) – Summer consignment tickets – Funtown/Splashtown, Aquaboggen, York's Wild Animal Kingdom – Kate suggested vendors could offer this to employees as well; Kate welcomes other suggestions for regional venues; Information should be coming out in the next few weeks; Winter Program has not been as successful – Sunday River/Sugarloaf not willing to participate

Hot Shot Program: (Hillary and Andy) – Coordinated with Maine Red Claws with State competition at the Portland Expo; 20-25 communities participated this year; State Competition was yesterday with 33 participants; Andy thanked those communities that hosted the regional competitions; Also thanked Deb Smith and Joe Crocker for their assistance at the state competition; Andy's last year as co- coordinator

NNERPC : (Lisa) - January 8-10; Location changing to North Conway Grand Hotel – more rooms for on-site accommodations; vendor space is bigger; meetings to be held in June; Registration between August – October

Awards: (Tracy)- Thanked committee and those that nominated candidates

Legislative: (Tracy)- Discussed LWCF worries – up for reauthorization; RTP program is stable at this point;

#### Regional Updates:

EMPRA – Deb reports that there many more EMPRA members; invited vendors to come to quarterly meetings

SMART – Jen reported that the group is meeting fairly regularly; 30-40 people attended the Positive Coaches Alliance last month; hoping to do other trainings like that – next one planned for April; also encouraged topic ideas

NMCRA – Hillary reported that they continue to meet monthly; collaborate with school departments; thanked MPRA for funds for training

Membership (Deb): 32 agencies with 177 staff; 86 professional members; 7 associate members (part-time), 66 commercial; 6 retired; 30 student memberships; 1 friend for a total of 360 – 19 new members this year; says a lot about the organization

Executive Director Report : Deb shared goal accomplishments for the Board this year; Matt Tobin helped us with the 1<sup>st</sup> Field Maintenance Workshop; Positive Coaching Alliance; created Mentoring Program – 4 young professionals looking for a mentor; more professionals signed up to be mentors; 4 matches created today; Many sponsorships were fostered this year; Helped Ellsworth Maine create a Parks and Recreation Department as a response to a request from that town; Deb discussed the VIP Program – received two applications this year; Candidates keep track of how they participated – recipient gets the \$250 VIP Professional Development (Steve Balboni ); \$100 VIP Recipient (Nicole Welch)

#### Election Results:

President- Tracy Willette  
Vice-President- Karyn MacNeil  
Treasurer- Joe Crocker  
Secretary- Sabrina Best  
Citizen Rep – Matt Tobin  
Parliamentarian- Doug Beck  
At Large –  
    Jason Hanken  
    Lisa Thompson  
    Nicole Welch

Hillary Hallett  
Deb Gendreau  
Jen Derice

Steve encouraged events to be put on MRPA website using Memberzone; Resource Library is there also

New business – Matt Tobin encouraged 5:00 vendor time – must be present to win great prizes

Motion to Adjourn – 2:00 p.m. (Willett, Kaherl)

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Brooks