Municipal Management Association of New Hampshire

Executive Board Minutes

August 18th, 2023

The MMANH Executive Board met on August 18th , 2023, at the Primex office and training center located Bow Place 46 Donavan Street in Concord. In attendance were President Todd Selig, First Vice President Naomi Bolton, Secretary Ken Robichard, Treasurer Matt Scruton Member, at Large Rick Sawyer, Past President Scott Dunn, and Executive Director Walter Johnson.

Excused- Second Vice President Joe Devine

1. Others present included, Gail Dixon-McMahon – UNH Career and Professional Success Office Partnership, Michael Branley – Fellowship program coordinator, and other members.

 President Todd Selig call the meeting to order at 11:33 am.

The minutes of the MMANH meeting from May 19th, 2023. A motion was made by Rick S. moved and Naomi B. seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed 6-0.

**Treasures Report**-Treasurer’s Report was provided by Matt Scruton. The Association checking account and the NHPDIP Account total $92,006.71. Matt reported o a higher interest rate on the Associations funds moved to NHPDIP has yielded over $400 based on a rate of 5%+ since transferring to PDIP Matt thanked Beth Galperin of NHPDIP and executive director Walter for their assistance in setting up the new PDIP account. Scott Dunn asked if all expenses from the June conference had been paid and Walter advised yes as far as he knows.

Scott Dunn motioned Naomi seconded to accept the Treasurers report as presented, motion passed 6-0.

**New members:** Debbie Deaton – New Ipswich, Katheryn Lynch – Hinsdale, Diane Kendall – Henniker were confirmed as new members. Board members requested copies of the new members applications be included in the meeting packets and confirmed the approval process where unless there is a question of a membership application, new members will be process when the applications are received by the executive director and President and confirmed by the Board at the next regular meeting.

President Todd invited Gail Dixon-McMahon of the UNH Career and Professional Success Office Partnership to address the Board regarding a proposal to partner with MMANH in an initiative to place current UNH students in internships and/or permanent career positions in municipal government. Gail outlined the program in a letter sent to the Board prior to the meeting as follows: The University of New Hampshire’s strategic priorities include expanding and deepening relationships with businesses in New Hampshire; engaging our students in internships and cooperative work positions in local and state government supports the University’s priority while also serving to benefit students and municipalities.

The students at Paul College study accounting, finance, economics, and marketing, among other areas. The University seeks internships and experiential learning opportunities for our students which will enhance the educational program and aid students in putting what they have learned in the classroom into practice.

Many students from the state opt to stay closer to home to avoid long work commutes, want to impact their communities and value a work/life balance. Although we work with students on exploratory career paths, we find students are not always aware of opportunities in local and state government and think jobs in the public sector fall only under political science majors. While we are actively engaged in eliminating this misnomer, another way to do so would be to inculcate the students through internship programs and other experiential learning mechanisms.

We would like to explore how we can partner with the MMANH in this endeavor, meeting the needs of both MMANH and the University. Both winter and summer paid internships were discussed. The Board agreed to support this effort and partner with UNH in this effort by providing access through the executive director to the MMANH list serve and website. Gail will connect with Walter going forward.

Michael Branley reported on the MMANH summer internship with Conner Cryans and the City of Lebanon. Michael has discussed this arrangement to date and it appears to be going well in most areas. Shaun Mulholland will be submitting a report to the Board at the end of the program.

**HealthTrust 2024 Sponsorship Agreement**. Board reviewed the proposed HT 2024 sponsorship agreement which mirrors the same agreement approved for recent years. Ken moved and Rick seconded to approve and authorize President Todd to sign. So voted 6-0

**Offices and Directors Insurance:** The Board reviewed the options and recommendations provide by E & S Insurance for the O&D coverage expiring on August 31, 2023. The Board agreed by consensus to continue with the same coverage for the coming year.

**MMANH Conference:** Walter and Naomi reported the conference seem to go well and all who attended provided positive feedback so far. Dover was discussed as a possible site for the 2024 conference and the date was set for June 12-14.

**Bylaws Review**- Rick Sawyer provided an update on his review of the Association bylaws. Rick explained a potential conflict with the ICMA code of ethics tenant 7. “Refrain from all political activities which undermine public confidence in professional administrators. Refrain from participation in the election of the members of the employing legislative body” This needs to be further clarified as to what this means to members who work in one community and hold office in another community. Rick will investigate and report back.

**ICMA Scholarship Awardees:** The Board voted to ratify their decision made at the annual conference to award ICMA conference scholarships to the following: Jeanie Forrester, Jamie Pike and Alicia Jipson.

**Other:** President Todd announces there is a new ICMA NE Regional Representative Jerry Giaimis who will be joining us at a future meeting to introduce himself. Also, Alex Torpey TM of Hanover has expressed a willingness to provide assistance to the group in a number of initiatives and he will be meeting with him to discuss further in the near future.

Motion to adjourn by Scott Dunn, seconded by Todd Selig, all in favor motion passed 6-0 at 12:24pm.