

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting Mediation Association of Northeast Ohio

Date: June 9, 2008

Place: Joseph Beth Books, Legacy Village

Members Present:

M. Mennes, J. Lanz, H. Spicknall, B. Curtis, J. Leeds

Others Present:

Call to order: By President Mennes at 6:50 pm

Approval of Minutes:

***Motion by J. Lanz; Second by B. Curtis; that the Minutes of the MANO Board meeting of 05/05/08 be approved as submitted.
Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report:

- Jerry Leeds presented the Bank Reconciliation Statement of May 8, 2008, showing a balance of \$8,110.25.
- Currently there is only one person authorized to sign for the checking account. In keeping with past practice, the President will become the 2nd person authorized to sign on the account.

Committee Reports:

- Because of low attendance at the last Membership Meeting (05/13/08), the planned discussion and Membership input on committees was limited. MANO still needs chairpersons for the standing committees, Membership, Professional Education and Public Outreach.
- **Membership Committee:** Board members will review the list of former members who have not paid dues for the 2008-2009,
- The Treasurer will develop a dues reminder/statement that will be sent to these former members. Board members will make personal contact with those persons who do not respond to the reminder/statement.
- **Annual conference Committee:** The board discussed the need to select a chairperson for this committee as soon as possible. Committee work must begin this summer, in order to organize the committee and explore options for the 2009 Annual conference.
- VP Jen Lanz and Treasurer Jerry Leeds agreed to serve as Co-Chairpersons for the Annual Conference Committee.
- Suggestions for members who might be approached to serve as committee members were discussed. The Co-Chairs will follow-up and contact these persons. The membership will also be advised that additional volunteers would be welcome.

Old Business:

1. **Annual Conference:** The Board explored options for revising various aspects of the Annual Conference for 2009. In conjunction with the Annual Conference Committee (ACC), the Board will pursue such options as: Changing the venue; Use of local experts as presenters; Topics of regional interest, Use of “celebrity” speakers, etc. Input from MANO Members regarding ideas for improving the Annual conference will be solicited by the ACC and Board.

2. **Peacemaker Award:** After discussion about involvement with the Peacemaker award, it was agreed that although this Award is a positive activity, MANO’s current resources limit our ability to carry out this responsibility at this time.

***Motion by J. Leeds; Second by J. Lanz; that MANO not accept responsibility for the Peacemaker Award at this time.**

Motion Carried.

3. **Relationship with other ADR Organizations:** In order to better serve the needs of MANO Members, the Board explored options for fostering relationships with other ADR organizations. Ideas, such as joint sponsorship of training/educational activities, promotion of training activities of other groups, sharing of information about other organizations, to supply our members with timely information about training/education opportunities, etc. were discussed.

The Board agrees that there is a need for continued and improved cooperation with other organizations. However, two concerns were expressed. The first concern is that we do not overload MANO Members with email messages to the point that detracts for effective communication with our members. The second concern is that we guard against other organizations and our members using MANO’s communication links for self-promotion and/or commercial purposes.

New Business:

1. **MANO Brochure:** Jen Lanz presented several mock-ups of a new MANO brochure. Board members will review and suggest possible content and format for the brochure. Jen will incorporate this input into future drafts.

The uses for a new MANO brochure for promotion of mediation and MANO were discussed.

Various methods and cost of production of the brochure were also discussed.

2. **Possible future project:** The board discussed the possibility of development of Training Video. This idea can be explored by the Professional Education and/or Public Outreach Committees when they get organized.

3. **Next Membership Meeting:** The next Membership meeting will be held on September 17, 2008 at the Beachwood Community Center. Details of the meeting will be developed and communicated to the Members as soon as they are finalized.
4. **Next Board Meeting:** The next board meeting will be on July 17, 2008 at Jen Lanz' home. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment: 8:30 pm.

***Motion by: B. Curtis; Second by: J. Leeds; That this meeting be adjourned.**

Motion carried.

**Respectfully submitted by:
Harrold W. Spicknall
Secretary**

These Minutes were approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on July 17, 2008.