



Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Board of Directors Meeting
April 19, 2017 (draft)

Participants:

-Karl Samp - Pilot
-Terri McCullough - Pilot Pro Tem
-Holly Cain - Treasurer
-Faye Wilkinson - Secretary
-Craig Mitckes - (IL-MRPC)
-Anne Lewis – (MN-MRPC proxy)

-Sherry Quamme - (WI-MRPC)
- Greg Terry - (KY-MRPC)
-Joe St Columbia – (AR-MRPC)
-Edith Pfeffer-(IA-MRPC)
-Norma Pruitt – Marketing
-Carol Zoff – Transportation
-Kim Williams - Arkansas
-Susanne Barnet – National Office

Pilot called the meeting to order at 4:05pm and there was a quorum present.

- **Past Meeting Minutes from 2/10/17** Motion to approve by Pilot Pro Tem. Second by AR. Motion carried.
- **Financial Report as of 3/31/17.** Motion to approve by KY Second by WI. Motion carried. Treasurer reported this year's endowment return is \$780 and we can roll it back in or take it as a distribution. Pilot suggested we spend it on marketing. Pilot Pro Tem made a motion to request the endowment payout go toward marketing and that we let the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque know what we are doing with it. Second by Iowa. Motion carried.
- **National Advisory Committee on Travel and Tourism Infrastructure** - Our NACTTI representative, Diana Threadgill from Mississippi River Corridor - Tennessee, arrived to the meeting late so Carol Zoff provided an update. Funding for transportation is very modal specific. Due to the administration transition, staff is not in place. On the MRPCMembers site, there is a page that contains all of the information Diana receives. Currently, they're looking at what the barriers are, at integrating the different modal possibilities. Transportation committee is looking at how to provide 10 states of shovel ready transportation projects to Diana to move forward.
- **MRCC/ Geotourism** - Pilot Pro Tem stated that she is giving update on Friday afternoon. She reported that they're looking forward to Year of Trails. Link to spring issue of Our Mississippi. http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/Portals/52/docs/our_mississippi/ourmiss_spring17e_lowres.pdf?ver=2017-04-24-135705-303. National Geographic is under new ownership. The Maps Division has never been part of National Geographic but they are no longer doing projects like this. She stated that she's unaware of a financial obligation for MRPC. Anne Lewis stated that Spencer L/ Delta Regional Authority gave a sponsorship presentation at the Mayor's meeting in DC and said there's a shortfall in money. She also shared that some of the active mayors from the Mayor's group were recently defeated. LA Tourism paid a one-time fee of \$5000 to cover hosting for one year and volunteers are keeping the site going right now. Pilot Pro Tem provided contact info for Kim Rea. She is the website contact for any problems, edits, listings, etc. Kimberly.g.rea@usace.army.mil.
- **National Meetings** Iowa reported that plans are well underway. Note the earlier Board meeting time starting at 3pm instead of 4pm and the Tuesday through Thursday meeting schedule, instead of Wednesday through Friday. Interpretive centers from MN, WI, IA and IL will be invited to present and attend the fall meeting. It was asked that we have copies of Our Mississippi curriculum available

at the Iowa meeting.

Missouri is next up for the 2018 Semi Annual and Arkansas for 2018 Annual meeting. The National Office will look at Jefferson City or St Louis and ask FHWA and MO-DOT to speak, and talk about the St Louis Riverfront project. The Arkansas meeting will likely be held in West Memphis.

- **Committee Updates** Transportation is collecting archived and current materials, in a plan or part of a plan, for the 10-State CMP. Additionally looking to put a list together of how all 10 states are organized. State by state, who is in charge of the MRT (route). Plan to invite Todd Antoine to the MO meeting in 2018.

Is there a role/ functioning mechanism for bringing in non-commissioners? How can we invite people who were involved in MRT to the commission? What do our bylaws state?

- **Other** Carol Zoff presented a video from Hamline University that she and Chris Miller viewed earlier in the week. The video provided an overview of a year-long multi-media project titled Water to the Sea Mississippi Adventure, that encompasses 60+ videos, K-12 educational components for use in museums, interpretive centers, etc. Funding was used in part by the Butler Foundation. The HD touch-table kiosk set up allows four people to simultaneously interact with it. There's a license and support fee, as well as equipment needs totaling about \$35,000. They're currently working with National Park Service to get one into the MN Science Museum and Lake Itasca State Park. Is there a chance to invite them to Iowa? Would we consider writing grants with them to provide these to our interpretive centers? They would consider possibly branding these with the Great River Road. They're looking for partners.
- **TN Update.** Diana Threadgill arrived and shared that she and her board have decided to dissolve MRC-TN. They've spent about 10 months in an audit with TN-DOT regarding funding from a National Scenic Byway grant to be used for construction of a new interpretive center. Three major board members passed away in past eighteen months. Diana is now starting a marketing consulting business with a first project developing 600 acres with the University of Memphis Shelby Forest State Park, using a model similar to Alton, IL.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.