

**MNA Board Meeting**  
Mt. Olivet Retreat Center  
01/07/12  
**Agenda**

**Present:** Hallie Kamesch, Kathy Dummer, Katie Pata, Samatha Weatherston, Valerie Slocum, Lauren Borer, Josh Leonard, Cristina Palmisano, Brett Sieberer

**Absent:** Mara Koenig, Crystal Wold

- |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |             |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| I.   | Call to Order<br>Hallie called to order at 12:52                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1:00 pm     |
| II.  | Approve Agenda<br><b>Action Item</b><br><b>Valerie motioned, Sam Seconded</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1:00 pm     |
| III. | Approval of November Minutes (Appendix 1)<br><b>Action Item</b><br><b>Katie motioned, seconded by Kathy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1:05 pm     |
| IV.  | Secretary's Membership Report – Cristina Palmisano<br>127 members at conference time<br>New Database is going strong, Cristina is much more confident using it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1:05 pm     |
| V.   | Treasurers Report – Josh Leonard<br>i. Expense/income spread sheet<br><b>Action Item - approve report</b><br><b>Katie motioned, Sam seconded</b><br>Brett assisted in the transition of materials from Pam Welievich                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1:15 pm     |
| VI.  | Committee updates<br>a. Nominating (standing) – Chair Hallie Kamesch<br>Not much going on here,<br>Always looking for potential future board members<br>b. Naturalist Training (standing)– Crystal Wold<br>i. Discussion: Charging for trainings<br>1. Would rather limit number and will not be offering funds<br>2. EBWG in June will have limited number<br>3. Will spend more time on this topic<br>ii. Discussion: Sites and topics Brainstorm<br>1. Katie will help her on her committee<br>2. Will save for next meeting<br>c. Program "Conference" (standing) – Chair Katie Pata<br>i. Meeting Thursday, January 12 Thompson Park Center, West St. Paul<br>1. 6-7:30<br>ii. Board members should let Katie know if interested in conference updates<br>iii. Goals for first meeting: Name and Date<br>1. November 9-11, 2012 (Veterans Day)<br>2. Deep Portage Environmental Learning Center, Hackensack<br>iv. Goals for Next Meeting:<br>1. Soliciting feedback for theme ideas, narrow down to 2<br>2. Who's doing what? | 1:30 pm     |
|      | Brief break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 2:00 – 2:10 |
| d.   | Info Network (standing) – Co-Chairs Samantha Weatherston & Lauren Borer<br>i. Set article submission schedule<br>1. Jan/Feb – Katie<br>2. March/April – Lauren                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |

3. May/June – Josh
4. July/August - Kathy
5. September /October - Valerie
6. November /December - Brett
- ii. Need photos from new board members and contact info
- iii. Facebook Updates - Get logins from Jodi
  1. Will change page type to a fan
- iv. Typo on green owl MNA T-shirts
- v. Hallie will meet with April to get briefed on website
  1. Needs to be better
- e. Legislative/Interagency Liaison (standing) – Josh
  - i. New weather normals have started
- f. Stewardship and Scholarship (special)–
  - i. Changing scholarship form
  - ii. Discussion to change ESF into a rolling fund
  - iii. Brett and Valerie will put together a proposal for next meeting
- g. Field Trip and Events (ad hoc) – Valerie Slocum
  - i. Organized movie in November, only 7 people attended
  - ii. Val in contact with Katie and Krista for snowshoeing field trip in February (if snow)
- a. Fund Raising (ad hoc)– Brett Sieberer
  - a. \$1800 handed out at conference scholarships
  - b. \$774.50 silent auction earnings
  - c. Trying to raise \$300-\$900 to catch up this year
  - d. Should we change the scholarships to be a constant number, instead of fluctuating (based on silent auction earnings)
  - e. Thinking about upping ESF to have more money available throughout the year
  - f. Info Committee trying to clarify scholarship recipients from Three Rivers Park District
- b. K-12 science standards (ad hoc)- Josh Leonard

- VII. Old business 2:40 pm
- a. P.O. Box
    - i. Josh will take this responsibility
  - b. Scholarship recipient requirements/responsibilities
    - i. Recipients should be required to do something

- VIII. New business 2:50 pm

- IX. Accountability 3:00 pm
- Hallie- newsletter article, contact Crystal and update about June, look at website & meet with April
- Katie- Add members to conf. planning distribution list, get Sam info, write newsletter article, connect with Crystal to help with Naturalist trainings
- Kathy – flush out ideas around mentorship piece, write article, field trip suggestion for Feb.
- Sam – newsletter out, write article, look at facebook site and website and adjust
- Valerie – get in touch with Tara for forms, put proposal together for scholarship changes, guidelines for ESF and scholarship apps.
- Lauren—Get Sam contact info, field trip stuff, keep tabs on board responsibilities
- Josh- figure out what it means to be treasurer, will connect with website manager, email board contact info to Sam
- Cristina- job description, continue with membership database
- Brett – work with Valerie on ESF guidelines, new picture for info

- X. Next Meeting
- a. March 1<sup>st</sup>. Normandale Community College, 5:30-7:30 p.m.m

XI. Adjournment

3:30 pm

**Motion made to adjourn by Sam, seconded by Katie**

## APPENDICIES

### Appendix 1 MNA Board Meeting Minutes

Axel's Grill, St. Paul

11/3/11

#### **Agenda**

**Present: Brett Sieberer, Tara Rogness, Samantha Weatherston, Crystal Wold, April Rust, Pam Welisevich, Jodi Gustafson, Cristina Palmisano, Hallie Kamesch, Valerie Slocum**

