



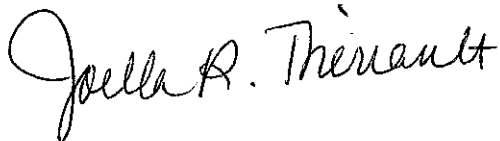
**Maine Community  
Development Association**

**General Membership Meeting Minutes  
March 31, 2011  
Via E-Mail**

Motion made by Tony Levesque to allow MCDA to provide \$500 sponsorship to the June Downtown Conference; seconded by Gail Chase. Motion passed with the following members voting in the affirmative.

Rodney Lynch  
UVEC  
Wade Hanson  
John Shattuck  
Steve Dyer  
Ron Harriman  
Jim Gulnac  
Al Smith  
Gail Chase  
Tony Levesque  
Judy East  
Darryl Sterling  
Jamie Francomano  
Joella Theriault

Submitted by,



Joella R. Theriault  
Secretary



**Maine Community Development Association**

**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Teleconference**

**1. Call to Order:** An important teleconference call was held at 3:00 p.m.

Present were:

Jim Gulnac	President
Rodney Lynch	Vice President
Darryl Sterling	Board Member
Joella R. Theriault	Secretary
Gail Chase	Board Member
Dan LaPointe	Advocacy Committee Chairman
Al Smith	Town of Bath
Mary Ann Hayes	Maine Rural Partners
Mike Baran	DECD – Office of Community Development
Tom Martin	
Steve Dyer	Ransom Engineering
Linda Hardacker	
Jamie Francomano	City of Presque Isle
Michelle Gagnon	
Aaron Shapiro	City of Portland
Judy East	
Suzie Paradis	Towns of Madawaska and Frenchville
Brent Bridges	Woodard and Curran
Don Chasse	Madawaska
Jim Gardner	Town of Easton
Jen Peters	
Jeff Hewitt	
Brad Strauss	ALPHA ONE
Beth Mogan	ALPHA ONE
Dwight Glidden	ALPHA ONE
Mike Bush	Penquis CAP
Katherine Rose	
Ann Perry	
John Shattuck	Town of Orono
Betsy Fitzgerald	Washington County Administrator
Paul Weedlock	
Daniel Stevenson	
Lee Burnett	

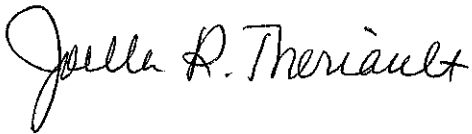
Mike Baran, Program Manager, at the Office of Community Development updated MCDA on the fate of the CDBG Program. To summarize,

- ✓ There is no 2011 CDBG budget. The 2011 program would be funded through a continuing resolution of the 2010 budget. A continuing resolution could be reduced drastically or even cut out of the budget.
- ✓ The House passed a 62% reduction, from a \$13.7 million budget to \$5.2 million this week.
- ✓ The Senate has yet to take up the continuing resolution. Everyone should know that they must contact their senators prior to the March 21<sup>st</sup> break.
- ✓ MCDA will contact local government, regional commissions, engineering organizations, contractor organizations, and other associations or organizations that benefit from CDBG funds.
- ✓ ALPHA ONE, Maine Association of Non-Profits, and Maine Rural Water have forwarded letters to M. Baran, which has been passed onto the senate offices.
- ✓ While getting senators to visit CDBG projects in local communities would be highly effective, it may not be possible. Brad Strauss of ALPHA ONE has called the senate office in his area and was not even given a date where he may be able to contact them.
- ✓ The two Maine senators have always supported the CDBG program in the past, but it is not certain where they stand on this issue because there are other programs that may be as vitally important to the senators. CDBG is competing against many other programs that have proposed budget cuts or elimination.
- ✓ MCDA is the Maine organization that can lobby to save the CDBG program.
- ✓ Dan LaPointe, Advocacy Chairman, will be copied on all correspondence. His e-mail address is [lapointedan@gmail.com](mailto:lapointedan@gmail.com).
- ✓ Joella Theriault of Northern Maine Development Commission sent e-mails and faxes to each of the 71 communities in its service area asking them to submit letters to M. Baran regarding the benefits the CDBG program has brought to their community. She will follow-up to make sure that municipalities have responded.
- ✓ Entitlement communities, such as Portland and Lewiston are facing similar budget cuts.
- ✓ As a matter of comparison, a 62% budget cut to the City of Lewiston would bring their current budget of \$1.3 million to \$400,000. That is substantial.
- ✓ CDBG is the one program that has the flexibility and biggest impact on communities and allows low-income people to have a better place to live and better jobs.
- ✓ With so much uncertainty, the Office of Community Development will not be making any Public Facility/Public Infrastructure awards until the continuing resolution is resolved. This will cut into the construction season.

