



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

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 10, 2021

Zoom

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

1. Call To Order MacNeill [10:07a]

Karyn MacNeill	Sabrina Best	Deb Smith	Nicole Welch
Jen DeRice	Tyler Stewart	Lisa Thompson	Zach Schrock
Alan Grady	Doug Beck	Mitch Stone	Erika Dube

Absent: Gary Colello, Deb Gendreau, Joe Crocker, Hillary Hallett
2. Approval of May Meeting Minutes
 - a. DeRice/Schrock; all in favor unanimous
3. Treasurer Report
 - a. No report
4. Sub Committees
 - a. Golf Tournament: Tyler provided an update on the RFP process and Cumberland (Val Halla) was the only response at this time. The board supported moving forward with securing Val Halla for the 2021 Golf Tournament.
 - b. Youth Sports: Tyler provided an update, next meeting won't be until August due to summer schedules.
 - c. Legislative Advocacy – No Report
 - d. Summer Camp Training – Deb provided an update on the summer camp training opportunities for the week of June 14th. We have 28 communities and have already reached the fundraising goal.
 - e. Fall Workshop: Deb provided an update focusing on the committee's recommendation that it's in person on October 15 or 22 at The Lewiston Armory. They are exploring the opportunity to stream the sessions to allow for virtual training.
 - f. DEI: Deb provided an update, there was a packet sent out to the Board with the agenda for review. The board will be asked to discuss DEI in a future meeting.
5. Regional Updates
 - a. SMART – Erika provided an update, not much has happened lately as communities are gearing up for summer programming. Lisa will be taking over as the chair for the next year.
6. Programming Committees
 - a. Track and Field – Deb provided an update; the State meet will be held in Brewer on July 19 and the group is working on volunteers, regional meets and have a \$2,000 budget.
 - b. Maine Backyard Campout – Lisa highlighted a meeting next week to finalize Statewide contest and go over the Tool Kit and what communities are planning for July 9-11.
7. July National Parks and Rec Month
 - a. Deb sent a proclamation to Governor Mills office and waiting for a response.
8. Membership Update
 - a. Karyn, Deb, and Jen zoomed with about 8 new members (or old members that are in new positions) and it was very successful.
9. Other Business
 - a. MMA: Deb provided an update after attending the annual MMA meeting, she was able to connect with NRPA President/CEO, Kristine Stratton. As a result, NRPA staff is working on offering a session geared towards City Administration to help explain what Parks and Rec departments and professionals do and using Maine as the pilot. Deb will work with a few individuals to help give feedback and direction for NRPA to create a presentation that will be beneficial for Maine communities/professionals.
 - b. MOB and MRPA/Auburn Rec partnership: Sabrina talked about an opportunity to partner with MOB and the City of Auburn in hosting a Maine Outdoor Recreation Expo. She has been in touch with Carolann Ouelette at the State office for Outdoor Recreation to explore connections and have received positive feedback. She wants to make sure MRPA was involved to help grow exposure for the organization,

connect with potential new members and possibly bring in some revenue to MRPA. The board supported moving forward with including MRPA in these beginning discussions and report back at the next meeting.

- c. Equality Maine Bill – Erika was looking for an update, Deb has not heard anything but will check in for next meeting.

10. Next meeting

- a. No meeting July
- b. August 12 and will be held Virtual
- c. September 9 Retreat will be in person in Auburn 10am-2pm

11. Adjourn (Best/DeRice); all in favor unanimous

[11:16a]

Addendum to minutes of June 10, 2021 meeting:

Effective July 1, 2021, Executive Director Deb Smith, and Treasurer Karyn MacNeill will be the two names on the MPRA checking account at Evergreen Credit Union. Past Treasurer, Joe Crocker and Past President Tracy Willette shall be removed from this checking account.

Jen DeRice, MRPA President