- XII. Call to Order 5:30 pm  
By April, 5:59 p.m.
- XIII. Approve Agenda 5:35 pm  
**Action Item**  
**Motion to approve made by Hallie, Seconded by Pam**
- XIV. Approval of September Minutes (Appendix 1) 5:35 pm  
**Action Item**  
**Motion to approve made by Hallie, Seconded by Pam**
- XV. Secretary's Membership Report – Cristina Palmisano 5:45 pm
- Social Event Registrations are coming in, although slower than expected. Less than 20 so far. Can we send another email blast reminder?
  - Member database, including MNA Info Chair Gmail contact list is current, although fluctuating right now as registrations and renewals come in. Last count was 92 members.
  - Need to collaborate with Newsletter/Information committee to downsize groups in the MNA Info Chair Gmail account. There is some redundancy and it creates extra work.
  - Postcard-size MNA flyers are being printed for the NAI Conference.
  - Have not yet found a way to track old members because of too much varied information. My best idea is to keep past members in the MNA Info Chair Gmail account in the "non-members or past members" group. A few people have been asked to be removed from this list.
  - CRISTINA WILL BRING EXTRA FORMS FOR REGISTRATIONS
- XVI. Treasurers Report – Pam Welisevich 5:55 pm
- i. Expense/income spread sheet  
**Action Item - approve report**  
**Motion to approve made by Cristina, Seconded by Brett**
- XVII. Committee updates 6:00 pm
- a. Nominating (standing) – Chair April Rust
    - i. Election update. 39 members voted. All ballot elected unanimously with a handful of write-ins. April will send a welcome email to all and let them know to expect a meeting scheduling email from Hallie. Newly elected board members:  
President: Hallie Kamesch  
Vice President: Katie Pata  
Treasurer: Josh Leonard  
At-Large: Kathy Dummer  
At-Large: Lauren Borer  
Newsletter Editor: Mara Koenig
  - b. Program "Conference" (standing) – Chair Hallie Wunsch
    - i. Next Year: Duluth very tentatively, Katie Pata (future V.P.) will be soliciting feedback at member meeting.
    - ii. Board caravanning to Dodge ASAP after member meeting
    - iii. Catered by Pepito's, buffet style
    - iv. Band – local bluegrass band 7:30-9:30 p.m.

- v. Raffle will be at a set time. Still working out details b/c of lower attendance number compared to previous years
- vi. Tax ID form for silent auction donations. Brett has this.
- vii. Silent Auction ends 5 minutes after band finishing.
- viii. Need to be out of Dodge at 11 p.m.
- ix. Outgoing Members: April, Tara, Jodi, Pam
- c. Info Network (standing) – Co-Chairs Jodi Gustafson & Samantha Weatherston
  - i. Request that newsletter submissions not be formatted in any way. (i.e. if people submit items, please don't send the wall flyer, send text.)
  - ii. Brett and April have articles due Nov. 15.
- d. Legislative/Interagency Liaison (standing) – Chair Josh Leonard
  - i. Not present
- e. Naturalist Training (standing)– Chair Crystal Wold
  - i. January not yet booked leaning towards Raptor Center
  - ii. June not yet booked. Possibly North Shore School, Saturday Wolf Ridge
    - 1. June 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. June – Trying for Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden
  - iv. Fall – Dodge teaching about Geology
  - v. Summer – Kacie Carlson Wild River State Park
- f. Stewardship and Scholarship (special)– Chair Tara Rogness
  - i. Contacted all scholarship recipients to suggest Thursday if they are attending just one day of the conference.
  - ii. Scholarship recipients need articles in by January 31, 2012
- g. Field Trip and Events (ad hoc) – Valerie Slocum
  - i. “Under Skin” Lyme Disease film, Thursday November 17
  - ii. Promotional materials being sent by company
  - iii. Cannot solicit donations
  - iv. Still looking for someone to give a talk afterwards.
  - v. January – Planning a snowshoeing event in the cities.
  - vi. Valerie would like to do a get-together each season.
- c. Fund Raising (ad hoc)– Brett Sieberer
  - a. Looking for form previous fundraising committee (Tara)
  - b. Brett passed around form listing donations collected.
  - c. Brett will be picking up all the merchandise.
- d. K-12 science standards (ad hoc)- Chair Josh Leonard
  - a. Not Present

- XVIII. Old business 6:40 pm
  - a. Update from Hallie on Gordon Murdock meeting on passenger pigeon anniversary project in 2014.
    - i. Group is enthusiastic
    - ii. Extinction of the passenger pigeon as a teachable moment
    - iii. MNA may want to be on a board
    - iv. Project passenger pigeon information online
    - v. Meeting was fun!
- XIX. New business 7:00 pm
  - a. Farm bill support letter
- XX. Accountability 7:15 pm
  - April – Membership Meeting
    - Recognize board members
    - Soliciting feedback, “What would you like to see from MNA in the next year?”
    - Committee requests for feedback, email April short intro; committee will lead this section
    - Welcome new board members

Jodi – Putting out newsletter, eNews  
Cristina – Registrations, Registrations, Registrations  
Hallie – Get ready for conference, Talk with Katie to plan for conference  
Draft p-pig note for newsletter  
Set board retreat for January  
Valerie- Promoting the film screening, set a date for January snowshoeing  
Brett- Newsletter article, Why is MNA Important  
Attend NAI  
Setting up silent auction  
Tax ID form  
Tara - Email out to Scholarship recipients to get newsletters  
Sam – meet with Cristina, Jodi, and Mara and downsize Gmail lists  
Send Jodi article  
Crystal- Send April announcement for MNA trainings to discuss member meeting  
Send Jodi announcements  
Finalize trainings for 2012, solicit feedback

XXI. Next Meeting

- a. Hallie will schedule January meeting.

XXII. Adjournment

7:30 pm

**Motion to adjourn made by Hallie, Seconded by April; 7:10p.m.**