

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:

1. Southern Rep.
 - 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)
3. Medical Rep.
 - No updates (not present)
4. Legal Rep.
 - No updates
5. Educational Rep.
 - No updates (not present)
6. Deaf M-A-L
 - No updates (not present)

7. Student Rep.
 - No updates
8. Secretaries
 - 89 current members!
 - 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