



MCDA General Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2015
10:00 a.m.

The MCDA General Membership Meeting was held via teleconference call on Thursday, September 17, 2015. Present were:

Darryl Sterling, MCDA President
Gail Chase, MCDA Vice President
Mathew Eddy, MCDA Treasurer
Joella R. Theriault, MCDA Secretary
Tracey Steuber, MCDA Member, Town of Lisbon
Tom Martin, MCDA Director, Hancock County Planning Commission
Rodney Lynch, MCDA Past President, Town of Thomaston
Terry Ann Holden, MCDA Member, DECD Office of Community Development Director
Suzie Paradis, MCDA Member, Town of Madawaska
Nancy Ketch, MCDA Member, Town of Houlton
Tony Levesque, MCDA Member, Town of Fort Fairfield
Robin Beck, MCDA Member, Maine Rural Partners

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Darryl Sterling, MCDA President, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. **August 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Matt Eddy and seconded by Tom Martin to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Matt Eddy reported that as of July, 2015, revenues were \$500 over budget. It was recommended that the cost of the booth at the MMA Convention be allocated to the General Miscellaneous expenditures line item and the cost of the meal under the travel expenditure line item. Motion by Tony Levesque and seconded by Joella Theriault to accept the Financial Report dated July, 2015. Motion passed.
4. **Subcommittee Reports:**
 - a. **Membership:** Steve Dyer was unavailable to report; however, Joella Theriault noted that there are 51 paid members and 3 unpaid members as of this date.
 - b. **Professional Development:** Darryl Sterling reported that Lisa Leahy of ConnectME Authority has agreed to be the guest speaker at the annual meeting. Joella Theriault has received the information needed to complete the registration brochure and that should be available sometime today or tomorrow. Also discussed was the request for a reduced retiree membership rate. This item will be placed on the agenda for discussion and vote at the October 8th annual meeting.

- c. **Communications/Newsletter:** Joella Theriault is completing the April-September, 2015 newsletter as well as the Annual Report. Both should be available by the end of this month. Joella has consulted with Tony Levesque and Amy Bernard who are communication committee members regarding the booth display and both have concurred with the sample presented. The materials will be submitted for print this week and Joella will deliver the completed display to Tony Levesque who will deliver it to the Augusta Civic Center on Tuesday, October 6. Additionally, Joella Theriault is working on updating the MCDA website.
 - d. **Nominations:** Draft Ballot of Officers was presented for voting at the Annual Meeting. Gail Chase has agreed to serve as President and Tom Martin has respectfully declined the position of Vice President. The nomination committee presented the name of Stephen Dyer to fill the position of Vice President and he will be contacted. If Stephen Dyer accepts the position, his position as Board Member will become vacant. Suzie Paradis has agreed to fill his remaining position of one year. The draft ballot will be revised to reflect the changes and nominations will also be sought from the floor at the annual meeting.
5. **Remarks by DECD/OCD Staff on the CDBG Program:** Terry Ann Holden presented the proposed changes to the 2016 CDBG Program Statement as follows:
- a. Remove the Downtown Revitalization program and reallocate the \$400,000 to Public Infrastructure.
 - b. Remove the Maine Downtown Center program and reallocate the \$100,000 to the Micro Enterprise and SBDC Assistance at \$50,000 each
- Reasons for the changes included;
- c. OCD's requirement that businesses meet with a SBDC counselor prior to applying for Micro Enterprise funds and
 - d. The administration's feelings are that towns have driven businesses from their urban centers because of poor zoning practices therefore they have created their own problems.
- OCD will be meeting with John Butera to negotiate the changes and decisions will soon be posted on the website. Tom Martin requested that in the negotiations, OCD ask that the Downtown Revitalization program remain in the proposed statement but with a zero balance similar to the Public Facility program.
6. **MCDA Presence at MMA Convention, October 7 and 8:** A sign-in sheet will be circulated to members who are interested in staffing the booth. The hours are Wednesday, October 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 8 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The annual meeting and luncheon will again be at Margarita's Restaurant on October 8 beginning at 11:30 a.m.
7. **Next Meeting Date – December 10, 2015:**
8. **Other Business:** None
9. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Submitted by,

Joella R. Theriault
MCDA Secretary