



Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Board of Directors Meeting
April 23, 2014
Minutes (draft)

Participants:

Bob Miller - Pilot	Greg Pruitt - (KY-MRPC)
Terri McCullough - Secretary	Holly Cain - Treasurer
Craig Mitckes - (IL-MRPC)	Karl Samp - Pilot Pro Tem (MN-MRPC proxy)
Diana Threadgill - (TN-MRPC proxy)	Faye Wilkinson - (MS-MRPC proxy)
Edith Feiffer - (IA-MRPC proxy)	Carol Zoff - Transportation
Jane Reagan	Norma Pruitt - Marketing
Joe St. Columbia (AR-MRPC)	Susanne Barnet – National Office
Dennis Donath - (WI-MRPC proxy)	

Pilot Miller called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. on April 23, 2014. A quorum was present.

- **Past Meeting Minutes from 2/14/14**

Motion to approve by Secretary and second by Pilot Pro Tem. Motion carried.

- **Financial Report from 3/31/14**

Treasurer presented the financial report as of 3/31/13. Motion to approve by AR and second by IL. Motion carried.

- **Finance Committee Recommendation**

The Finance Committee met over the past two months and reviewed different investment options. They presented their recommendations for investing \$105,000, currently located in the Money Market account at Anchor Bank, evenly split between three C share funds: PIMCO, Goldman Sachs, Franklin Income Funds.

Motion to approve by AR and second by IL. Motion carried.

- **Geotourism Project and MRCC meeting**

Several board members attended the Geotourism meeting in Memphis earlier this spring, including Bob Miller, Karl Samp, Diana Threadgill, Greg and Norma Pruitt and Terri McCullough.

Comments followed:

- (a) \$10,000 state "in kind" match as budget geo-tourism "in kind" details to submit website content
- (b) oversight and long term commitment
- (c) level of collaboration - MRPC a purse or partner
- (d) Greg Pruitt - unsure of steps - highly positive about outcome
- (e) Collaborative conference call discussed by Norma Pruitt stress partnership and national leadership board of 20 folks and state board, only one county-wide off river
- (f) MRC not acknowledged. AR Gov. using all DRA \$ to this geotourism initiative MRC grant to market in Japan.
- (g) Direct link to National Geographic website - hyperlink and sustainability links

- **2014 Semi-Annual Meeting**

IL welcomed the board to Illinois and along with the National office provided a brief overview of the meeting schedule.

Meeting recessed at 5:15pm.
Meeting reconvened on April 24 at 4:15pm.

- **Geotourism Project and MRCC meeting**

KY made a motion to sign the Memorandum of Agreement and TN made a second.
The floor was opened to further discussion.
Website is natgeomaps.com/geotourism
Culture and Heritage and Marketing committees endorsed the project.
Motion carried.

- **Marketing Committee**

Marketing committee requested \$1000 to move forward with a contest this fall in conjunction with Drive the Great River Road month in September. The national office noted that the funds were already allocated and approved as part of the 2014 budget.

- **Stewardship Award**

The ERA Committee reminded everyone of nominations due for the Stewardship Award, to be presented at the Annual Meeting this fall.

- **National Meeting Request**

The marketing committee requested that a national meeting agenda be available three months in advance in order for departmental agency participation and that chairs will provide agenda items. Furthermore, it was requested that a 5 year advance meeting schedule be in place. Transportation committee made the motion and IL made a second. Motion carried.

- **Transportation Committee**

The transportation committee requested that each state commission conduct a comprehensive outreach to organizations that are connected to the Great River Road and provide recognition to state departments. It was suggested that we use states that have good synergy as examples for other states and to consider a 10 state video project.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.