



Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Board of Directors Meeting
February 8, 2019 (draft)

Participants:

- Terri McCullough – Pilot
- Anne Lewis – Pilot Pro Tem
- Karl Samp – Pilot Emeritus
- Martin Graber – (IA-MRPC)
- Joe St. Columbia – (AR-MRPC)
- Jayne Lepke – (WI-MRPC Proxy)
- Sharon Calcote – (LA-MRPC)
- Norma Pruitt – (KY-MRPC) Marketing
- Craig Mitckes – (IL-MRPC)
- Carol Zoff – (MN-Proxy) Transportation
- Ruth Hawkins – Culture and Heritage
- Nani Bhowmik – ERA
- Susanne Barnet – National Office

Pilot called the meeting to order at 9:03am.

- **Past meeting minutes from 12/14/18** - Motion to approve by MN. Second by IL. Motion carried.
- **Financial report as of 12/31/18** - Motion to approve by IL. Second by KY. Motion carried.
- **State Participation** –National Office indicated that we’ve never had to write off an amount as high as \$65,000 for non-full paying dues from five states (IA-\$15,000 IL-\$15,000, KY-\$5,000, LA-\$15,000, MO-\$15,000, TN-\$15,000). IL indicated that the money was budgeted and he’s uncertain why it wasn’t paid but requests the invoice again and he’ll look into it. MN asked where the decision lies to pay dues? Pilot Pro Tem said that connecting back to states, we need to identify who makes/authorizes these decisions? What office or agency or department? She also stated that she thinks it’s a problem that we planned for a budget deficit. Now we need to look at the process moving forward and connecting in 2019. LA shared that MRPC dues have always been paid through Transportation and MRC dues through Tourism departments. Pilot Pro Tem will work with National Office and report back at next board meeting.
- **CMP** – Transportation chair Carol Zoff provided an introduction of the CMP Implementation Tracker form that was shared. She asked that everyone review the actual CMP document and identify if there are other strategies that are important and not included in the Tracker. Additionally, she is following an earlier request by then Pilot Karl Samp to show the priority items. There are no start or end dates included but we should develop a focus for year one. Additionally, we should keep in mind that we don’t want to conflict with current legislation but rather let it play out. The thought is that maybe we’re a year out before a new transportation bill is introduced. Our plan must call out and re-establish discretionary grant funding for NSB since right now legislation doesn’t include funding grants.
- **Legislative trip with MRCTI** – Pilot and Pilot Pro Tem will be traveling to the MRCTI Legislative Meeting in Washington D.C. March 5-7. The National Office is organizing materials that will provide background on MRPC as Terri and Anne are meeting with mayors and congressional staff. We are looking to garner support through our mayors and legislators. We’re pleased to be included. The board can contact Terri and Anne directly with any comments.

- **Semi-Annual Spring Meeting** – The Semi-Annual meeting will be held in Clarksdale, MS from April 2-4. The meeting begins with the board meeting at 3pm. If 3pm is too early for a quorum, we will adjust the meeting time to 4pm. Board members should communicate with the National Office accordingly. National Office encouraged everyone to share with their commissions that The Shack Up Inn is not sold out. The entire property is on hold. Call the property and ask for the Great River Road/MRPC room block before the cutoff date. Communicate with the National Office if there are any problems.
- **Other Business** – Other upcoming meetings include La Crosse, WI, September 17-19 and a joint meeting in September 2020 in Minnesota with MRCTI.
- **Other Business** – Nani Bhowmik, chair of ERA committee, reminded everyone of the June deadline for nominations. Forms and criteria are available online at mrpcmembers.com under forms and resources.
- **Other Business** – MRCTI's list of mayors matched with our interpretive centers and commissioners are listed on the [mrpcmembers](http://mrpcmembers.com) site under forms and resources. National Office will look for an updated list of mayor members from MRCTI.
- **Other Business** – July board teleconference has been moved to Friday, July 12 at 9am CST, consistent with the second Friday of the month schedule.

Motion to adjourn meeting by IL. Second by AR. Meeting adjourned at 10:03am.