



Maine Community Development Association

MCDA Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 12, 2022

10:00AM

Attendees: Tracey Desjardins, Emily Ruger, Nancy Ketch, Jen Peters, Mathew Eddy, Rodney Lynch, Darryl Sterling, Galen Weibley, Tony Levesque, Stephen Dyer, Vicki Rusbult, Deborah Johnson, Tammy Knight

Welcome and Introductions (Jen Peters): Members gave introductions.

Approval of March 10 meeting minutes: Desjardins made motion to accept minutes. Sterling seconded. Passed unanimously.

Memberships: Up to \$3,200 in memberships with more memberships coming. Levesque made motion to accept report. Sterling second. Passed unanimously.

DECD Update (Johnson):

1. DECD is still waiting on allocations, which is expected to come this week. Once this happens, DECD will be able to issue project agreements.
2. Tammy and Deb working on a meeting with EDD directors and regional planning commissions. There is a wide variety of capacity amongst those groups and the goal is to increase capacity of regional groups to support rural communities.
3. With passage of LD2003, there will be funding for communities and regional planning commissions to receive technical assistance funds. Communities/MCDA should pay attention to that process and outcomes.

Membership (Levesque): Currently MCDA has 33 members. Lapsed members include: Bowdoinham, Brunswick, Lisbon, Skowhegan, Washington County COG, Hancock County Planning Commission, Camden, Easton, Caribou, Kennebunk, Penquis CAP, Wright-Pierce. Additionally, there are 7 'former members' and 10 people who attended the annual meeting but are not members.

Professional Development (Peters): Towns lack critical data for decision making, such as demographic info, etc. Jen Peters and Scott Laflamme are putting together a group to discuss this challenge and put together a professional development opportunity. Noted that Munis and Trio are good resources for communities to collect data. Ruger and Eddy will join the group.

Communications/Newsletter (Peters): MMA handles listserv and website updates. Melissa White is MMA contact. Website updates go through MMA. Ruger will manage communications. Eddy will connect Ruger and White.

Noted that six past presidents were on call (Desjardins, Lynch, Eddy, Dyer, Levesque, Sterling).
Noted that USDA and EDA launched resource guide with planning and technical assistance:
https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/508F_RD_EDA_JointPlanningResourceGuide.pdf.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be via Zoom on July 14th at 10AM. A working session will be planned for August.

Adjourn 11:01

EBR 5/12/2022