

## MERAMEC REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

**Members Present:** Doug Dunlap (Gasconade), Vicki Nelson (Maries), Vicki Lange (Osage), Marilyn Odle (Pulaski), Joanne Zap (MRCF At-Large), Don Brackhahn (MRPC At-Large), Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large) and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director).

**Members Absent:** Catie Ringeisen (Crawford), Gary Brown (Dent), Mark Riefer (Phelps) and Cindy Merx (Washington).

**Staff Present:** Maria Bancroft

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairperson Nelson called the meeting to order and led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance at approximately 9:32 a.m.

**Welcome new Osage County Board Member Vicki Lange:** Chairperson Nelson introduced and welcomed new Osage County board member, Vicki, Lange, to the board. Lange shared her background and work history. Afterwards, each board member and staff introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairperson Nelson presented the board meeting minutes from October 5, 2016. Vogt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Brackhahn. Motion passed.

**MRCF Grant-Making Fund 2016 Final Reports:** Bancroft updated the board members with the last progress report received from The Community Partnership to close out this year's grant. Each grant recipient completed the required progress reports.

**MRCF Grant-Making Fund 2017 Open Round:** Bancroft updated the board with information on the new grant round that has opened for applications. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2017 by 5 p.m. Bancroft mentioned that past recipients, MRCF agency partners and MRPC board have received the grant announcement to share with their contacts. To date, staff has received two applications.

**MRCF Goals and Action Plan FY 2016 & Updates:** Chairperson Nelson asked each board member to share with the group updates and developments in their communities.

1. Crawford County – No updates
2. Dent County – No updates
3. Gasconade County – Hermann and Owensville Chambers of Commerce had a fundraiser to raise money for the Gasconade County Courthouse. The Owensville Area Community Foundation has set up their endowment scholarship funds. The Rails to Trails continues to move forward.
4. Maries County – Belle's Downtown Beautification flag project is complete as far as the purchase of all of the flags. The next phase is to purchase enough solar lights to illuminate flag. The Rails to Trails is ready to start and received a one-year extension on the grant. Connie Chrisco met with Steve Vogt to set up an alumni scholarship fund for her graduating class.
5. Osage County – Suggestions were made to bring awareness in the county with non- profits, funeral homes, schools, etc. There is a need for awareness and a vehicle to outreach in the community as well as in particular with the State Tech School, Linn school district and any other schools in the county.
6. Phelps County – There was a donation made to the S.A.V.E. Rolla Animal Shelter fund from Central Federal Savings & Loan for \$25,000. There is a new director at Your Community Health Center in Rolla who took Amy McCarthy's position.
7. Pulaski County – The old playground equipment from the Little Heroes project was donated to the Richland community to use for their park. Route 66 Preservation (one of this year's community grant making fund grantees) is moving forward with marketing to visitors with the

historic route due to the city of St. Robert moving slowly with improvements.

8. Washington County – No updates

**MRCF Fund Balances Report as of October 31, 2016 and as of November 30, 2016:** Bancroft summarized the two most recent fund balances reports for MRCF provided by CFO. There were no new funds added to the report as of the end of November. There was an error noted by Prigge that the Shirley Andrews Memorial Fund name needs to be reviewed and changed from Andrew to Andrews. Prigge also asked if the Maries County R2 PTO Scholarship Fund was set up for this spring to award its first scholarship of \$500. Bancroft will follow up with CFO on the Andrews Fund and the PTO Fund.

**Board Meetings Schedule 2017:** Bancroft provided the board with a draft meeting schedule for 2017. Changes were made to the draft and a final version will be distributed to the board by email.

**Sustaining Membership Drive 2017:** Bancroft asked the board members for ideas on how the board wants to continue with next year's Sustaining Membership drive. Board members asked how much was received last year. Bancroft stated that she would email this information to the board after she checked with the fiscal department.

**Comments for the Good of the Order:** Bancroft reminded the board that the MRCF Grant- Making Fund 2017 deadline to apply online is January 31, 2017 at 5 p.m.

**Adjournment:** Being no further business, the board meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:55 a.m.