

MSU Administrative Professional Association MEA/NEA
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting
March 14, 2023
2:00 PM

APA Board Present: Darius Bradley, Sue Brandt, Jim Brinker, Patricia Hampton, Heather Litts, Jamie Lynn Marks, Martin McDonough, Gerlind Kiupel, Todd Ring, Jeremy Romel, Leo Sell, Kandy Slack. Becky Jo Farrington, Patricia Hampton, Nicole Proctor-Kanyama Kasey Wilson, Ex officio.

APA Board Excused:

MEA Staff Present: Dennis Kubas

Call to Order

Martin McDonough called the meeting to order and took a roll call of the board.

Welcome and Introduction

Approximately 18 general members attended virtually.

Approval Of Agenda

Gerlind Kiupel moved to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion seconded by Nicole Proctor-Kanyama and approved. Leo Sell ask about moving the replacement of the secretary position to further up in the meeting, but this is more of a conversation.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of February 21, 2023, presented to board. Jaime Lynn Marks moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Patricia Hampton. Motion approved.

Official Guest(s) – None

REPORTS

President's Report

Report presented to the board electronically. Remembered the shooting incident that was just a month ago.

Some places aren't giving merit raises or denied for unusual positions. Suggested that the members look for new positions.

Leo Sell wanted to highlight that there is a vacancy in the Office of Employment Relations. Rick Fanning has resigned from the University.

Jim Brinker asked about the interim persons experience. They have been at the negotiations table with us before.

Governor Whitmer's assistant called to see if there was anything we needed in relation to Admin. Martin mentioned we have negotiations coming up.

Vice President's Report

Discussed a conference she went to that talked about how important branding is. One Union had a branding campaign that included t-shirts for its members and had a day where they all wore them. Have a future discussion about having APA merch available for members. We want to get members more involved with our Union events.

June 7th we will be having a Union Expo at the STEM Building. Representatives from all our committees will be there to discuss with members.

Treasurer's Report

Report has been shared with the board. Martin asked about the audit. There is some information that they needed and are still working on our audit; it'll be sometime after April.

Uniserv Director Report

Right to work doesn't directly affect us because we are public employees. Suggests that we support any legislation that is out there. The posting for this position will be up soon. New dental plan is being implemented that is an employee pay option. Nurses being added to the Union was held up in OER, have to start conversation with new person.

Membership Report

We received a copy of the membership report. Number of prospects is going up due to various reasons. Our member numbers are staying steady but the percent of members to prospects is going down because of the higher number of prospects.

Would like to use funds for the annual picnic to ramp up the May 19th Lugnut's game ticket numbers. Tickets would be \$19 each. We could also use the extra funds to add a hotdog meal for \$8 each. \$8360 total for the event. This would not require any extra money then what is in the budget currently.

Martin asked if there was any objection to this reallocation. There were none. This was an informational item.

Pat would like to reallocate \$900 to provide food to 100 members for the Union Expo. No objections were noted.

Communications Report

All minutes are now on the site. Todd Ring would like to move our website to a new provider named Site 5, which would cost \$11.95 a month. Faster response times plus

many other features would be available that we do not have with our current provider. Martin asked for a more detailed proposal to be presented to the board.

We are prepared to lock down site. Home page, about page and the contact would be available to anyone.

Leo suggested we update the terms on our bio pages. Also include all election information on the page.

Legislative Report

Becky Jo Farrington talked about the MEA legislative page that has a bunch of interesting information. Becky Jo will be reaching out to people who are interested in the Legislative Committee.

Elections Report

Kasey Wilson said that we should have our postcards and thank you to the nominees for turning in their information. That information will be up on the website soon.

Leo Sell asked about the open Board seat. There is one seat open with a year left and is not going to be on the ballot due to timing of vacancy notice. Someone should be appointed at the April Board meeting.

Grievance Report

Martin said there are 3 cases open right now. Trying to get settlements for all 3.

Finance Report

No report

DEI Report

There are a couple of events coming up.

Constitution & Bylaws Report

No report

Board Compensation Report

Jim Brinker presented the compensation policy. Leo Sell suggested that board members certify their own involvement in the criteria. He also suggested that we add some MEA events to the criteria. Sue Brandt asked that her comments that were sent beforehand be shared with the committee. It was suggested that this policy be voted on by the membership not just the Board. Heather Litts discussed having to pay for mileage traveling back and forth to Grand Rapids. Pat Hampton asked about creating a policy like this for the Area Reps. Jim Brinker will take comments back to the committee.

Professional Trainings/Conferences

Martin gave a recap of the NCHE Conference. Pat and Kandy attended the NEA ESP Conference. Kandy attended NEA Higher Ed Conference.

Member Questions, Comments and Concerns

Question about Minutes being uploaded to the site. The missing minutes have now been uploaded.

Many comments on sound, this will be addressed when we are able to meet at our offices.

Member asked about member dues. There is no comparison between our union and the others. We have the resources to be able to take care of our members.

BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Old Business

JHCC

The Chair provided an update regarding JHCC actions.

Negotiations Committee

The Negotiations Committee was to meet on March 30, 2023.

Michigan Association for Higher Education (MAHE)

The Chair attended the MAHE meeting with no detail reported that wasn't already reported in the Higher Ed Conference report

MEA UNiServ Director status (8-H Coordinating Council)

The Uniserv Director status had an active posting and the council will be informed when that posting is closed.

New Business

Early Enrollment program, anyone who has never been a member of MEA is eligible for this program. This program will run from April till end of June. Board members will receive \$100 to take part in recruiting members from this grant funded program. We were the number 1 local in the nation last year.

Leo Sell moved that we approve and adopt this motion. Jim Brinker seconded. Motion passes.

Secretary position is open, and we are looking for volunteers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming APA Executive Board Meeting (Hybrid for Members)

April 11, 2023, 2 - 5 p.m. MEA HQ

Upcoming MEA Events

Region 8

March 15, 2023 MEA HQ

MAHE

March 31, 2023 6 – 8 p.m. Virtual

MEA 2023 RA

April 21-22, 2023 - MSU Kellogg Center - All day

Upcoming NEA Events

NEA Higher Ed. Conference

March 17 – 19, San Jose, CA

Executive Session

Discussed negotiation and personal changes at the University Admin.

Adjournment

8H Coordinating Council

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Jim Brinker