

# MRA Board Meeting Minutes

**Minutes:** February 9, 2021

In attendance were: Stacey Watts, Toni Cobb-Cannon, Sharon Plump, Suzie Miller, Malorie Marti, Erica Kneessi, Rose Hennick, Shawna Leonard, Karen Morgret, Akida Gopy, Darlene Ginn, Andrea Wilson, Lisa Willis, Akida Gopy, Derick Serra

Stacey Watts called the meeting to order at 12:08

Minutes were approved for December 2020

Membership Chair update

- Awaiting to hear from James: MRA owes dues but is uncertain of the amount as the amount is based on the number of members. The membership numbers need to be verified.
- There are no upcoming membership drives.

Treasurer's report

- 2020 summary was provided
  - Beginning balance for the year = \$42,824.83
  - Ending balance for the year= \$42,228.83
  - Expenses: trainings, CRCC, speakers, WebEx (expires in June), MAR dues. Approved to renew WebEx
  - Income: DORS' conference (2019), DORS trainings for two staff
- Need to update the Accounting software, previously approved

Training & Education Committee update

- A few pending CRCs (to be followed up)
- Suggested training topics: LGBTQ+, mental health 1<sup>st</sup> aid
- Trainings will resume in April
- Considering a subcommittee - suggestions: open invitation to the general membership, co-sponsor a training with DARE

MRA Conference updated:

- Tentative – November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- Sharon in Towson
- Will begin planning in April or May

## Social Media update

- Scholarship proposal well received. A few, minor tweaks were requested for more details. Rose (chair) will take comments/suggestions back to the committee.
  - Apply for \$500.00 scholarship with an essay. One-time scholarship but can reapply. Pay school directly.
  - Interview panel will interview contestants
  - Promote through schools and organizations
  - Consider a fundraiser
  - Consider what are other regions and states doing
  - Benefits: feeder group of young VR professionals into the field and MRA

## MAR update

- Suzie Miller was elected to be the new Secretary of MAR and will be the new MAR rep in the next meeting on 4/13/21
- Ralph was elected to be the new MAR President
- Keith was elected to be the new MAR Treasurer
- The above officers were announced/introduced during January's (MAR) meeting
- Andrea Wilson will no longer be MAR's representative
- End of 2020 report was previously reviewed. All agreed that the report was good and a lot was accomplished especially taking into consideration the pandemic. Maryland is considered a trend setter as Florida and Virginia will mirror Maryland's virtual training series.
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## NAMRC update

- No updates/report

## Student update

- Students are interested in joining
- If students join, make sure to inform the Membership Chairperson

## Awards update

- No updates/report

Board meeting dates might need to be reconsidered as they are currently in conflict with MAR dates

Next meeting: February 9, 2021 (Andrea Wilson will fill in in the event of Stacey Watts' absence)

Meeting adjourned at 1:20