

MIRID Executive Board Meeting
October 25, 2015
10 am - 1pm
Regular meeting, In-person
22570 Shevington Drive, Southfield

Present: Naomi Gotlib, Kat Vogtmann, Ge Moody, Laura Gonzalez, Andi Chumley, Stephen Decator, Bethany Spencer, Shawn Spearman

Meeting was called to order at 10:12 am. President Naomi Gotlib presided over the meeting, and Secretary Mitch Holaly recorded the minutes.

Quorum was met in adherence to the Bylaws with a simple majority of the Board being present.

Adjustments to the agenda:

- “Goal Setting for 6 months” added to New Business
- “Letter from Becky Stuckless” added under Fall PD

Agenda was accepted with additions.

Previous minutes were accepted with correction of spelling errors.

Officer Reports

- President
 - Reminded Board that electronic communication should be professional as they are official records of the Board and will be used by subsequent Boards.
 - Thanked Andi for her leadership while Naomi was out of town.
- Vice President
 - No report at this time
- Secretary
 - Mitch has been in contact DODDBHH regarding endorsements. The Division is to make an announcement regarding endorsements by the end of this month.
 - Currently there are 148 MIRID members. Nineteen new members within the last 30 days.
 - Current registration is at 18 for the Fall PD day.

- Treasurer (given by Shawn Spearman)
 - Written report was submitted
 - Some questions regarding how the current mentoring funds could be used. Shawn will contact previous Board members to inquire about the intent of the fund.
 - Andi will contact RID to inquire about any available mentoring funds and will begin to develop draft criteria for how to use the mentoring funds
 - Shawn spoke will contact regarding money from the National Association of Social Workers for sponsorship of the Spring 2015 conference. Was assured that the check had been cut and MIRID should be receiving it shortly.
 - Last fiscal year MIRID recorded a loss, however the Board is comfortable with the numbers because MIRID was significantly more active all over the state and funds were used in line with the mission of the Bylaws. Board will continue to keep a close eye on the budget and strategize on how to increase the availability of resources to continue to serve the membership.
 - Shawn and Bethany will have the taxes filed prior to November 15, 2015.
 - It is time for an internal audit. In need of 3 volunteers.
 - Recent mini workshops earned enough to cover costs.
- DMAL
 - The BEI system in Texas will roll out specialization exams for Legal and Medical settings. They are also developing a Deaf Interpreter test.
 - MDA Conference was held this weekend. Membership and involvement is low.
 - MIRID discussed how we could support MDA. One idea was to promote an “Ally” membership as an option when MIRID members renew. This would be like a supporting member with no voting rights. The Board also discussed having a MIRID representative be more active as a liaison between the two organizations.
 - Concerns of MDA membership identified at the conference forum were:
 - Access to text 911
 - High cost of bed alarms and assistive technology
 - Voter registration within the Deaf community

- MAL
 - Was contacted by a member regarding a lost certificate of attendance. Board discussed policy regarding issues like this.
 - Suggestion of scanning documents (especially sign in sheets) and storing them on the MIRID Google Drive
 - Discussed organizational membership benefits and recruiting strategies

Due to time constraints of some Board members, discussion shifted to “Fall PD Day”

Fall PD Day

- Letter from Becky Stuckless to the Board to reconsider MIRID’s fee structure for interpreters
- Discussion included a set conference rate, consideration of standard level, possible tax write-off
- Andi Chumley motioned: MIRID establish a fee schedule to pay interpreters for MIRID events. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.
 - Andi, Stephen, and Mitch volunteered to work on drafting a schedule for Board review
- Stephen Decator motioned: I move to increase the interpreter payment for the Fall PD Day to \$400 for each interpreter with the option of a tax write off. Motion seconded and carried.
- Stephen will contact a local hotel to inquire into a discounted rate for a block of rooms.
- Kat volunteered to be responsible for Trudy Suggs transportation needs.
- Ge and Naomi will take care of snacks and refreshments
 - Mitch to get quotes for coffee
- Naomi will be in contact with Board members to make sure everything is covered on the event checklist.
- Eighteen registered so far
- Five student volunteers

Publications Manager Report

- Have made updates to the website both cosmetic and substantive
- One publications committee volunteer resigned
- Would like to reinstate “The Link” and publish it quarterly.
- Asked Board to review the website to assist in proofreading
- Laura requested the Board look into purchasing PhotoShop for the publications manager to use for graphic design, marketing, and publications.

- Shawn will check if MIRID had already had access to a copy of PhotoShop
- Board discussed the pros and cons of Facebook pages and groups. Ge and Laura are to take the lead on this initiative to better engage our membership.

Due to time constraints remaining agenda items were tabled.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 1:41 pm.

Mitch Holaly, Secretary