MCDA Board Meeting

Friday, September 10, 2021, 11:00 am

Virtual via Zoom

Present: Natasha OrtizFortier, Latara Jones, Natalie Kauffman, Marilyn Maze, Tessa McKenzie, Kimberly Mills, Viktoriya Lotkina Selden, Karol Taylor, Maria Schaeffer, Dennis Weeks. (Guest: Sheri Mahaney)

President OrtizFortier called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.

Welcome & Introductions - President OrtizFortier welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes from the MCDA July virtual retreat were approved.

Guest, Sheri Mahaney, spoke about the course and toolkit she and her partners developed. They are seeking partnership with MCDA. MCDA President said the Board will discuss and will get back to Ms. Mahaney and her team. After Ms. Mahaney signed off, the Board Members discussed among themselves. Key concerns mentioned:

* MCDA has not been involved in this type of partnership in the past.
* Does MCDA want to disclose 1,561 of their membership contacts?
* A disclaimer that MCDA does not endorse this product would be needed.

Meeting of the Minds - Tessa McKenzie informed the Board that she plans to have a meeting with the other collaborators sometime in mid to late October. She opened the floor for suggestions on topics, which the Board discussed.

MCDA Spring 2021 Conference - Natasha OrtizFortier initiated the discussion. She noted that 18 out of 19 members who completed the survey want a conference with almost an equal split between virtual and in-person format. The Board felt that a virtual format would be safer. A planning committee will be put together to start planning for the conference.

Financial Update - Maria Schaeffer:

* Past 18 months no financial statements
* Approximately $10,000 based on Maria’s record
	+ MCDA has outstanding bills MCA and credit card charges – Maria spoke with Cathie about the problem.
	+ MCA still looking for an accounting firm
* Maria has no way of knowing MCDA accurate cashflow due to accounting
* Proposed changing address to Cathie’s office who would manage depositing our cashflow
* Latara and Maria will continue to address the issue
* Maria also requested an audit when the new firm is hired by MCA

Website/Wild Apricot Training– Marilyn Maze:

* She needs a volunteer to go through photos for the MCDA website
	+ Maria volunteered to assist

Committee Updates

Programming - Kimberly Mills:

* Kimberly reported that she was denied access to the MCDA website and drive. She and Marylin will coordinate to resolve the issue.
* October 20: L. Brown (preparing students to enter the workforce)
* September – Teddy
* December – Karol will facilitate her program virtually
* Tessa will upload her presentation proposal for consideration

National Career Development Month – November 2021. Latara Jones:

* Black Women for Positive Change (speaker series/career series)
* Supporting job seekers (outreach to members)
* October 23 event – will send out email to the group
* Karol provided a link for NCDA's guidance on Career Development Month <https://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/ncdmonth>

Public Relations & Membership Drive - Dennis Weeks and Jennifer Longmire-Wright

* Working on polling/surveying past and present members
* Marilyn will work with Dennis
* What happens once membership is expired
* What happens with new members

Advocacy Updates - Natalie Kauffman:

* Weekly updates to page on our website
* Paula and Natalie will coordinate awards and will serve as committee

MCA Updates and Newsletter - Karol Taylor:

* Currently no newsletter or editor
* In the interim, Maria suggested sending a president’s message or email to the membership/contacts every 8 weeks
* Template set up in wild apricot (Marilyn)

Adjournment

Minutes taken by Viktoriya Selden and Natasha OrtizFortier

Next Meeting:

* Friday, October 8 \_MCDA Virtual Conference Committee Meeting (elected board members are the base of the committee, however, all are welcome to join).
* email Natasha if you’re interested in joining the conference committee
* Friday, November 12, 2021\_MCDA Board Meeting 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
* Thursday, December 16 Happy Hour/Meet the Board TBD