

MSU Administrative Professional Association MEA/NEA
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting
January 12th, 2021
2:00 PM

APA Board Present: Darius Bradley, Jim Brinker, Sue Brandt, Pat Hampton, Jamie Lynn Marks, Heather Litts, Martin McDonough, Nicole Proctor-Kanyama, Todd Ring, Jeremy Romel, Leo Sell, Kandy Slack, Tim Woods.

Excused: Jared Andrews, Tonya Jamison

MEA Staff Present: Shannon Alston

General Members Present: 24 members attended via Zoom webinar.

CALL TO ORDER

Martin McDonough called the meeting to order and conducted a roll call of the board.

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to all members attending this Zoom webinar!

Approval of Agenda

Nicole Proctor-Kanyama-moved to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion seconded by Todd Ring and carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of December 8th. Kandy Slack moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded by Jeremy Romel and carried.

REPORTS

President's Report

Martin McDonough presented his president's report with discussion regarding member issues, meetings, and events. The report was distributed to the board electronically. Martin has been assisting members with questions regarding mandating vaccines. He is working on survey to members about the healthcare package which expires 12/31/21 as negotiations will begin soon. Martin attended an event with President Stanley and all the MSU union presidents. Martin indicated DEI topic came up and he asked about more bias training.

Vice President's Report



Pat Hampton provided her report to the board electronically. Pat has 5-6 Area Representatives in training and would like to bring forth names of those who want to commit for one year as board needs to approve AR's; however, bylaws indicate AR's cannot start until September 1 and names brought after the March election. She will provide a future update.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Brandt provided her report with updated financial statements from December. The report was distributed to the board electronically.

MEA Uniserv Report

Shannon Alston presented her report with discussion regarding outreach/training, organizing, and member issues. The report was provided to the board electronically. The "True Colors" training was well attended. The MEA "Why Union?" and "Grievance Processing" trainings are scheduled for January 26, 2021 and will be presented as part of the APA retreat series. Shannon is open to suggestions for future More You Know trainings. Have been focused on organizing building in the APA community and developing relationships.

Committee Reports

Membership – Kandy Slack as of January, total prospective member count is 2,879. 18 new hires so far this month.

Community Based Events – Pat Hampton reported that on February 16th, a virtual tour of the MSU FRIB will be offered Please contact Pat Hampton with ideas or suggestions for future events.

Communications – Darius Bradley reported the committee has been working on an APA Facebook group now open to members, intended to be an additional out-facing communication tool for APA leadership to get information out to members.

Grievance – Martin McDonough presented an update.

Finance – No meeting this month. All business covered by Treasurer's report.

D.E.I. – Elbonny Hawkins and Jeremy Romel are working on a Mission Statement which Elbonny shared at this board meeting. The "Antibias Training: Moving Dr. King's message forward in a 2020 platform" program January 21st, facilitated by MEA is one of the MSU MLK Week events.

Professional Trainings and Conferences

No trainings to report on.

MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND CONCERNS

Members could submit questions via the Zoom Q and A section or raise their hand to ask a question. Question answered by the board and UniServ director regarding COVID specific FMLA categories and benefits. Kandy shared her personal experience regarding student loan



forgiveness, whereby NEA has a partnership with a company called Savi which does all the legwork, and Savi waives the \$88 first year fee. For additional information about Savi go to the NEA.org website under benefits and log on. If members don't know their NEA membership #, they can contact Kandy.

BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

JHCC Update

Martin McDonough reported conversations will begin soon for the renewal of the healthcare contract.

Elections Committee Update

Martin McDonough presented the following individuals for board consideration for the 2021 election committee: Tim Woods -Chair, Sue Brandt, Heather Litts, Gerlind Kiupel, Kasey Wilson, Tonya Jamison. Jim Brinker moved for concurrence, motion seconded by Darius Bradley and carried.

5 Executive Board seats up for election for 3-year terms, currently occupied by: Kandy Slack, Jim Brinker, Jared Andrews, Leo Sell, and Darius Bradley. 4 MEA/NEA Delegate seats for 3-year terms currently occupied by: Kandy Slack, Darius Bradley, Jared Andrews, and one is vacant. Martin updated board that it is a NEA and MEA requirement that a designated number of delegates are elected as 3-1(g). Four 3-1(g) delegate positions would be needed by APA and the Elections Committee will be discussing this with plans to implement for the March 2021 election.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming APA Executive Board Meeting

February 9, 2021 2pm Virtual Meeting

Upcoming MEA Events

MEA Winter Conference February 1-6

Region 8 meeting February 17, 6 p.m.

MEA Spring Representative Assembly April 23 and 24.

Adjournment

Todd Ring moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Kandy Slack and carried.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Tim Woods.