

## MSPA Board Meeting

July 26<sup>th</sup> 2011

Colonial Inn, Helena, Mt.

The meeting was called to order by Mary Lemons at 8:00. She asked for us to introduce ourselves for the new member present by where we practiced, place of birth, a positive event that happened this year. Becky Spencer, Gary Kasper, Jeanne Stecher, Mary Lemons, Lenita Hansen, Gloria Albright, Coralie Christensen, and Duane McCullough were present and the exchange in sued.

Duane McCullough stated that we had a quorum.

Minutes of the last two board meetings and the 2010 Convention were distributed. Duane McCullough asked for a point of order. He stated that the minutes of the convention can only be accepted at the next Convention meeting. The board reviewed the minutes of the last two board meetings. Gary moved to accept. Duane McCullough seconded. They were accepted.

Gary pasted out the financial statements as of May 31, 2011. Questions on other income arose and later addressed through an email to the Board. I was the late fees for education classes presented.

Budget for 2011-2012. NSA Convention budget was discussed to increase to \$6000. Mary Lemons asked if there that is an administrative rule that governs the disbursement. The discussion followed. Past practice is for full payment for president, National director and balance of the budget to be evenly distributed to any other members attending. Mary Lemon asked for \$6000 moved by Lenita Hanson, Gloria Albright seconded. It was approved by the board. Leadership Conference in Seattle is October 23 and 24th 2012 - fee is \$225 and expenses for room, board & travel. The board budgeted \$1300. Duane McCullough has accepted to attend. District Nine is in Seattle at the same time. Van Barron will be attending as MSPA President. The board budgeted \$700. Mary Lemons will be going in Gloria Albright's, National Director, absence due conflict with Gear Up 1040 in Billings. Mary Lemon has her expenses paid for with the exception of one night. Mary Lemons can submit it as associate NSA director, NSA will pay for it. Mary Lemons will work with Van Barron on future president issues. Mary Lemons will hold teleconference if necessary. A discussion on AAA education is available for free up to \$300 on Thompson Reuter's site for each of our members currently. Credit Card Charges will be thru C Vent and approximately the same as in the past. C Vent fee is renewable in November. We may want to go with a four year at that time at about \$2000. It will be a board decision. The board budgeted \$2000. Annual meeting should be an overview of committees. The expenses of those board members not being reimbursed for this board meeting will be covered at the annual convention meeting.

Duane McCullough presented the Administrative Rules of 6-2-1998. They do not have to be presented to the membership. The board of directors will determine as long as we have a quorum. Discussion on education reimbursements and travel policy - Board meetings, NSA convention, Leadership Conference, etc. The Board will receive a copy of the changes. They will vote at the Board meeting for approval or

change in September. Duane will publish any changes for the Bi Laws for the Board approval and per requirements of the Bi Laws.

Mike Sullivan was not present for the Scholarship report. We have approved a \$2500 to MSU-B, \$500 for NSA for a Montana Student, \$100 for National auction for education. Leave as is. National would like us to give their administrative fee so that \$500 will go to the student. Leave as \$500 for present.

Membership Committee - benefits should be on the website. Do we ask why they have not continued? Associated members have a five year to get credentials. Are we going to use the registered tax preparers as qualifying under this provision? Becky Spencer moved that we accept the registered prepares as a recognized credential. It was seconded by Van Barron. Discussion followed including that the By Laws cover membership. Becky Spencer withdrew her motion. Becky Spencer moved that we change the By Laws to incorporate registered prepares as an Associated Member. Van Barron seconded. Motion approved. Mary Lemons spoke with Michelle ??? with IRS to have MSPA information and education available at all test sites. The test sites are at Sylvan Learning Centers. It was suggested that past president will chair that committee in the future.

Education Committee – Coralie Christensen is now the education chair for the west and Gloria Albright will chair the east. Lenita Hansen has and will handle C Vent. Lenita Hansen reported that we had 23 people signed up, 10 State, 5 federal representative. We probably made about \$280 on this event. CVent is working good and lots of comment. The membership renewal or new membership applications are not available as of this time. The renewals were mailed out the end of June and are coming in at the present time. They just came out with a new part on this application.

Bob Jennings does use the Gleam courses and he will pass on 10% discount to MSPA or use in a variety of ways this could be another membership benefit. They are going to email a list of all tax preparers within 350 miles radius. We can use it any way we wish for the future.

Vendors are charged \$125 for the seminars. They will reduce the rate in Missoula. We need to look at educational possibilities thru website. We may need to pay someone or have our website linked to CVent and as to come up with CPE first. Lenita Hansen will work on the availability to connect the two. Gloria Albright reported that we need to advertise heavily in the newspaper to preparers twice, once before our classes and in January before tax season. Van Barron commented that the January publication may be in coordination the tax advertisement page. Discussion on how to and cost followed. Gloria Albright moved that we would like to budget of \$2500 for advertising for the use of education committee. The motion was seconded by Becky Spencer. Lenita Hansen will send out reminder for fall meeting. Gloria Albright recommended that we have the website information on everything we send out.

September 22<sup>nd</sup> will have the annual Convention meeting held at the Crown Plaza that evening with dinner. This is the first day of the Business Entity Seminar. The pre Board meeting will be the night before on September 21<sup>st</sup> and a post board meeting at noon the second day, the 23rd.

Gloria Albright gave the state director report. She has gone on the NSA website for information and to

encourage membership. She will have a table setup in October at Gear Up 1040. She order another set from NSA for the west, Jennings 1040 seminars in October.

Becky Spencer reported that the Political Action committee had no activity on the state level. There is not much to report on the Federal. New committee members stated their objections to how the funds were being used on a political party. They have mostly emailed between the board members. The suite raffle was a big success. We have a suite given by the hotel each year. Discussion on reciprocity, Montana has the law in effect. Nina Olson action has slowed the process due to identity theft. The monitoring goes out to President, State Director, PAC committee and Vice President.

Nomination Committee - we have two directors and vice president positions. Becky Spencer passed out the Memorandum of Understanding for discussion. Becky Spencer will be qualifying those nominated or elected for officers, and directors. Lenita Hanson moved to accept the Memorandum as written. Gloria Albright seconded. It was approved. Gloria Albright asked if it should be added to administration rules. It will be a By Law change but until then an Administrative Rule. Mary Lemons asked Gary Kasper and Becky Spencer to serve on the nominating committee.

Committee Reports at the annual convention will be asked for.

Mary Lemons asked for old business. There being none, she asked for new business. There was no new business to bring to the Board at this time.

Becky Spencer made motion of adjourn at 1:33 p.m. Seconded by Duane McCullough. The board accepted.