



**MME Board of Directors Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2022 - 2:00 p.m.
MML Lansing Office & Zoom Video Conference**

President Michael Cain called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

I. Convene and Roll Call

Directors present:

Michael Cain, President; City Manager; Boyne City
Christian Wuerth, Vice President; Village Manager; Milford
James Wickman, Village Administrator; Chesaning
Susan Montenegro, In-Transition
Matthew Butts, Assistant City Manager; Grandville

Also present:

Kelly Warren, Secretary/Treasurer; MML
Margaret Mooney, MML

On Zoom:

Victor Cardenas, City Manager; Novi
Deborah Stuart, City Manager; Mason
Laura Lam, Deputy City Manager; Kalamazoo
Aaron Desentz, City Manager; Mt. Pleasant
Julius Suchy, Township Manager; Ada Township
Christine Burns, President Elect; Village Manager; Spring Lake
Mark Heydlauff, City Manager; Charlevoix
Melissa Marsh, City Manager; Madison Heights
James Krizan, City Manager; Lincoln Park
Brad Kaye, City Manager; Midland

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.
Motion by: James Wickman
Seconded by: Christian Wuerth
No discussion. Motion carried.

III. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of April 14, 2022 minutes
Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by: Christian Wuerth
Seconded by: Susan Montenegro
No discussion. Motion carried.

IV. Discussion Items

a. MME Staffing Support Discussion

The Board continued their discussion on staffing support options and how to best move forward. Further comments were made regarding the various factors involved and the need to provide appropriate compensation to the MML for their services as well as to any additional staff or entity that may be hired or contracted in the future. As it stands, there are not sufficient funds available in the budget to compensate the MML for the level of service that they provide, so funding for a new individual or company would not be possible at this time. The need areas that require more staffing support remain identified as assistance with sponsor acquisition and relationships, administrative support for the MME committees, and member services. Defining the relationship with the MML to determine exactly what services they will provide will help establish the specific help that may need to come from elsewhere. Future conversations with League staff will give clarity here. In any case, the funds must be in place to increase compensation for the League and/or pay for additional services from another source. Attaining this amount of funding would likely require a significant increase in membership dues, which cannot happen without providing members with proper notice or information about the situation. Therefore, the idea of surveying members about their thoughts on what services would most improve the organization was discussed. However, it was concluded that this sort of survey may lead to an abundance of ideas and requests that might not be feasible. A better approach may be to clearly provide a value proposition to the members about how a dues increase would bolster the capacity of the organization and the benefits of membership. With the idea in mind that contracting an outside company to help specifically with sponsorships could be beneficial, Christian Wuerth expressed that he would be willing to take on the creation of an RFP that could be given to such companies. Aaron Desentz also offered to help in this effort. The members could then be informed on what a dues increase may provide, in terms of what services a company could provide and how much it would cost.

V. Committee Updates

The PDC is in good shape regarding the Summer Workshop, despite having a later start to the planning process. Michael Cain also shared the news that

the PDC Chair, Frances McMullan, lost her mom recently and said that he will be reaching out to her and that others may do the same.

Victor Cardenas commented on the status of the Early Career Outreach Committee and any action that has been taken regarding the MME fellowship. As the board representative of this committee, Susan Montenegro explained that she cannot provide much information because she is no longer working in Eaton Rapids and does not have access to any committee-related emails that were in her Eaton Rapids email account. The committee chair's contact information will be shared with Susan, as well as Susan's current email address with the rest of the Board.

VI. Comments from the Board

Burns: none

Butts: none

Cardenas: Added that for the conference location "rotations" there should be a process for the Summer Workshop as well. The Board will work with the PDC.

Desentz: none

Heydlauff: none

Kaye: none

Krizan: none

Lam: none

Marsh: none

Montenegro: none

Stuart: none

Suchy: none

Wickman: Expressed the desire to start the next Board meeting with a debrief on the constitutional amendment election results. Almost half of the membership would like to see a different nomination process, and while that didn't prevail in the election it is still necessary to look at "what we do" and find a middle ground.

Wuerth: Inquired about upcoming conference venues and suggested that if the PDC is behind in the booking process, perhaps it is something the Board should take on. Venues are booked through 2023 (Grand Rapids for the Winter Institute and Frankenmuth for the Summer Workshop) but not yet booked for 2024. There is a preestablished regional rotation for the Winter Institute location, but Summer Workshop is "wide open."

VII. Comments from the President

Cain: none

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Motion by: Christian Wuerth

Seconded by: Susan Montenegro

No discussion. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 - 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Haworth Hotel - Rooms 156/158
225 College Ave, Holland MI 49423
(MME Summer Workshop: July 19-22, 2022)