

MAFAA Executive Council Meeting
July 24, 2009
Century College

Present: Robert Bode, Diane Borchardt, Jr. Hunte, Donna Jager, Karen Kilzer, Tina Kukowski, Lois Larson, Kathy Ruby, Kerri Schmidt, Judy Swanson, David Vikander, Jenny Yang

This meeting is this first official meeting of the 2009-2010 executive council.

Call to order.

Student success story: Kathy Ruby

It is customary for a person to be highlighted as a “student success” at the MASFAA conference. This person’s story of overcoming odds to achieve an education is featured and the student is given an opportunity to speak. Kathy has solicited recommendations from MASFAA and received three. She described each person and the committee made their first and second choice recommendation. Kathy will follow up with the first choice candidate regarding attendance at the conference.

Letter from auditors

Lois received a letter from MAFAA’s auditors, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, outlining their auditing standards. No response is required. A copy of the letter was given to every member of MAFAA’s governing body.

Minnesota State Grant unit count requirement: Robert Bode

Robert suggested that MAFAA may want to undertake a formal study of the unit counting requirement used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Minnesota State Grant. MAFAA could develop and put forth a policy proposal to be considered for a possible amendment to the grant administration requirements. We would need to have it ready to present to the Minnesota legislature by January 2010. Before then, we would need to present it to MOHE for their approval and get their help and support in drafting an amendment. Robert will put this item on the agenda for the next meeting with MOHE.

All members were in agreement that this requirement is an administrative burden to schools requiring much staff time which can lead to an increase in a student’s cost of attendance. Also, this requirement prevents some eligible students from receiving state grant because of the difficulty of obtaining some academic transcripts.

Membership fee payment

The 2009-2010 MAFAA committee member list was reviewed and approved by all providing all committee members are currently paid MAFAA members. Motion carried.

MAFAA credit cards

Tina asked if there were any new members who needed a MAFAA credit card. The answer was no. Tina will cancel credit card privileges for those who no longer need them.

Minutes

It was agreed that minutes will be distributed electronically after each meeting to those invited to the executive council meetings: Michelle Ahrendt, Dick Battig, Jill Beauregard, Monica Bobek, Robert Bode, Diane Borchardt, Susan Brady, David Dahlen, Dianne Danov, Jayne Dinse, Scott Glime, Katie Hendrickson, Jr. Hunte, Donna Jager, Karen Kilzer, Tina Kukowski, Lois Larson, Nichole Lien, Sandra Loerts, Kathy Ruby, Kerri Schmidt, Jessica Sidla, Bill Silva-Breen, Judy Swanson, Carol Swenson, Greg Troska, David Vikander, Jeanne Wesley, Jonie Wiederhoeft, Gayle Yamry, and Jenny Yang

Each recipient will review the minutes and, if corrections or additions are needed, will bring them to the next executive council meeting for discussion and approval. After minutes are approved, Judy will send an electronic copy to Scott Glime for posting to the MAFAA Web site.

Listserv protocol

At their meeting on April 29, 2009, the Futures Committee recommended an additional statement be added to paragraph six of the listserv information page as follows: "Posting for promotion of individual financial products or professional development opportunities not sponsored by MAFAA is not allowed. If an Associate member believes a training opportunity would benefit the entire membership, we encourage delivery be coordinated with the Professional Development Committee Chair. If you are unsure of whether an item should be posted, contact your Associate Member Sector Representative."

After discussion, the executive council suggested rewording the statement to read as follows: "Posting for promotion of financial products or services not sponsored by MAFAA is not allowed. If a member believes a non-MAFAA-sponsored training opportunity would benefit the entire membership, s/he should contact the Professional Development Committee Chair for review and, if approved, posting."

The executive committee will hold an online vote on the above statement after Robert Bode sends it out electronically.

Budget: Tina Kukowski

Tina handed out the budget spreadsheet for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, as well as the one for July 1, 2009 – July 22, 2009. She noted that the executive council expense of \$1,975 incurred during July 2009 was for insurance, including liability insurance.

The 2009-2010 budget crafted at the retreat was reviewed. Estimate expenses exceed income by \$16,875 but, as is commonly the case, some committees may not utilize all funds budgeted to them. The committee decided that MAFAA is not required to always show a balanced budget, agreed to leave it showing a deficit for now, and unanimously approved the budget. Tina will transfer any excess funds that currently exist in checking to savings.

Corporate Support

A seconded motion was put forth for discussion. The motion was to charge a \$750 exhibit fee for the spring conference. (Previously, the exhibit fee was \$1500 for fall and spring conferences and \$1000 for either fall or spring.) Also, the newsletter advertising package would increase from \$600 to \$750 for the year. The training donation would be \$750. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAFAA membership fee exemption

After discussion, it was decided it was not necessary to waive the MAFAA membership fee for Jaime Malone.

Regional membership fees

Discussion centered around whether MAFAA should pay the MASFAA membership fee for an executive council member if their school cannot/will not pay it. The reasoning is that MAFAA should allow the president-elect to learn from MASFAA. Motion to have the MAFAA president's and president-elect's fees for MASFAA membership paid by MAFAA regardless of whether or not their respective colleges could/would or could/would not pay the fee. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

Committee reports

Leadership/Masters Leadership: Jayne Dinse

Leadership Symposium was held July 1-2, 2009, at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato with 17 participants. Expenses to date are \$7,302 which is \$1400 under what was budgeted for the event. Upcoming Events: There are 12 participants for Masters and Jayne will be contacting them with the research ideas and getting their teams started. Action Items for Exec: Approval of committee members: Kerri Schmidt, MN State College, SE Tech; Sandra Goman, College of St. Scholastica; Pam Engebretson, Student Loan Finance Corp.; Laura Jensen, Metro State University; Carol Dockendorf, Rasmussen College and Jody O'Connor, University of Minnesota. Executive council unanimously approved committee membership.

