**MASFAA Board Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Bighorn Resort, Billings, MT**

**Wednesday, April 6, 2016 – 11:15 am**

Members in attendance: Tina Wagner, Kelly Engelhardt, Emily Williamson, Rita Larby, Alexa Freeburg, Roxy Jacobson and Sandy Johnsrud.

The meeting was called to order by Kelli Engelhardt. Sandy Johnsrud made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Emily Williamson. All those in favor responded with “I” there were no opposed. Sandy Johnsrud made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Alexa Freeburg. All those in favor responded with “I” there were no opposed.

Committees reported out.

Emily Williamson from the Conference Planning Committee stated that the conference budget was good, they used cost saving measure by utilizing the dollar store for the prizes they made. The Tribal colleges were also reached out to about the conference but no one is attending. Reasons for non-attendance of the tribal colleges at the conference in the past included many sessions about loans (only one tribal college utilizes loans) and turnover in the financial aid office staff. One suggestion was to have a speaker/session on tribal issues.

Tina Wagner from the Nominations Committee stated that they had one nomination for Vice President/Secretary, Wes Feist, and two nominations for Member-at-large, Diane Llewellyn and Nancy Hanchett. There is currently no nomination for President-Elect so if anyone has any ideas please let her know.

Sandy Johnsrud from Membership stated there are no new institutions this year, for a total of fifteen institutional members. There are six Associate members and one corporate support. Total revenue from membership/corporate support is $2570 down $1730 from budget estimate. Kelli Engelhardt stated she reached out to Campus Logic as a possible new Associate Member but didn’t hear back from them.

Sandy also reported for the Budget and Audit Committee. She passed out the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Sheet for 2015 as well as the Profit and Loss Budget Overview for 2016. There is anticipated revenue in the spring conference registration. The budget currently reflects a net loss of $2193 for the year. It was discussed that this needs to be brought up during the annual membership meeting on Friday. Some suggestion for increasing revenue include: raising dues, combining conference and having the conference at the schools versus hotels. Sandy reported there is now online banking for MASFAA. There are still deposit issues as there is not a First Interstate Bank in her town. A suggestion was to utilize paypal for conference registration. Another suggestion was to get a debit card for MASFAA for ease of payment for online activities. A motion to approve the 2016 budget as made by Emily Williamson. The motion was seconded by Rita Larby. All those in favor responded with “I” there were no opposed.

Next were Officer Reports.

Tina Wagner, Past President, has served on the MCAN board again this year. She is currently the Secretary/Treasurer. They recently had their conference in March which was very successful and are currently working on creating their first board.

Vice President/Secretary, Julie Watson, was absent.

Emily Williamson, President-Elect, thought her trip to Washington D.C. was okay but is not really a political person. Senator Tester was intense during her visit. They talked about remediation and how that affects financial aid. She did not have a meeting with Representative Zinke. She met with Senator Daines’ aide. He was new so she mostly went over basic information to give him a lay of the land.

Sandy Johnsrud, Treasurer, had nothing additional to add.

Alexa Freeburg, Member-at-Large, had nothing to report. Rita Larby, Member-at-Large, had nothing to report.

Roxy Jacobson, Associate member, reported that the lack of vendors was due to timing of multiple conferences during the same time period and organizations being short staffed. She called all the associate members before the conference. Bank of North Dakota is our only vendor table this year and will be handing out mugs for everyone.

Kelli Engelhardt, President, reported that the RMASFAA board is struggling with the same issues MASFAA is. One is the possible increase of membership dues. The second is making the Vice President Position a 2 person position with a co-chair. They are also thinking of doing this with the Treasurer position. The only activity that is a revenue stream is Summer Institute, this year they are capping the enrollment at 180 students.

Old Business. The social media discussion is tabled for now based upon the research conducted by the board. There was some confusion surrounding the changes to the corporate support levels/offerings. It was suggested that they send the form out with the dates for next year right after the conference so vendors can get the conference added to their calendars and budget.

New Business. Emily Williamson said the conference is good to go. The Governor may be late due to attending Old Crow’s funeral. The thank you board dinner will be at Old Chicago at 6pm tonight. Different ideas were discussed concerning new membership dues structure. Due to the bylaws this will not go into effect for two years. A suggestion was made to increase the dues for the first level to $50 and then every level after that would be increased by $50 with the top level being $250. Another suggestion was to add language to the by-laws making an increase happen every year based upon a percentage.

There was a new award created by the board: The Advocacy and Leadership Award. Ricki Jones will be announced as the first recipient on Thursday night. A reminder was issued to place language into the Policies and Procedures about the new award.

There were two applications for the Summer Institute Minority Scholarship. Nicholas Jarvis, MSU, and Jaime Borrego, Carroll College. Rita Larby spoke about Nicholas and Tina Wagner spoke about Jaime. The board voted and Nicholas Jarvis will receive the scholarship. Tina Wagner emailed Nicholas about him receiving the scholarship on April 11th. Jaime was also emailed the same day to notify him that he did not receive the scholarship and was encouraged to apply for the RMASFAA scholarship.

Deb Tarpley was unable to attend the conference this year. Her award will be sent to her along with a video of well wishes/congratulations.

Emily Williamson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Roxy Jacobson. All those in favor responded with “I” there were no opposed.