

October 2016 MBAA Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

April, Chris, Dawn, Jessica, Jon, Scott, Sue

Board Members Absent:

Bob, Cassandra, Gerald

Agenda:

Jessica sent out the agenda prior to the meeting.

There were no additions.

Secretary's Report:

April sent out the July board meeting minutes.

Dawn made a motion to accept them as written. Sue seconded and all approved.
Motion carried.

Sue sent out the September board meeting minutes.

April made a motion to approve the September board meeting minutes as written. Dawn seconded and all approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Cassandra was not present for the meeting.

We are still waiting for the \$2,000 from LIO for sports camp.

We should be hearing shortly from Gilmore on the status of our grant.

Jessica has other grant applications to submit.

She will send them to Dawn to proofread before submitting them.

Committee Reports:

Goalball:

Jessica reports no new activity.

They continue to look for a venue for goalball practices.

Jessica reports Mary Beth Cowen from the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired group holds an introductory goalball camp each year.

Mary Beth will collaborate with Jessica to find a venue in the Metro Detroit area for practices.

April suggested if this works out, we would want to include it in the annual report for next year.

Bowling:

Jessica has not heard from Gerald and has not received an updated budget.

Tandem Cycling:

April reports there is interest in biking and the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club is willing to sponsor a couple of adult rides.

We have an updated budget for tandem biking and the largest

Expenses are for transportation of bikes and maintenance.

April is storing the bikes in her basement and reports one of the bikes needs routine maintenance.

Dawn offered to have her husband look at the bike to see if he is able to repair it.

Sports Camp:

Jessica and Bob have started working on the letter writing campaign and information for this will be posted on the MBAA website.

Jessica would like to schedule our next S.W.O.T. analysis for sports camp soon.

She is waiting for everyone to complete the Google survey as to what the best days and times are for meetings.

Old Business:

MBAA Logo:

The logo is just about completed and Jessica will meet with the graphic artist designer on Friday. (October 21)

Annual Report:

April is still working on the kayaking and tandem cycling reports.

Paul reviewed it and advised April to make some revisions before submitting it.

For the Chair portion of the report, April stated that Paul advised it may be helpful to emphasize all of the organizations we are collaborating with in the community.

April will send Paul's comments to Jessica along with the completed report.

Jessica would like to finish the annual report this weekend.

Either Cassandra or Jessica will distribute it once it is done.

USA Blind Hockey:

John will be going to Chicago this weekend for tryouts for the blind hockey camp.

While he is in Chicago, he will network and share information about MBAA which may lead to a possible demo at sports camp.

Scott stated at the Blind Match Race Sailing Event, he met a blind hockey player from Toronto who told him blind hockey is as violent and radical as regular hockey.

The puck is an electrical metal box; approximately 3-4 inches in diameter with metal objects inside like washers, ball bearings, etc. that rattle and make noise.

Scott stated we need 3 additional days for sports camp and this will be discussed at our strategic planning meeting.

Scott said he is getting inquiries about adding beep baseball and sailing events.

Group Updates for the website:

The web-master is waiting for direction from the MBAA group.

Jessica will send her the annual report to post once it is completed.

Once Jessica compiles everything from the google survey, she will send the web-master our board roster in addition to meeting dates/times, agenda, minutes, new logo, etc.

Jessica would like updated information about each sporting group by November 14.

She is asking each group to include a brief synopsis of what the group does, how to get involved and a contact person.

Once the monthly minutes are finished, they will be sent to the web-master, Monica, to post on the website.

We will post 1 year of minutes and clear them out after they are a year old.

New Business:

Jessica recently sent out the email with the google form and a couple of people have returned it stating it worked very well with their screen readers.

Dawn volunteered to assist anyone who has accessibility issues with the form.

Mission Statement and Motto:

Dawn would like to take 10 minutes at the next meeting to work on this together as a group.

This will be placed on the November meeting agenda.

Elections:

This subject goes along with our by-laws which are out of date.

Bob has started looking at them and a by-laws committee will be formed.

Revisions will be a process and changes won't happen quickly.

Jessica would like to propose that elections for officers which include President, Vice-President (Currently 2 hold this position, Jon and Dawn), Treasurer and Secretary be a Calendar year position.

Elections: Continued)

There is a question on the google form about interest in one of the officer positions.

In November Jessica will present a slate that we can elect as a whole or we can discuss if there are multiple people interested in each position.

Her thought is we can present a slate in November, vote in December and will be ready to start with our officers in January.

From there, as we adapt things in the by-laws, we need to adjust and re-elect again if we decide we want to do it in our fiscal year.

Jessica has held the President's office for more than 1 year and we need to make sure we are not out of compliance.

April has had some people express interest in giving MBAA sometime who are not in the blindness community.

One of the guys who attended a kayaking event during the summer is interested and has a background in outdoor recreation for the state.

In past meetings, we have had discussions that new members may join MBAA at any time during the year and serve 3 year terms.

Only our officer positions should be linked to either the calendar or fiscal year.

As the by-laws are currently written, the positions are for 1 year from election date.

Some of this may change based on what the by-laws committee recommends.

Dawn suggested when we get to a full slate, which is 12, we may need to adopt a more formalized process.

Other New Business:

Dawn will be co-presenting with Paul and others at Southern Illinois University on adaptive P.E. instruction for students who are visually impaired.

April heard that Dawn's AER International presentation with Paul was one of the best they have ever seen.

Sports Camp Dates:

Scott informed the board sports camp will start May 7 and run through the following Saturday.

There was concern sports camp would not be able to be held in the same time frame due to scheduling issues at the university.

Scott will confirm this date and let the board know.

Additional Business:

Jon has been working on getting the contact information for Jennifer Gram who is involved with the blind hockey league.

Once Jon makes contact with her, he will invite her to attend a board meeting.

Next Meeting

Jessica reminded everyone to fill out the google survey so she can determine when the best meeting time will be from this point on.

If we don't hear from Jessica prior to November 16, we will meet then at 4PM.

Dawn reminded Jessica that if she is not available, someone else could step in and run the meeting.

Jessica expressed appreciation for all the support.

Meeting Adjournment:

Jon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. April seconded and all approved. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53PM.

Submitted by: Sue, MBAA Secretary