Development: Jeanne Wesley

Early in the 2008-09 academic year, she submitted a letter of inquiry to the Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation on behalf of the Early Awareness Committee to explore their interest in a "Kids, Colleges & Careers" event in Duluth, but they responded saying they sponsor ongoing educational activities only and were not interested in a one-time event. Shortly thereafter, at the suggestion of LaToya Sykes and Hannah Chan, she submitted a grant proposal to Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation for the same project (a Kids, Colleges & Careers event in Duluth); Great Lakes awarded the Early Awareness Committee \$5,093 for 2008-2009. She also asked the Duluth public schools district (ISD #709) to assist with expenses for the event and they provided bus transportation for the participants at no charge. The event took place on March 24, 2009, and was evaluated very favorably by the teachers, administrators, and students at the participating school (Morgan Park Middle School). Jeanne is happy to investigate grant funding possibilities for future MAFAA outreach events if the Executive Council sends her the background information.

Corporate Support: Donna Jager

Fee structure for 2009-2010 must be changed because there is only one conference. Recommend \$750 exhibit fee for spring conference. Advertising Option A: \$750 (10 newsletters, 1 conference insert) Option B: \$600 (5 newsletters, 1 conference insert). Training donation of \$750 or more--associate member will be listed on all MAFAA emails and signage at training events. Action Items for Exec: Approve fees for exhibiting, training and advertising. Executive council unanimously approved fees.

Access and Diversity: Sandra Loerts

Currently recruiting individuals to the committee. Is arranging meeting with Mankato's Workforce Center Manager. Upcoming Events: Meet with Workforce Center directors to discuss outreach to this agency. Discuss further the outreach Valerie Knopp does with the prison's release program. Action Items for Exec: As of today, individuals indicating that they will be members of the committee are: Michelle Richardson with Chase, Valerie Knopp Financial Aid Office at St. Cloud State, Paul Haugen with McNally Smith College of Music and waiting to hear for confirmation from Judy Swanson with U of MN. (Note: Judy has confirmed.) Requesting that the Exec Council approve this membership to the committee, thus far. Executive council unanimously approved committee membership.

Technology: Scott Glime

Currently soliciting members.

Web Master: Scott Glime

Updated 2009-2010 information on the web site (officers, forms, scripts, etc.). Upcoming

Events: Help Donna Jager set up new Corporate Support web pages. Help Tracey Stokes-Hernandez set up online volunteer sign up.

Professional Development: Gayle Yamry

Currently recruiting committee members. Upcoming Events: First meeting and planning will be the week of August 3rd-7th; exact day not scheduled. Action Items for Exec: Seeking Executive Council approval of committee members recruited to date: Gayle Yamry, Century College, Chair (Public); Lisa Apitz, South Central (Public); Patty Hemann, Riverland (Public); Tim Jacobson, Globe (Private/Profit); Jean Rock, SLFC (Associate); Becca Disken, USA Funds (Associate); Sheila Sejnora, Minneapolis (Public); Gerald Schulte, Northland (Public). Executive council unanimously approved committee membership.

Membership: Jessica Sidla

MAFAA database is up to date with all of the membership info from spring conference and from Tina (treasurer). Jessica has sent email reminders to the MAFAA list and individual members who have not renewed. Upcoming Events: Completing MAFAA directory for .pdf print. Jessica will be working with Bill to purge listserv and renew subscriptions in August.

Public Relations: Susan Brady

Currently soliciting volunteers to serve on committee. Upcoming Events: MN National College Fair planning and preparation. Going electronic and green: Financial Aid Night mailing to school counselors. Action Items for Exec: Approve the following as committee members: Lynn Ash, MN School of Business; Co-chair Monica Bobek, Univ of St. Thomas; Co-Chair Susan Brady, Univ of St. Thomas; Anne Dahlen, MN State College - Southeast Technical; Liz Reardon, Univ of St. Thomas (liaison to MACAC); Michelle Richardson, Chase; Cathy Saari, Univ of MN - TC; Julie Selander, Univ of MN - TC. Executive council unanimously approved committee membership.

Early Awareness: Judy Swanson reported that she had recently received an e-mail from Tracy Stokes-Hernandez indicating that the Early Awareness Committee is likely to receive 2009-2010 grant funding from Great Lakes.

Sector reports

Associate Members: Great Lakes provided an update on the Loan Purchase Commitment (“put”) Program.

Other Public Colleges: Nothing to report.

Private For Profit: Nothing to report.

Private Nonprofit: Nothing to report.

State Universities: There has been some discussion about Philip Day's arrest. Also, MNSCU chancellors were awarded bonuses and some presidents received raises during the same year staff salaries were frozen and layoffs occurred.

University of Minnesota: Jill reported that her boss will not be replaced at U of M, Morris.

President's report

It was very hot during the NASFAA conference in San Antonio; about 102 degrees each day. There was not much discussion of the Dr. Day debacle at NASFAA. Nothing else to report.

Next meeting

The next meeting is 10 a.m. Friday, September 11, 2009, at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie. (The Financial Management Committee will meet 9 – 10 a.m.)

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Judy Swanson