- ✓ OCD has submitted a bulleted outline of the benefits the CDBG program has brought to the State of Maine. Additionally, the City of Portland is preparing talking points that will be delivered by the City Manager.
- ✓ Maine State Housing Authority and USDA Rural Development are also faced with substantial budget cuts.

The teleconference concluded at 3:44 p.m.

Submitted by,



Joella R. Theriault  
Secretary



**Maine Community Development Association**

**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Teleconference**

1. **Call to Order:** President J. Gulnac called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Present were:
- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jim Gulnac               | President                   |
| Rodney Lynch             | Vice President              |
| Tony Levesque            | Immediate Past President    |
| Darryl Sterling          | Board Member                |
| Joella R. Theriault      | Secretary                   |
| Gail Chase               | Board Member                |
| Dan LaPointe             | Advocacy Committee Chairman |
| Al Smith                 | Town of Bath                |
| Mary Ann Hayes           | Maine Rural Partners        |
| Lucas Sanders            |                             |
| Terry Stevens/Mike Baran |                             |

2. **Review of November 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes:** Moved by D. Sterling and seconded by R. Lynch to approve the meeting minutes of November 19, 2010 as presented. Motion passed.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** T. Levesque presented the treasurer's report for the twelve months ending December 31, 2010. The fund balance is \$11,025. He also noted that an expense of \$6,239 is listed under the travel-officers account, which should be allocated to COSCDA for Suzie Paradis' travel to the COSCDA Convention. Moved by T. Levesque and seconded by J. Theriault to approve the Treasurer's Report, with the noted correction. Motion passed.
4. **Review and Approval of the 2011 Meeting Dates:** R. Lynch presented the following:

<b>April 29, 2011</b>	Joint OCD/MCDA Meeting at the Lucerne Inn
<b>June 9-10, 2011</b>	Skowhegan to coordinate with Maine Downtown Conference
<b>August 19, 2011</b>	Joint meeting with OCD – CDBG Appreciation Day
<b>October 5, 2011</b>	Annual Meeting at MMA Convention
<b>November 4, 2011</b>	General Membership Meeting, Location To Be Announced

5. **Report of Committees:**
- i. **Professional Development:** R. Lynch will be contacting Roxanne Elfin of the Maine Downtown Center to offer assistance with a workshop during the annual conference. R. Lynch discussed the Efficiency Maine program, which is a complicated and confusing program that could perhaps be the topic of a training session. Further discussion on the Efficiency Maine program concluded with the following findings:

- a. Efficiency Maine was expecting a budget of \$40-\$70 million; the actual budget is \$19 million. Mary Ann Hayes mentioned that Central Maine Power's tree cutting project alone is slated for \$2 million.
  - b. The municipality can administer PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) loan funds or they can have PACE administer on their behalf. The PACE program is for municipal officials and civic organizations. The Town of Richmond, for example, is using funds to renovate their town hall and police department.
  - c. J. Gulnac asked Mary Ann Hayes to prepare a bulleted outline of this program so that we can put it up on our website and also include it as an article in the next issue of our newsletter.
- ii. MMA Training and Certification Programs: Only one workshop is proposed for the MMA Convention. Possibilities include recertification for rehabilitation technicians. OCD is working on such a training session with Nan McKay. J. Gulnac mentioned that MMA is looking at finishing the workshop calendar for all affiliate members. It is hoped that a training program will be prepared for delivery in early April when MCDA meets with MMA.
  - iii. Membership: In the absence of S. Dyer, Chair of the Membership Committee, T. Levesque reported that there are only 34 members at this time. MMA will be asked to send out reminders.
  - iv. Financial: No report at this time.
  - v. Communication: J. Theriault reported that the October-December issue is completed and she is looking for new articles for the January-March issue. She will do some outreach this month to get more people involved.
  - vi. Advocacy: Chairman D. Lapointe requested a more formal method of responding to legislative issues, such as the use of letterhead for letter writing. He does not want to put MCDA in a disagreeable position by responding to issues that members may not fully support. J. Gulnac suggested that D. Lapointe submit requests for approval to MCDA's executive board via e-mail. The current issue is that of CDBG funding. M. Baran urged MCDA members respond both individually and collectively to the proposed 7% cut to the CDBG budget by contacting their representatives.

