

Meramec Regional Community Foundation

Meeting minutes

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Members Present: Gary Brown (Dent County), Doug Dunlap (Gasconade County), Vicki Nelson (Maries County), Wayne Parry (Phelps County), Laura Antolak (MRCF At-Large), T.R. Dudley (MRPC At-Large) and Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large).

Members Absent: Joe Scott (Osage County), Marilyn Odle (Pulaski County), John Robinson (Washington County) and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director).

Staff Present: Maria Bancroft.

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Parry called the December 3, 2014 meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. and led the board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from the October 1, 2014 meeting. Vogt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented seconded by Dudley. Motion passed.

Crawford County Board Member Vacancy: Chairman Parry discussed with the board the vacancy that needs to be filled to replace Mardy Leathers representing Crawford County. Parry asked Bancroft if Bonnie Prigge had contacted the two recommendations, Dennis Rodemeier and Catie Ringeisen, as possible candidates to fill the vacancy. Bancroft will follow up with Bonnie Prigge to contact the two individuals for consideration and update the board at the next meeting. No action was made by the board and the item was tabled to be discussed at the next board meeting.

Foundation Board Orientation January 2015 Meeting: The board discussed the upcoming January meeting that will include a board orientation presented by CFO staff. The board agreed to incorporate the vocabulary exercise presented at the Fundraiser Institute to guide the board on how to meet with individuals in their communities.

Sustaining Membership Drive 2014 Update: Bancroft updated the board on the Sustaining Membership Drive. She will send out the county specific letters to each board member to distribute in each community. She will email the letter endorsed by the board president to MRPC's board member contacts as well.

Recap of Fundraiser Institute Event on October 22, 2014: Board members present who attended the Fundraiser Institute shared their feedback on the event. The event was well received and there was very good attendance with participants throughout the region.

MRCF Goals and Action Plan & Board Member/Staff Updates: The following updates were shared with each county representative at the meeting.

Maries County: The Maries R2 Schools Foundation is having its first fundraiser in March with a Steak Night and Auction at the Vienna Eagles. Vogt asked for volunteers to help with the event. Nelson shared an update that the Rails to Trails initiative is still underway.

Washington County: Robinson discussed that the Elks Lodge is having a fundraiser and is trying to work with the organization to set up a fund. He continues to work with The Community Partnership to establish a fund to reinvest monies that they organization has. There is also a toy drive in the community that is a huge fundraiser during the holidays.

Dent County: Brown met with the Dent County Foundation to learn more about the community's local foundation and offer assistance in the future to their organization.

Gasconade County: Dunlap shared with the board the activities occurring in the county. The Owensville Area Community Foundation is actively going through the Strengthening Our Communities program through CFO. The Lions Club is working on a project to improve the ball fields in the area. The Rails to Trails project is following more of a tourism focus. MOB-Making Owensville Better- is a local group that plays disc golf to encourage community involvement with the local youth and graduates from the school district.

Phelps County: Antolak informed the board that The Community Partnership has approved to open a fund for the Kaleidoscope Discovery Center project for the purposes of construction of a facility and operational needs. There is a building that has been identified to utilize for a temporary location office. Antolak also mentioned that her term with the board will expire in June 2015. She will finish her term and will not be able to serve another term in order to focus on the Kaleidoscope Discovery Center project.

MRCF Fund Balance Report as of October 31, 2014: Bancroft summarized the current financial fund balance report as of October 31, 2014.

MRCF Upcoming Events:

1. **MRCF Board Orientation 101** – January 7, 2015
2. **Invite-A-Friend Luncheon** – March 4, 2015, 12 noon at MRPC

The board discussed rescheduling this event in order to accommodate the CPA's after tax season. Bancroft will send an email out to the board for feedback to change the date later in the year to make that happen.

1. MRCF Annual Fundraiser – June 2015

Adjournment: Being no further business, the board meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Approved by the board on _____, 2015

Wayne Parry, Chair

Attested by Secretary or other MRCF officer