

**MAACE Board Meeting**  
**September 16, 2008**  
**Minutes**

In addendance: Suzette Fox, Darrel Hannum, Steve McCoy, Yvonne Hauwiller, Shelley Jo Isaak, Kathie Daviau, Jean Lemire Dahlman, Rose Steiner, and DeeDra Reum.

**1. New Officers**

The meeting was called to order by Suzette Fox, and in her last official duty as MAACE Chair, she opened the floor for the nomination of new officers. At this time, Kathie nominated Steve for Chair. Darrel seconded that motion, and the motion carried. Kathie volunteered to serve as Vice Chair; Darrel seconded, and the motion carried. At this time, Steve presided over the meeting. Charged with the task of solving all of MAACE's dilemmas, the board discussed the areas they felt were the most important at this time, largely based on the membership's feelings about the organization and where it is at today. A decision was made to form committees to address these key issues.

**2. Membership -- Renewal, Retention, and Rejuvenation**

The board brainstormed ideas to renew previous memberships, retain the current members, and recruit new members to the organization. The board explored several ways to increase involvement from current members and the ABLE community at large. Steve nominated Shelley Jo to spear-head the Membership Committee. Kathie seconded, and motion carried. Steve asked the board to continue to generate and refine ideas to keep the organization relevant and useful to its membership. A conference call was scheduled for October 14th at 2pm to bring the ideas together and develop action plans.

**3. Advocacy**

Steve brought to the floor the issue of advocacy and agreed to continue as chair of the committee. The board is unanimous in the belief that advocacy needs to be the top priority of the organization at this time. Since the first legislative deadline is the finalization of the governor's budget in November, it was determined that immediate action needs to be taken. Jean agreed to research advocacy regulations and explore the possibility hiring a part-time lobbyist for the organization. Steve will solicit members for the Advocacy Committee who will develop a specific plan of action and begin creating updated legislative primers. Kathie expressed the importance of the Chair to be the leader in advocacy at the legislative level. Shelley expressed the need for advocacy to also include grass-roots efforts from members of individual programs to their own legislators and local governments. To assist in this, the updated primers will be sent to all adult education professionals, not just project directors, with the hope that individual programs will take more of a lead in advocating for themselves.

**4. ANN/ESL**

Rose offered to donate \$200 for MAACE to purchase memberships in the Adult Numeracy Network (ANN) for math instructors. This would allow for MAACE to purchase 1 membership for a staff member (and current MAACE member) from each of the 20 current

programs.

Moved by Rose's generosity, Yvonne agreed to match the \$200 donation to support membership in joining an ESL professional organization. Yvonne volunteered to head-up the ANN/ESL Committee. Darrel moved to accept Rose and Yvonne's gifts and allow MAACE to cover the difference in the amount of ANN membership rates, if necessary. Kathie seconded that motion. Motion carried. The board greatly appreciates the generosity of Rose and Yvonne.

## **5. Transition with Secretary/Treasurer**

Suzette and DeeDra will be in touch to transfer secretarial/treasury items and records before the next conference call. This will include membership contacts, bylaws, and monetary issues. Steve asked that all board members familiarize themselves with the bylaws. DeeDra will distribute those to the new board members as soon as the transfer of the Secretary/Treasurer items has been made. Suzette and DeeDra will be exchanging the remaining items at MEA/MFT in Missoula on October 16-17. Steve moved to transfer secretarial/treasury items at the above-stated time. Darrel seconded. Motion carried.

## **Awards**

After much discussion about tomorrow's deadline, Kathie moved to postpone the awards until next year due to the transitional issues and the lack of a current forum to present the awards in a meaningful context. Darrel seconded that motion. Motion carried.

## **For the Good of the Organization**

The MAACE board formally thanked Suzette Fox for her commitment, dedication, and hard work as the MAACE leader during a time of profound transition and challenges. The board feels all MAACE members owe Suzette their gratitude for her tenacious fight to save the organization. The board would like to extend their gratitude at this time.

Steve entertained a motion to adjourn, Darrel made the motion, and Yvonne Hauwiler seconded it. Motion carried.