**Meramec Regional Community Foundation**

**meeting minutes**

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

**Members Present: (By Virtual Conference)** Steve Vogt (MRPC At-large), Vicki Lange (Osage), Wendy Young (Phelps), Randy Becht (Pulaski), Greg Harris (MRCF At-Large), and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director)

**Members Absent:** Jared Niederer (Gasconade), Gary Brown (Dent), and Ray Walden (MRPC At-Large)

**Staff Present:** (By Virtual Conference) Maria Bancroft

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice-Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at approximately 9:35 a.m. and led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Lange entered the Zoom conference call at approximately 9:50 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** The board reviewed the minutes from July 22, 2020 and October 13, 2020 board meeting. Young made a motion to approve the minutes from July 22, 2020 as presented, seconded by Becht. Motion passed. Vogt made a motion to approve the minutes from October 13, 2020 as presented, seconded by Young. Motion passed.

**Board Officer Appointment– Secretary/Treasurer:** Chairman Lange asked the board for recommendations on the officer position. Young made motion to nominate Becht as Secretary/Treasurer to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022, seconded by Harris. Motion passed.

**MRCF Community Grantmaking Fund 2021 Grant Round:** Bancroft updated the board with next year’s grant round progress. The grant is open and online on CFO’s application platform starting October 31, 2020 through January 29, 2021 by 5 p.m. Harris mentioned that the two funds established by Schierloh Family are a large portion of MRCF’s fund portfolio. Harris asked the board how MRCF can grow its existing fund portfolio by establishing more estate giving funds, conceptualize how each fund was created, determine the donor’s motivation and use those methods as a guide to grow existing portfolio in the future.

**Sustaining Membership Drive 2020-21:** Bancroft asked the board how MRCF should plan for this fiscal year’s sustaining membership drive. Bancroft mentioned that staff is working on an updated membership form to share with the board before sending it to potential membership. Harris suggested that the form identify MRCF’s case, what the individual will support, and why would an individual want to be a member.

The membership funds go to the MRCF capacity building fund and covers any shortfall with operational funds. Statement of purpose that sounds reasonable and is reasonable. BJP Direct our campaign to past and existing board members. GH send a request to support MRCF and their own fund as well by increasing your fund balance.

Give Ozarks: How can we focus on those folks who have funds with us and solicit their connections to increase their donation with their organizations. Two fold with Give Ozarks (March 24th) and efforts to Sustaining Membership. Folks may be more into the grant making fund. Follow up with the past grant recipients. This is the fund that provided your project of …….. may be more receptive to make a donation.

1. Give Ozarks to be involved with the effort to work together to work the funds that want to participate. They are promoting their own efforts but MRCF will promote all of those funds participating, organize a regional promotional effort. Prigge, Young
2. Sustaining Membership Drive plan – Becht, Prigge

**MRCF Fund Balance Report:** Staff will present the current fund balance report as of November 30, 2020. – Maria Bancroft, Staff

Asked if have any questions. Prigge funds are back up and recover what was lost with the Scheirlohs.

**MRCF Goals and Action Plan Updates:** Board members will share community updates and goals progress for fiscal year 20-21. **–** Chairman Vicki Lange

* Update current fiscal year goals and plans
* Prigge new scholarship in Osage County Koch-Lange family, if not from Thuresville, and back up of Belle High School. Will be available for the May grant cycle. The pass through was ear marked for $600 for this year’s grant. There is intent to set up a cemetery fund to set it up for future distributions.
* Harris – Newburg Richie Myers – tried to reach out and was not able to reach out to him. Get information out to the organizations in Newburg. Schools, monthly food distribution, Harris will share information with Richie Myers
* Harris reached out to Core with Rolla Public Schools, president is Stevie Kearse, Gina Zervos is the director of communications and volunteer services, Joe Birken, Core missions is prek through high school to provide funding for enrichment activities. It involves a lot of funding for field trips, science and art, etc. Stevie wrote back and will keep funds in current investment structure. Any interest with coordinating with MRCF particularly if challenged to receive gifts through MRCF, planned giving services, etc. Core has a landing page on the rolla public schools website.
* Prigge will do a few facebook posts on annual contributions to make donations before the end of the year with more tax benefit.
* Vogt looking for ways to increase funds by creating a brochure that would be able to leave at different funeral homes, local fund relevant, etc, to make a planned gift or donation. Maybe create a letter with the list of funds by county or city along with the brochure. Harris mentioned cannot see anything on MRCF on the MRPC website. Prigge mentioned that is on our list to focus more and make more visible with MRCF. Vogt mentioned he has a person from Osage County who is interested in serving on the board. Tony Haden.
* Harris received a notice today that Missouri Rock Island trial to be part of the Missouri United Charitable Campaign???? . MRCF could apply to be a part of. He wanted to bring it up not that he would recommend it. There are opportunities like that. 9.8 million to raise for all the costs for state parks to incur over the next 10 years if they accept the 144 mile corridor.

**Closing Remarks & Adjournment:** Being no further business to discuss, Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:25 a.m., seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

**Approved by the board on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021**

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**Vicki Lange, Chair**

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**Attested by Secretary or other MRCF Officer**