



Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2022
(draft)

Participants:

Terri M - Pilot Emeritus

Anne L - Pilot

Norma P - Pilot Pro Tem

Holly C - Secretary

Francis S - Transportation

John A – MN Proxy and Culture and Heritage

Pat A – AR Proxy and Culture and Heritage

Sabrina C - ERA

Mark K - MO

Mike M - TN

Craig M - IL

Sherry Q – WI

Martin G – IA

Sharon C – LA and Marketing

Derrick B – MS

Lisa W

Susanne TB - National Office (NO)

Meeting was called to order at 9:03am

Motion was made to approve minutes from 3/11/22 by WI. Second by IL. Motion approved.

Financial reports were reviewed. TN made mention that their state dues check was returned. The national office will follow up. Motion was made to approve financial reports through May 31, 2022 by IL. Second by MN. Motion approved.

Pilot opened discussion about state dues and the impact on the budget when states do not pay their dues in full. She called for the board to consider taking action in the future. She provided examples from MRC where non-full dues paying states are not included on the website, in promotions, public relations or print pieces. MRPC promotes all 10 states right now regardless of dues. Taking no action hurts our ability to carry out our operational and promotional plans. Right now, we have a couple states not paying and a couple states not paying in full. States shared their situation with dues. IL indicated that the state has no awareness of their existence. LA said we should update our strategic plan and alter ourselves to be a byway community rather than MRPC. TN just reconstituted themselves on June 1. IA shared their biggest concern is that all states are treated the same despite those who don't pay. Conversation will continue at a future meeting.

The national office reviewed the quarter 1 activity report and provided reminders about the in person strategic planning session in Memphis on Wednesday, September 7 starting at 9am, as well as the August 1 deadline for award nominations. The national office has been busy working on the NSB grant application. There is an online link on the members site for states to download their letters of support.

Pilot provided her report along with an overview of the meetings she and Susanne had with each state chair or designee regarding the focus of the Annual Meeting as a State Dialog Day. Additionally, the Pilot shared a form letter that states can use for their state NSB grant applications. TN stated that state letters of support will probably not make much of a difference since there are so many applications and not nearly enough money. IL made a motion to approve the general form letter of support. IA seconded. The motion carried. The letter will be available on the members site.

TN provided some highlights of the fall annual meeting in Memphis at the Peabody Hotel, including the opening night welcome reception at the Memphis Redbirds minor league baseball game. The Annual Meeting will start for the board on Wednesday, September 7 with a strategic planning session from 9a-3pm. The board meeting will follow. The general sessions on Thursday and Friday will include a focus on strengthening state commissions and committee work.

Nominations chair, Terri, and her committee of Karl and Sherry are communicating with the existing officers to gauge their interest in continuing to serve. They are also asking states for nominations.

Committee updates include transportation, where they are working on collecting GIS shape files and specifically working with Todd Smith on a gap in IL. Culture and Heritage indicated that we need to work on better connections with our ICs. ERA is acting as a clearing house for pollinator habitat information.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23am

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