General Assembly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 10:00 A.M.

A meeting of the MCDA General Membership was held via teleconferencing on Thursday, November 15, 2012. Attending were: Justin Poirier, City of Bath; Rodney Lynch, Planning Consultant; Tom Martin, HCPC; Tony Levesque, Town of Fort Fairfield; Matt Eddy, Development Consultant:, Stephen Dyer, Ransom Environmental; Suzie Paradis, Town of Madawaska; and Beverly Gerardi, Senior Program Director, Midcoast Economic Development District.

1. **Call to Order:** Rodney Lynch, MCDA President, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. **Review October 4, 2012 Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Tom Martin and seconded by Tony Levesque Barnes to approve the October 4, 2012 meeting minutes as amended – *Mary Ann Hayes will serve as the MCDA liaison to the project* and *moved by Jon Edgerton and seconded by Gail Chase to adjourn at 2:00PM.* Approved.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Matt Eddy provided the financial report based on the September 2012 Financial Statement. There is $12,853 in our bank account, we are ahead of last year on our membership dues by $600.00, and training revenues are $5,000. Moved by Tony Levesque and seconded by Steve Dyer to approve the Treasurer's report. Approved.

4. **Report of Committees**:
   o *Professional Development* –It was discussed about holding an all-day spring professional development training session in Bangor similar in format to the September 11, 2012 retreat at the Seadog. A suggested date was Thursday May 30, 2013 which would allow persons to coincide this training with the Maine Downtown Center Conference on Friday, May 31 in Belfast: Suggested topics for discussion included the following: Proposed changes to the 2014 CDBG Program Statement; evaluation of the proposed changes to the 2013 CDBG Program Statement; the new Transportation Alternatives-MAP-21 legislation; panel on MDOT, DEP, EDA, RD projects and funding; and bringing in a spokesperson from Maine Real Estate Development Association (MREDA) to speak on economic and demographic forecasting with focus on Great Bangor region. Members are asked to email their suggestions to Darryl Sterling and Rodney Lynch.
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   o *Membership* – Steve Dyer (Chair) reported that we already have 19 renewals for 2013 which is ahead of last year. Renewal letters were sent out October 17. At the end of 2012 membership will be at 42 members which ahead of 2011.
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   o *Communication and Newsletter* – Joella Theriault (Chair) will be collecting articles for the October to December 2012 Newsletter by the first of January 2013.
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   o *Advocacy* – Dan LaPointe (Chair) has agreed to lead the advocacy efforts between MCDA and COSCDA which is a member of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) which advocates for adequate funding for HUD programs. They want to reach out to selected states to help mobilize state and local organizations within the state to talk with

their Senators about the effects of sequestration and a balanced approach to the deficit. Rodney Lynch will be in touch with Dan LaPointe about this.

5. **CDBG Updates from DECD-OCD staff:** There was no OCD representative attending the meeting The Final 2013 CDBG Program Statement is expected to be out soon.

6. **October 3-4, 2012 MMA Convention and Annual Meeting Topic** – Rodney Lynch suggested that we continue with the same format for the 2013 Annual Meeting in conjunction with MMA.

7. **Other Business**: Housing keeping on the webpage including the final minutes for the April 13, 2012; June 26. 2012; August 30, 2012; September 11, 2012; and October 4, 2012 meeting minutes; ensuring a current membership directory or listing; and updating the President's "becoming a member letter"

8. **Next Meeting Date: Friday, February 15, 2013.** Items to be discussed: Setting the calendar for the rest of 2014; professional development training; and the semi-annual meeting in May or June

9. The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Submitted by,

Rodney Lynch, President for
Joella R. Theriault
MCDA Secretary