

**MAINE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**  
**MCDCA General Meeting**  
**Friday, May 1, 2009**

The Maine Community Development Association held a general membership meeting at the Lucerne Inn in Holden on Friday, May 1, 2009. Present were:

Tony Levesque, President	Town of Fort Fairfield
Stephen Dyer, Director	Ransom Environmental Consultants, Inc.
James Gulnac, Vice President	Town of Sanford
Joella R. Theriault, Secretary	Northern Maine Development Commission
Rodney Lynch, Director	City of Rockland
Darryl Sterling	Town of Richmond
Wade Hansen, Director	Town of Houlton
Jason Bird	Eastern Maine Development Corporation
John Holden	Eaton Peabody Consulting
Jennifer Peters	Sunrise County/Washington County COG
Jeff Sneddon	MCBDP
Mike Shrewsberry	City of Caribou
Michael Bush	Penquis
Al Smith	City of Bath
Mary Walton, Director	Private Consultant
Duane Walton	NMDC
Daniel Lapointe	Town of Van Buren
Gail Chase	KVCOG
Jamie Francomano	City of Presque Isle

1. CALL TO ORDER: T. Levesque called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.
2. REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 13, 2009 MEETING MINUTES: Moved by D. Walton to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by J. Gulnac. Motion passed unanimously.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: In R. Harriman's absence, T. Levesque presented the budget as follows:

Checking Account Balance:	\$11,519	
Revenues and Expenses: Year-To-Date		
Interest	\$13.00	
Dues	\$3,000.00	
Postage		(\$24.00)
Copies		(\$5.00)
General Miscellaneous		(\$100.00)
Contract Services		(\$426.00)
<b>Total (January 1 – March 31, 2009)</b>	<b>\$3,013.00</b>	<b>\$555.00</b>

Moved by J. Gulnac to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by D. Walton.

4. CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from MMA to Tony Levesque dated March 31, 2009 regarding change financial institutions from Key Bank to Bangor Savings Bank (BSB). BSB will be providing all banking services. New EIN (Employer Identification Number) has been obtained and secretary will sign all necessary documents pertaining to change. Moved by D. Walton and seconded by J. Gulnac to approve change of bank from Key Bank to BSB. Motion passed.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

a) Professional Development: J. Gulnac attended the affiliate group meeting at MMA to discuss the change in computer system and other business. Who and what MCDA is seems to be an issue at MMA. J. Gulnac suggested that MCDA come up with a position paper because currently the association is not treated as professionals. Currently EDCM provides certification for economic development, but there is no certification for community development. There was general support for the concept of a certification program.

b) Membership: Current membership is 45; with a goal of 50 members for 2009. A review of the current membership listing indicates a decrease in members from the Southern Maine region. The Plus One campaign was once again stressed to boost membership.

c) Advocacy: A. Smith moved to approve a resolution to allow the Advocacy Committee to support LD #775 regarding the funding of the Communities for Maine's Future Program and to support the flexibility of the programs, such as the Maine Investment Trust Fund (MITF) and the Riverfront Community Development (RCD) bonds; seconded by D. Walton. Motion passed. Additionally, MCDA members suggested the support of the evaluation report of the CDBG Program, particularly focusing on Page 66, Conclusion where it describes the complexity of the program.

A motion by J. Gulnac to submit a letter offering MCDA's services to act as the Advisory Committee for the CDBG Program was seconded by M. Walton. Motion passed

d) Communication: J. Theriault is working on the next newsletter. No further updates.

6. DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED 2009 PROGRAM STATEMENT: A motion by D. Walton to authorize the President of MCDA to prepare and submit a letter to the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development regarding the following comments on the CDBG Program was seconded by G. Chase. Motion passed. Comments on 2009 CDBG Program include:

1. MCDA unanimously supports the elimination of the SBDC Program;
2. Support for the increase in funding of the housing rehabilitation program;
3. Staggering funds for all three rounds of the economic development programs;

4. Support the criteria of points for second tier communities in the Downtown program;
5. Oppose the 2-and-7 requirement in housing assistance applications, but support the award of bonus points for first time applicants; and
6. Approve the community evaluation points as is.
7. Leave dams as an eligible activity.

Motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION ON JUNE 4, 2009 MEETING IN ROCKLAND: The MCDA meeting will be held the evening of June 4, prior to the Annual Downtown Conference beginning on June 5. R. Lynch distributed a sign-up sheet in order to assure that the meeting room would be sufficient in size to accommodate all attendees.
8. REPORT ON MMA CONVENTION PLANS: Possible workshops include;
  - Grant Writing Program
  - Educating the Legislators Workshop
  - GIS Mapping of TIF and Downtowns

The proposed workshops would be held as joint workshops with MAP (Maine Association of Planners). MCDA members requested a separate luncheon/business meeting rather than an overall luncheon with all MMA attendees.

9. COSCD A CONFERENCE: R. Lynch will be attending the COSCDA Conference in Harrisburg, PA on behalf of MCDA. A budget of \$2,000 was established with expenditures to be ratified at the next MCDA meeting.
10. CDBG APPRECIATION DAY: CDBG Appreciation Day is scheduled for August 21 in Augusta. Moved by D. Walton and seconded by J. Gulnac to bring the display booth and have more of a presence as an organization. Motion passed. There was also discussion regarding presenting awards to families of deceased MCDA members during this event.
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: A sample of the proposed display booth and cost estimate was presented for review. The line item pertaining to carpeting was eliminated from the cost estimate prior to MCDA approval. Duane and Mary Walton offered to provide the carpeting as a donation to the organization. J. Theriault and S. Paradis will move forward with the purchase as well as the banner and materials to be displayed.
12. OTHER:
  - a. BRED Committee: There was some discussion regarding the committee, which is viewed more as adversarial than helpful.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> at the City of Rockland. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Submitted by:

*Joella R. Theriault*

Joella R. Theriault  
Secretary

DRAFT