

Approved

**Maine Welfare Directors Association
Business Meeting
Friday, January 7, 2011
City Hall - Augusta**

Present: Dot Meagher, Stacey Parra, Linda Fossa, Sue Charron, Vicky Edgerly, Darryl McKenney, Shawn Yardley, Rene Daniel, Melissa Carver.

See MWDA 2011 Membership Meeting/Training Class List for all additional attendees.

1. **Call to Order:** President Dot Meagher called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions around the table.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The March 18, 2010 Business Meeting minutes were presented. Motion made by Rene Daniel, seconded by Stacey Parra, no discussion, and all approved the March 18, 2010 minutes. The October 13, 2010 Business Meeting minutes were presented. Motion made by Rene Daniel, seconded by Stacey Parra, no discussion and all approved the October 13, 2010 minutes.
3. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Linda Fossa reviewed the financial reports for the period ending September 30, 2010, with total assets of \$43,803. Motion made by Rene Daniel, seconded by Stacey Parra, all approved the September financial report.
 - Linda Fossa reviewed the financial reports for the period ending October 31, 2010, with total assets of \$42,962. Motion made by Stacey Parra, seconded by Rene Daniel, all approved the October financials.
 - Linda Fossa reviewed the financial reports for the period ending November 30, 2010, with total assets of \$43,336. Motion made by Darryl McKenney, seconded by Stacey Parra, all approved the November financial report.
4. **Committee Reports:**
 - Membership: Cheryl Johnson – absent, no official report.
 - Professional Development: Stacey Parra reported that the Professional Development Committee will be looking for a location in either Bath or Augusta to host the 2011 Spring Convention, May 16th & 17th. She recommended looking at the MWDA Website for Advanced GA course date. Stacey also reminded everyone of the importance of completing the evaluation forms, as they are always looking for feedback for any suggestions and improvements to the trainings and workshops.
 - Legislative: Dot Meagher and Vicky Edgerly reported briefly that the board had met with Frank O'Hara at MMA in October looking to partner with the Advocates to make GA changes and improvements. They met again in November but were advised that due to MMA's support of a particular bill, they did not want to work with MWDA at this point. In December Governor Elect, Paul LePage met with MWDA and shared his ideas and plans for DHHS. He was very receptive to MWDA's plans. MWDA then met to create a proposed bill.
 - Kate Dufour briefly discussed for the membership the process of how bills originate. She reported on two separate bills one that MMA is supporting and

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one that MWDA is supporting. Dot Meagher asked for show of hands on of those in favor of the bill that MMA is supporting (An Act to Build Accountability into the General Assistance Laws – Sec. 1. 22 MRSA Section 44308, sub-section 1). Out of a total of 28 there were 26 in support of this bill, 1 opposed and 1 abstained. Dot Meagher then asked for a show of hands of those in support of the bill that MWDA is supporting (An Act to Improve the General Assistance Program – Sec. 1. 22 MRSA Section 4301, sub-section 6). Out of a total of 28 there were 26 in support of the bill, 1 opposed and 1 abstained.

- Vicky Edgerly asked the membership’s opinion regarding a residency requirement for GA recipients, as her Town Manager, John Bubier is working with an advocacy group on this topic. Members expressed that they did not have enough information to make an informed decision and that the group is split on the issue. Vicky will take this information back to John Bubier.

5. **Other Business/Member Input:** Dot Meagher reported that the above topics would be good agenda items for the Spring Seminar. Dot Meagher reported she was looking for approval to purchase an Adobe update and an Anti-virus program for the MWDA computer with an approximate cost of \$500. Rene Daniel made motion, but amended it to say “an amount not to exceed \$650.00.” Stacey Parra seconded the motion and all approved.
6. **Adjournment:** Motion made by Rene Daniel, seconded by Stacey Parra, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m.