Maine RID Board Meeting
Monday November 3rd, 2014
6:05-8:00pm

Location: GBSD - Tandberg Conference Room.
In Attendance: Maura, Cid, Ann, Nick, Danielle, Alyssa, Dan & Margaret (via phone).
Absent: Fred, Anna, Polly.

Meeting Agenda

Board Reports

1. Treasurer's Report
   1. Total Funds: $17,611.42
   2. Profit and loss statement complete. Available if/when needed.

2. President's Report
   1. Foundations Workshop Update (as of 4/19/14)
      - Foundations I: 21 registrants (9 slots left), Foundations II: 13 people (17 slots left).
   2. Nick will email reminders to the membership in the weeks leading up to Foundations.
   3. Minutes Review:
      - Maura reviewed all meeting minutes posted on the website (since beginning)
      - Lifetime members: Lois Morin, (there are more).
      - Previous minutes: No easy way to track motions, proposals and decision making.
      - $4,500 used towards MeRID Website in 2010, website has since been d/c.
      - Former board was working on Policy & Procedure Manual, could revisit.
      - Margaret would like to create a sub-committee to sift through former minutes, policies.
      - Nick (& perhaps Alyssa) are interested in assisting with secretary role.

3. Representative Updates:
      - First “Talk About the Work” meeting will be on November 17th.
      - USM may not be able to reserve the same room every month, may change a bit.
   2. Northern Rep.
      - Anna Perna is continuing to host “Dialogic Processing” Groups, going well!
      - Dan would like to offer up his home as a place for a board retreat (January)
      - No updates (not present)
      - No updates
      - No updates (not present)
   6. Deaf M-A-L
      - No updates (not present)
7. Student Rep.
   - No updates

8. Secretaries
   - 89 current memebers!
   - Secretaries are assisting with advertising and cross-referencing for Foundations I & II.

4. Regan's Proposal: Ella Lentz weekend in Maine
   - Backstory: Deafhood Workshop hosted 2 years ago, Ella Lentz's flight canceled last minute.
   - Regan suggested that Ella come to Maine again to present a full weekend workshop/show.
   - $2,000 lump sum was given to Butch Zein & Ella Lentz (may have included her flight??)
   - When Ella had to cancel former president (Regan) negotiated a possible secondary trip to Maine at a later date.
   - A bill never showed up from Ella, payment was never given to Ella (specifically) so Ella technically does not “owe” Maine a workshop at all.
   - Dan suggests that we reach out to Ella to see what she knows/thinks about the previous arrangement.
   - Can we write up a document to send to Regan explaining the lack of evidence that Ella owes a workshop to MeRID?
   - Since MeRID has not hosted anything for Deaf Interpreters maybe we can offer a workshop day for Deaf Interpreters?
   - Ella is not an interpreter so it may be hard to gear Ella's workshop towards Deaf interpreters.
   - Deafhood workshop cost $2,000, MeRID lost $383.00.
   - Ella is willing to stay with local people instead of a hotel, will save on costs.

5. David Evans
   - Dates: March 20th - 22nd (will arrive Thursday the 19th)
   - David be staying with Cid to save on hotel accommodations.
   - Offered a presenter's fee of $2,600 ($200 less than original quote!)
   - Room has been reserved: Shepard Lee Community Hall, Wishcamper, USM Portland.
   - Area outside the community hall is well set up for group processing, eating, etc.
   - Will send out a Survey Monkey to members to narrow down/pick workshop topics.

6. Board Retreat
   - Would like to set up an annual board retreat in the month of January to create a descriptive & full plan for the calendar year.
   - Goal is to hammer out a lot of agenda items and prepare for elections.
   - Dates will be determined via survey monkey, Margaret will format and send to the board.