**6. Update from DECD – Mike Baran, Director of OCD:**

- i. Funding Status: OCD received 29 applications for Public Facilities and Public Infrastructure projects totaling \$7.5 million. Last year, OCD would have an available budget of \$4.5 million for this project; but there is no budget as of yet this year. M. Baran reported that the federal government has changed the rules regarding continuing resolutions. Voting of bills under the continuing resolution will be proposed as amendments only with 20-22% off every discretionary funding, except for defense. If these amendments are passed, it will mean \$10 million less in CDBG funding for the State of Maine. The Commissioner has approved the distribution of 2011 CDBG funds with 20% less than last year's budget to make sure that there will be sufficient money. Announcements should be submitted by the end of next week.
- ii. Communities for Maine's Future: OCD is still waiting to hear on this program. The Governor wants to look at all rule-making before submitting a clearance from his office. This will delay the start of all projects. Once the project is cleared from the Governor's Office, it will then be submitted to the Secretary of State's office who will then get it published in the newspaper. Following a comment period, it will then be submitted for rule-making. It is not anticipated that this project will begin until middle to late March,

2011 with requests for applications sometime in May. MCDA members will lobby the Governor's Office to release this program soon since it is a program to benefit all communities and creates jobs. If it is not released soon, the municipalities will lose one construction season. T. Levesque moved and A. Smith seconded a motion to have D. Lapointe prepare a resolution and have MCDA President J. Gulnac sign it to officially request that the Communities for Maine's Future Bond Program be sent to rulemaking immediately. Motion passed with all in favor. Furthermore, MCDA members recommended that a similar letter be submitted to the Labor, Commerce, Research, and Economic Development Committee.

- iii. Neighborhood Stabilization Program: M. Baran reported that the State of Maine anticipates receiving \$5,000,000 for the continuation of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to assist abandoned and foreclosed homes. The Governor needs to sign the application that will be filed with HUD by March 1.
- iv. Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Program: OCD received numerous applications for this program and have approved two thus far. Applications exceed the available amount of \$1.8 million. OCD has applied for supplemental funding, which is due to be announced in Philadelphia sometime this spring.

**7. Committee Appointments:**

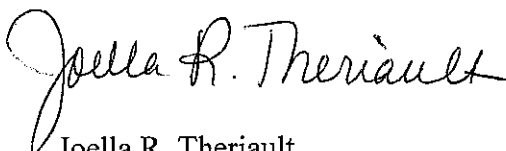
Advocacy	Membership	Professional Development	Financial	Communication	Nomination
Dan Lapointe, Chair	Steve Dyer, Chair	Rodney Lynch, Chair	Ron Harriman, Chair	Joella Theriault, Chair	Al Smith, Chair
Tony Levesque	Tony Levesque	Jim Gulnac	Jim Gulnac	Mike Baran	Wade Hansen
Al Smith	Suzie Paradis	Joella Theriault	Rodney Lynch	Mary Walton	Paul Bernier
Ron Harriman	Mike Bush	Steve Dyer	Joella Theriault	Ken Arndt	
Wade Hansen	Jonathan	Wade Hansen	Gail Chase	Tony Levesque	
Noel Musson	Edgerton	Mathew Eddy	Darryl Sterling		
	Suzie Paradis	Noel Musson	Wade Hansen		
		Suzie Paradis	Steve Dyer		

COSFDA Liaison: Darryl Sterling

**8. Other:** No other business

**9. Adjourn:** Motion by T. Levesque to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting will be at the Lucerne Inn on May 5, 2011.

Submitted by,



Joella R. Theriault  
Secretary