

MAPT Board of Directors Meeting

**Cross Building, Room 105
Augusta, Me 04330**

September 18, 2008

Board Members Present

Lennie Goff	President
Joann Woodworth	Vice President
Cindy Button	Secretary
Kevin Mallory	Treasurer
Ron Deegan	At Large
Brenda Cravens	At Large
Rick Soules	Ex-Officio/MaineDOE
Mike Kelly	Windham (Southern Rep)

Others Present

Harvey Boatman	HCB3 Consulting
Stephen Kimball	Baxter School
Gary Stafford	MSAD 54
Blenny Butterfield	Maranacook
George P Jones III	Pupil Transportation Consultants
Lisa Gadway	MSAD 49
Cheryl Nadeau	MSAD 49
Julie Waters	MSAD 28
Dave Leavitt	MSAD 9
Ted Foss	Poland Schools

Treasurers Report – Kevin Mallory

Kevin supplied us with a copy of his report. He gave a brief report on Profit & Loss, Balance, Check and Charge Detail. Lennie Goff asked for a motion to accept the report. Ron Deegan made a motion to accept. Joanne Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Appointment of Committees

Lennie Goff reemphasized that the chair of all committees will be accountable. The chair of each committee must get things going and get volunteers willing to make a commitment. His thought is to have the committees report to the Board from time to time with updates. The concentration will be on membership this year. Harvey Boatman suggested that we pay particular attention to members at work. We need to get others included. Be deliberate and set expectations. Kevin Mallory agreed. He brought up the

questions about the chair of a committee. He asked if they were state elected and were they Associate 1 Members. Dave Leavitt shared his view, saying they were appointed, not elected, so his feeling was all is fine. Ron Deegan agreed.

Dave Leavitt made a motion to accept the policy that committees and chair will be appointed by the Board and will report back unless stipulated by the bylaws. Joann Woodworth seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

Retreat: Lennie gave a report about the Retreat on September 6. He reported the Board didn't come away with as many goals this year because of consolidation and not knowing what was ahead.

Election Update

Lennie discussed an error in the voting that took place in July at the annual meeting. He explained that only Associate 1 Members are allowed to vote, and clearly others that had participated. The position at question was Director At Large. The board decided to hold another vote for the at large position using the internet as a means for casting votes. The outcome of this was as follows: Ron Deegan, Brenda Cravens and Peter Saucier. Mike Kelly brought this to Lennie's attention. Mike explained that he does not have a problem with the outcome, but according to the bylaws when a mistake such as this occurs, the vote is nullified and the president would then appoint. Lennie opened the floor for discussion, and agreed that we need to follow the bylaws.

George Jones asked if there was a certain length of time that president had to appoint the position.

Harvey Boatman read from the Bylaws, Article 6, Section 2 –

Kevin Mallory made a motion to set aside the second election in favor of the bylaw language that recognizes or dictates replacement of at large members whose term is not filled. Joanne Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

George Jones pointed out that we are constantly questioning what the by-laws say. He suggested that we should go over each item. He also suggested a way to possibly avoid this again is to have some sort of an election committee. Create an eligible list of voters. Check in could be on-line. Also perhaps have a separate committee for counting votes that is separate from the board.

Lennie agreed. Suggested sample ballot in booklet, possibly a different color, or with the words SAMPLE written across it. George Jones disagreed saying that ballots should be in one place not in a packet. George asked who is eligible to vote. George felt that he was registered as an Associate 1 Member.

Harvey Boatman read the description for an associate I member as a group consisting of managers, supervisors or supervisor representing a State Agency. Association III members are described as persons in the school transportation industry having an interest.

A discussion regarding the differences between Associate I and Associate III members took place.

Cindy Button read the original motion. George stated that this is not what it says.

Ron Deegan read Article 6, Section 4 regarding term. Determined three levels of appointment. Issue may be about the remainder of the term and was anyone ever elected. Section 5 – Directors at large annually. Harvey felt the term had already started in July. Ron and Dave shared the same feeling.

Lennie Goff - The real question at hand is whether the second election was legal.

Ron stated the by laws must be followed.

Lennie in an effort to move forward appointed Peter Saucier, Brenda Cravens and Ron Deegan as Directors At Large.