7. Payment and website responses for regions.
   - Maura analyzed other RID chapter websites.
   - Most members prefer to use paypal for online membership & workshop payments.
   - Alyssa found a local website designer willing to design a new MeRID website for $5,000 and another one with more features for $10,000 - $12,000 (web designer for NJRID).
- NJRID emailed Maura stating that their website has flaws and they're very unhappy with it.
- Can set up a sub-committee regarding website.
- Board is willing to support the local website designer to create a new website.
- **MOTION:** Ann motions MeRID to spend $5,000 on a local website designer: Wendy Clark Design to create a new MeRID website. Sarah Seconds. 6 in favor, 3 abstained.

Discussion:
- Maura wonders if we could create a DIY website that meets our basic needs.
- Current website is rarely used, not well formatted & tedious for secretaries to manage.
- Wendy Clark Designs is highly recommended by the Sunrise Guide.
- Can we see the web designer's work and analyze it?
- Jillian (former web master) said no money was spent on a former website.
- In 3 years MeRID has gone from $22,000 to $17,000. Can we afford a new website?
- Will the website include paypal to pay for workshops and membership renewal?
- If the designer is recommended and contract solid, it would be a good investment.

**MOTION PASSED**

8. Logo
   - Tabled, will return to this once more information is given about the website (board retreat?)

9. Newsletter
   - Member perspective: Very informative!
   - Need a new newsletter, annual?
   - Need more content.
   - Should be done after the board retreat.

10. items for sale
    - Will continue to hold and sell the items until they run out. Could order more with the new logo

14. Are you in Gmail?
    - Almost all board members have access to their emails, those that don't will follow up.
    - Some emails look different ex.) “meridsouthernrep” is correct, “meridsouthern”.

15. Elections
    - Discussion Tabled. To be continued at board retreat.

16. Bringing back membership cards:
    1. Vistaprint?
       - Old fashioned, not readily used.
       - New website may allow members to print a membership card if they want to.
       - Idea has been dropped.
17. Fund Raising
- Could set up a web store with the new website (for additional cost) to sell MeRID items.
- Items for sale will be determined after new website and logo are established.
- Discussion tabled.

18. Scholarships
1. General Scholarships
   - By laws state that $100 scholarship is a reimbursement for a member who applies, pending a reciprocal service back to the board after completion of the given workshop.
   - Should set a cap of how many applications/scholarships can be given per fiscal year.
   - Should set a cap on how many board members can apply for the scholarship.
   - Board used to decided on a case-by-case basis.
2. **MOTION:** Margaret motions to reimburse Ann & Nick $100 (each) for Foundations I & II. Alyssa seconds. 5 in favor, 3 abstained. **MOTION PASSED**

19. Combined MeRID / MEAD Conference - "Meryl's Conference"
- Do we want to reach out to MEAD?
- Fred would be an excellent person to be involved in this discussion/planning.
- Danielle is also willing to be involved with this planning process.
- To be continued at a later date.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm
Parking Lot
(items to be addressed next meeting)

1. Meeting more often: Too difficult to get things done once a month.

2. Workshops:
   1. David Evans:
      - Sign contract before 2015 to save on rate increase
   2. Stephanie
   3. Legal
   4. Medical
   5. other
   6. Save the dates (after firming up contracts & meeting groups)

3. Annual Reports
4. Elections
6. Fund Raising
8. Newsletter:
   1. topics
   2. Updates

9. Official MeRID Logo
10. How to thank GBSD for allowing MeRID Board to use their facility and technology free?
11. Professional Development/Workshops:

   - Do we have a professional development chair? (Alyssa)

   - Policy and Procedure Manual - sub committee to update information and share with
     Board/ Membership. (Maura)

   - break into two groups - 30 minutes on Bylaws and Minutes. Switch, 30 minutes more.
   - Report back- need more time/ work?
   - The problem of pre-certified- do we want to change the bylaws to allow pre-certified to
     be on the Board?

14. Attaining a statewide connection using the Tanberg Conference system.

15. How to keep track of motions, policies, & decision making, sifting through old minutes.

Minutes By: Nick Dionne