



MCDA General Membership Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 2014
10:00 a.m.

The MCDA General Membership Meeting was held via teleconference on Thursday, August 7, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. In attendance were:

Darryl Sterling, MCDA President
Joella R. Theriault, MCDA Secretary
Tom Martin, MCDA Director
Tony Levesque, Town of Fort Fairfield
Deborah Johnson, OCD

Suzie Paradis, MCDA Director
Anne Krieg, MCDA Director
Linda Smith, Town of Brunswick
Tracey Steuber, Town of Lisbon
Glen Ohlund, TD Bank

- I. **Call To Order:** Darryl Sterling, MCDA President, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

- II. **May 29, 2014 Meeting Minutes:** . Moved by Tom Martin to approve the meeting minutes as amended by Tony Levesque (addand **former** Maine Economist, Laurie Lachance **who is now President of Thomas College**) ; seconded by Glen Ohlund. Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Darryl Sterling presented the financial report (see attached). Moved by Tony Levesque and seconded by Tom Martin to approve the financial report as presented. Motion passed.

- IV. **Annual Meeting and Guest Speaker – Follow-up:** Suzie Paradis is scheduled to meet with Sandy Blitz in Madawaska today and will invite him to speak at the MCDA Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. at Margarita's Restaurant in Augusta. She will notify MCDA members via e-mail regarding the status of the invitation. Sandy Blitz is the Co-Chair of the Northern Border Regional Commission.

- V. **DECD Updates and Public Forum on the 2015 CDBG Program:** Deborah Johnson suggested that MCDA pay for Joella Theriault's time in developing and submitting the Newsletters. She also suggested that the information provided through the newsletters is valuable and perhaps should be published more than once every 4 months. Both Darryl Sterling and Deborah Johnson suggested that Joella Theriault develop a budget for producing the newsletter.

DECD and MSHA are in the process of drafting the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for approval by HUD. In addition to the 5-year plan, they must also prepare and submit a 1-year Action Plan. A public hearing to receive comments on housing and community development needs is scheduled

for September 3, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at MSHA's Office in Augusta. Once the public hearing process has concluded, OCD will prepare the 2015 Proposed Program Statement. The Governor's Office reviews the proposed program statement prior to the rulemaking process. The timeframe for the 2015 program is expected to remain the same as in 2014. All community and economic development programs will also be similar to 2014 with a minor exception. In the Micro-Enterprise Grant Program where the requirements now state that eligibility is based on a \$50,000 maximum for small businesses that employ 5 or less employees of which the business owner must be LMI. The change will now state that the owner does not have to be LMI as long as the project creates 2 jobs of which both must be taken by LMI individuals. There were no comments at this time.

VI. Other Business:

- a. **Membership:** Membership to date totals 50. Among the new members are the Towns of Bradford, Cumberland, Howland, Islesboro, Lisbon, Brunswick, and Winslow and the City of Caribou. Joella Theriault is in the process of gathering bios, photos, and brief notes on each of the new membership.
- b. **Newsletter:** The current newsletter will be completed and submitted by August 15. This is being submitted so MCDA members can take advantage of some of the grant opportunities. The newsletter contains information submitted by OCD and information on each of the new members.
- c. **MCDA Display Booth at MMA:** Darryl Sterling will register the MCDA booth today for the October 2-3, 2014 MMA Convention. Debbie Johnson will feature a double booth displaying materials for the Maine Downtown Center, CDBG Program, and Maine Made Program. Joella Theriault will update the display materials and will be contacting all members to provide success stories. She will also circulate a sign-up sheet for manning the booth.
- d. **Presentations of the May 29, 2014 Workshop on MCDA's Website:** Tom Martin asked if the presentations from the May 29, 2014 workshop had been posted on the website. Unfortunately, Joella Theriault's computer had virus issues and in the process of removing the virus, all files on the hard drive were removed. She will try to re-create the presentation materials.
- e. **Use of MCDA ListServe:** MCDA members asked that when responding to e-mails that are sent to all MCDA Members, it should only contain information useful to members. Replying to "All" with personal messages is discouraged.

Gail Chase joined the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

VII. **Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be via teleconference on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

VIII. **Adjourn:** Moved by Gail Chase and seconded by Suzie Paradis to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Submitted by,

Joella R. Theriault

Joella R. Theriault
MCDA Secretary