

Meramec Regional Community Foundation

MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Members Present: Doug Dunlap (Gasconade), Vicki Nelson (Maries), Wayne Parry (Phelps), Marilyn Odle (Pulaski), Laura Antolak (MRCF At-Large), Gary Brown (MRPC At-Large) and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director)

Members Absent: Mardy Leathers (Crawford), Donald Claycomb (Osage), John Robinson (Washington), Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large)

Guests Present: Richard Cavender

Staff Present: Maria Bancroft

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Parry called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from the March 5, 2014 *Invite-A-Friend* luncheon meeting. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Dunlap. Motion passed.

MRCF Fund Balances Report as of February 28, 2014 and MRPC Tracking Administration

Financials: Bancroft shared with the board the current fund balance report as of February 28, 2014 and a summary of the MRPC financials. In addition, she provided the board members with a breakdown of the historical subsidy provided by MRPC since the inception of MRCF. There is a historical trend of a decrease with the subsidy except for this fiscal year due to the flood relief funds that emerged during the beginning of the fiscal year.

Bancroft updated the board on the Pulaski County Flood Relief Fund and shared ideas on how to handle the fund since most of the funds were distributed to the selected applicant. Bancroft shared input from CFO on the fund and recommended to change the fund name to the Pulaski County Disaster Relief Fund so that it can be utilized in the future for other needs. The board agreed with the recommendation to modify the name. Antolak made a motion to change the fund name, seconded by Brown. Motion passed.

The board also discussed how to continue with future meetings and to better utilize staff time. The group decided to continue to schedule the monthly meetings but to determine each month how meetings will be conducted such as via phone conference call or a regular full board meeting at MRPC. Brown and Odle expressed their preference of having on site meetings. The board agreed that it is important to keep the momentum and consistency with the board meeting regularly.

Sustaining Membership 2014: Bancroft shared information on the sustaining membership drive for this year. Bancroft suggested waiting until July to kick-off this year's campaign and work it into the annual meeting. The board discussed how to plan for the drive for this year. The board agreed on having the drive later the year if it does not impact the current budget for MRCF. If the budget requires membership dues for the current fiscal year then staff will proceed with sustaining membership drive before the end of this fiscal year.

MRCF 2014 Scholarships Reviews and Selections:

- 1. Richard and Jeanne Cavender Scholarship Fund:** There were eight applications submitted for the scholarship fund that the board reviewed and discussed. The group approved to select Gage Scurlock from Rolla High School and Logan Billingsley from Steelville High School as the two recipients for this year. Antolak made a motion to approve the selected applicants, seconded by Cavender. Motion passed.
- 2. Virgie Cole-Mahan Scholarship Fund:** There were four applications submitted for the scholarship fund that the board reviewed and discussed. The group approved to select Victoria Kraemer from Richland High School as this year's scholarship recipient. Dunlap made a motion to approve the selected applicant, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed.

MRCF Goals and Action Plan FY 2014 & Updates:

Chairman Parry asked the board members present for feedback from the Invite-A-Friend luncheon meeting. There were positive comments from board members who attended and brought guests to the event. The board suggested having another similar event in the fall.

Prigge mentioned that Bancroft will meet with the Vienna Eagles for their May board meeting to discuss and share information on MRCF and CFO.

Dunlap is working to help with the transition of the scholarships held with the Owensville School District. The Rails for Trails group is looking to create a fund with CFO. He is also working with the Owensville Chamber to create an endowed scholarship.

Parry, Antolak and Bancroft provided an update on the Eck Animal Shelter in Rolla. The city has hired a company to conduct a feasibility study and that has to be completed first to determine project cost.

Antolak mentioned that CASA has created a new endowment fund with MRCF/CFO. In addition, St. Patrick's Church is interested in creating an endowment fund. There are no new updates with Brewer Science.

Nelson shared with the group the new alumni scholarship fund recently established with the Maries R2 School Foundation. It has already generated over \$600 in donations.

Prigge mentioned that the Vichy Fire Department fund has recently received memorial donations to benefit the fund.

Odle will meet with Wayne Morgan to discuss the goals for Pulaski County. She will also keep pursuing the Waynesville School Foundation to meet regularly and for CFO and MRCF staff to meet with the board.

Bancroft asked the board members present if there are any changes to make with this year's goals. Dunlap suggested changing the goal for Gasconade County to work on endowed scholarships as one of the goals.

One of the goals has been met to create a school foundation in Maries County. For Phelps County, Parry recommended to remove the goal to affiliate at least one organization or fund outside of Rolla and to add the goal to assist with creating an endowment fund for St. Patrick's Catholic Church. The region wide goals will remain the same.

Comments for the Good of the Order

1. *CFO Annual Affiliate Community Foundation Conference – April 24, 2014*

Christ Episcopal Church, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Springfield, MO

1. *Rural Schools Rendezvous – Fair Grove, MO – April 23, 2014*
2. *MRCF next board meeting – May 7, 2014 (Tentative)*
3. *MRCF Annual Meeting – July 30th at 1:30 p.m.*

Adjournment: Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Approved by the board _____, 2014

Wayne Parry, Chair

Attested by Secretary or other MRCF Officer