MSMA Booth - Maine School Management Association

Lennie spoke on Betty Mason's behalf and asked if we were willing to share a booth with her at the annual MSMA conference. The cost would be approximately \$195.00. Dave Leavitt made a motion to share a booth with Betty Mason at the MSMA conference. Ron Deegan seconded.

Harvey explained that the conference was for superintendents and school board members. This is held October 22-24. Materials for this conference are needed. Pamphlets, a banner and general information that people can take with them. Joanne Woodworth said she would be willing to print some material that might be useful. Harvey reiterated how important it is for us to get out and be seen and heard.

Lennie reminded us that there was a motion still on the floor. Unanimously voted in favor of sharing the booth and attending the MSMA conference.

Yearly Meeting Calendar

Lennie suggested moving the monthly meetings to various locations to give everyone a chance to attend the meetings. The meetings will be moved to Thursdays.

Harvey asked a question about committee meetings. Lennie suggested that some may have to participate in a conference call. This came from the original idea that committees would meet just prior to the annual meetings.

GIS Day November 19

GIS office contacted Lennie. They are holding an all day event November 19 at the State House. They are basically looking for and are interested in anyone that may use their geographics in Maine.

Other Business - DOE Rick Soules

Rick gave us an update on the RFP. Basically there is an appeal stating technology arguments about whether the routing software can do what they say. There is no stay on this, so the State is still negotiating with the winner. If the appeal is granted, all would be thrown out and the process would start all over again.

Rick gave us a report on the SAD 17 bus fire. He explained the bus burnt to the ground in just minutes. He is meeting with the Fire Marshall and SAD 17 to try and get some answers for us. He will report back to us when he has more information.

Rick enlightened us to the process by which he handles the parent complaint phone calls. He directs those parents to call the transportation director. He is receiving numerous calls daily; because of the changes with group stops and routing. He cautioned us all not to jeopardize safety with these cuts. Harvey agreed and also stated that we not cheapen up where buses are concerned.

Ron asked the general question “who is responsible at bus stops?” He feels it is 50/50. Half parent, half school. He suggested that we all consider the idea of an evaluation score sheet for bus stops, sidewalks, intersections etc.

Chapter Updates

Mike Kelly gave a very brief report from the Southern Chapter meeting. Brenda Cravens suggested having someone come to one of our meetings to discuss grant writing.

SSTC – Benny Butterfield

A reception will be held on October 19th at the Blaine House for the poster Award winners. However the first lady cannot be there at that time. Blenny put the question out whether we should consider changing the date so that at least the first lady could be there to share in the festivities. She also said that there may be a charge for the use of the Blaine House in the future. It was our feeling that the first lady should be there, so Blenny is going to pick another date.

George Jones gave us an overview of the Maine Transportation Safety Coalition. This organization is made up of local and state people that are involved in transportation. Clubs such as snowmobiles, ATV, bikers etc share and raise awareness about different forms of transportation. He explained that every year the MTSC asks for nominations for people that have done an outstanding job with their efforts in safety in the form of transportation. This year’s recipient was Benny Butterfield! George had then pleasure of presenting Blenny with a plaque. Congratulations Benny! There is no one more deserving of this award.

MAPT Liaison – Harvey Boatman

Harvey spoke about the importance of us getting out there as one about safety. Has a couple of sample cards for those attending the national conference.

He shared a DOT poster calendar with us, as well as other ideas.

Harvey also attended the MTSC booth at the Civic Center. He gathered up lots of information to distribute and had many questions. He gave us a few suggestions for key note speakers.

Human Recourses - Vehicle Advisory Board asked for our support on a few bus inspection laws they are recommending. A recommendation about the timing of inspections and scrapping of the inspection sticker by the inspectors was discussed. They would like a letter from MAPT showing support for then proposed changes.

Ted Foss brought up a point and disagreed strongly with the scrapping of stickers by the inspectors. He stated that if they are allowed to do this, the mechanic would have to re-inspect the whole bus all over again.

Harvey stated this was not the intent.

Dave Leavitt shared his concern about proficiency and consistency with the inspectors.

Ted Foss spoke of an issue with one inspector and said he does not want inspectors scrapping stickers.

Lennie reminded us that we do not want to send a message that they are not doing a good job.

Dave felt that there were other ways to compromise with their proposal without scrapping stickers.

Harvey suggested setting up a meeting with them and Lt. Groton.

Ronnie feels that the chain of command is being compromised.

Next meeting in Windham 10/16 9:30 sharp