



Maine Community Development Association

Thursday, August 13, 2020
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
10:00 A.M.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93207923694>

Meeting ID: 932 0792 3694
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Introductions by Tracey Desjardins, President MCDA 2019-2021:** T. Desjardins opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Tracey Desjardins, President	City of Gardner
Joella R. Theriault, Secretary	Northern Maine Development Commission
Tony Levesque, Member	Town of Fort Fairfield
Jen Peters, Director	Sunrise County Economic Council
Stephen Dyer, Past President	Ransom Consulting, Inc.
Nancy Ketch, Director	Town of Houlton
Scott Laflamme, Vice President	Town of Yarmouth
Mathew Eddy, Treasurer	City of Biddeford
Darryl Sterling, Director	Economic Development Consultant

2. **Changes or additions to agenda:** There were no changes.
3. **Approval of June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes:** Moved by M. Eddy and seconded by S. Laflamme to approve the meeting minutes as presented; motion passed.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** M. Eddy presented the financial report. Membership dues are \$600 under budget, but this may be due to financial constraints on municipal budgets. MCDA members may want to contact non-renewals. T. Levesque will forward a list of non-renewing members and T. Desjardins urged members to reach out to these communities. S. Dyer moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by N. Ketch and the vote was unanimously in favor.
5. **Deborah Johnson, Office of Community Development Update:** D. Johnson was not in attendance. Members took the opportunity to discuss COVID-19 related issues –

- Keeping Maine Healthy initiative provided funding for public education and prevention. Activities implemented with the grant funds included adding social workers in school departments, “Clean Day” held on Wednesdays in Biddeford and Brunswick, law enforcement staff enforcing violations to staying safe protocols, purchase of barriers for outdoor dining, etc. For more information on this initiative, S. Laflamme urged all to contact Mike Abbott, Michael.abbot@maine.gov and contact Marc Meyers for more information on purchase of barriers.
 - J. Peters urged MCDA members to educate their communities regarding the census survey. Maine is losing money because of non-responses to the survey.
 - The White House has made some changes to HUD’s Notice of Affirmative Fair Housing regulations. For more information, click on the link <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-protecting-suburbs-preserving-american-dream-americans/>.
- 6. MMA Convention:** The sessions originally planned for the MMA Convention were sessions more effective for in-person attendance; therefore MMA has been advised that MCDA will participate as viewers only during this year’s convention.
- 7. Annual Meeting Requirements and Nomination:** T. Levesque reported that he has submitted a draft ballot for 2021. Proposed is to renew Nancy Ketch and Jennifer Peters as Members at Large for another two-year term with all other Executive Committee Members to remain as currently elected at the last annual meeting. There was some discussion regarding Cary Tyson’s participation as a Member at Large since he is no longer with KVCOG. T. Desjardins will reach out to Cary and ask if he intends to remain as a Member at Large and request membership from his new position of Executive Director of Downtown Portland.
- 8. MCDA Zoom Account Discussion:** Following a brief discussion, S. Dyer moved and M. Eddy seconded a motion to approve the basic ZOOM app at a cost of \$ 15/month. Motion passed.
- 9. Status of Subcommittees and Subcommittee Reports:**
- i. Membership:** T. Levesque noted that membership was down as compared to last year. There were five non-renewals and T. Levesque urged members to contact non-renewals for follow ups. The list of non-renewals will be sent to J. Theriault for sharing with members.
 - ii. Professional Development:** As noted above in Item 6, there will be no Professional Development forums scheduled at this time.
 - iii. Communications/Newsletter:** J. Theriault apologized for the delay in publishing the quarterly newsletter due in July, but assured that she would complete the newsletter as soon as possible. In the meantime, there is a need to work on the Annual Report and with limited information to report such as public forums, asked J. Peters if the SCEC webinars could be included in the report as part of the Professional Development.
- 10. Next Meeting Date – October 8,2020** at noon.
- 11. Other Business:** S. Dyer reported that the next round of Brownfields grants will be available on August 28. If anyone has questions or needs more information, they can contact him. Also, T.

Levesque noted that of all nine attendees of this meeting, eight executive and board members were represented.

12. Adjourn: Motion by M. Eddy and seconded by N. Ketch to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Sincerely,

*Joella R. Theriault
MCDA Secretary*

DRAFT