

MEHA Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Larson at 11:40 am. The following Board members were present: Bill Kass, Kim Carlton, Laura Scheinoha, Mark Clary, Chris Forslund, Tom Sobolik, Joe Hibberd, Rob Carper and Angie Wheeler. The following members were present: Charlie McFee, Karen Casale, Lori Green and Elliott Marston.

Agenda

President Larson reviewed the agenda. The agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report

M/S/P Carper/Forslund to approve the minutes from December 11, 2007.

President's Report

Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was handed out. M/S/P Scheinoha/Sobolik to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Committee Reports

Professional Development & Outreach: Co-chair Elliott Marston submitted a written report to President Larson. The UP Show booth is fully staffed. The UP Show is February 17-19.

Publications: Chair Green reported that a new publishing program will be purchased this year. This will result in the newsletter being reformatted. A name for the newsletter will be solicited from the membership. Articles, pictures from the last conference and candidate biographies need to be submitted by March 3rd.

Membership: Co-chair Casale reported that we currently have 348 members. There are 30-40 student members thanks to Carlota Medus. There was discussion on continuing the collection of home addresses for members. It was generally agreed upon that we would continue to collect the home addresses. There was discussion about what it means if a member has checked the box on their renewal indicating that they do not want to receive non-MEHA mailings. This means that they will not receive mailings from the U of M and others about upcoming events. The committee will submit an article for the newsletter to raise member awareness about what this means.

Nominations: Chair Forslund reported that he has an excellent slate of award candidates. The names are being withheld until the awards are given in May.

Old Business

Certified Food Safety Professional(CFSP) Credential Update – Chris Forslund reported on his discussion with Ron Grimes on NEHA's support/non-support of a degree requirement. No one from NEHA has followed-up with MEHA regarding our opinion for the options for the CFSP credential. It appears that they are heading towards requiring a degree.

EH Brochures and Posters – The brochure has been updated and was handed out. Thanks was given to the members of the ad hoc committee that worked on this project. M/S/P Hibberd/Sobolik to approve the printing of 1000 copies of the brochure to the lowest bidder. Discussion was held on how these would be distributed. Hibberd volunteered to mail these out and bring to the spring conference. M/S/P Kass/Carlton to have Hibberd distribute and track the distribution of the brochures. Professional Development and Outreach and the Publicity committees need to be kept aware of the distribution of the brochures. Carlton spoke about the posters. There was general agreement that we should customize the posters for Minnesota. The committee will continue to work on the posters. A template is needed for the April Board meeting. Discussion of the utilization of these posters followed. It was suggested that these be made available so others can print these out and use them in displays to market our profession.

Annual Spring Conference Update – The tentative schedule was discussed. Information gathered by the Food Safety Partnership Steering Committee in 2007 was used to guide some of the topic areas. If you have additional topic suggestions, please send these to the committee. Poster sessions were suggested for partners such as IARC, FSP, U of M, IATP, MPHA, and LPHA. There was discussion about being paid vendors versus a non-paid poster. These would need to be clarified. Those allowed to have a poster could be done by invitation only. Vendor presentations were discussed. The Board does not want these to become a sales pitch. Basic information about who they are and what they are showcasing at their booth could be provided.

1:00-1:15 Break

(Clary left the meeting at 1:15 pm)

EH Brochure – Hibberd reported that the brochure has the wrong url for our website. The one that is listed will redirect them to our site so this will be okay. This will be corrected with the next printing.

Policy & Procedure Manual Review – Hibberd reported that he met with Wilmot and Wheeler to review the manual. The changes were discussed. M/S/P Hibberd/Carper to approve Policy & Procedure Manual as revised and amended. Wheeler will distribute the final to the Board.

Scholarship Golf Outing – Kass indicated that there are some concerns that the costs for the tournament will result in poor attendance and reduced contributions to the fund. Cragun's Resort has indicated that they will reduce the fee to \$35 if we sign a three year contract with them for our conference. It was decided that we will not sign a three year contract with them. There was general discussion of the need to let members know that the costs for golfing have increased. The Board does support the scholarship fund and will do what is needed to continue that support.

Winter Conference Update – Kass reported that there were 98 attendees. The overall feedback was good. Thanks were given to the committee for a successful conference. Bill Adler was thanked for finding replacement speakers to replace those that cancelled. It was noted that there were too many side conversations in the meeting room. It was

suggested that this will become a housekeeping item at the beginning of conferences so attendees will take these conversations outside the meeting room.

Conference for Food Protection (CFP) Issues – Forslund looked at the website to see if any issues have been posted. None have been posted to date. MDH is having a meeting on March 6th fro 1-4 pm at the Freeman building to discuss the issues.

CFP Liaison – Luedeman has resigned as our liaison to the CFP. It was decided that we do not need a liaison at this time.

U of M School of Public Health Film Festival – Wheeler was contacted regarding co-sponsorship of the Monday, April 7th, film “Crude Awakening, the Oil Crash”. This does not involve any financial assistance. It was generally agreed that we will co-sponsor the film festival. The MEHA logo and website will be placed on the film festival site. They will also be advertising this in the City Pages. A table will be available for us to display information the evening of the film. It was suggested that Carlota Medus may know of a student member that could staff this for us. Wheeler will contact her to follow-up.

U of M School of Public Health Alumni & Friends Gala – Wheeler reported that members will be invited to this gala on April 10th. Dr. Carmona, former Surgeon General, will be the featured speaker at this event.

Announcements

Condolences were extended to Sharon Smith on the loss of her mother. Memorials can be given to an organization of the members’ choice.

The external cd drive has been lost several years ago and will be removed from the property list.

Carlton reported that she will check on the cost of reprinting the brochures with the correct offset and web url.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8th. The location has not been determined.