

MINUTES OF THE MNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING, December 6, 2019

MNA Offices, Minneapolis

Present: Karin Ramige, Justin Lessman, Chad Koenen, Diann Drew, Chris Ison, Chris Knight, Doug Hanneman, Crystal Miller, Mark Weber, Debbie Evans, Lisa Hills & LuAnn Yattaw (Tara Brandl, Mike Dalton-absent)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Justin Lessman. The minutes from the September 2019 meeting were approved on a **motion** by Ramige, seconded by Miller.

Request to review & sign policy statements – Lessman – Hills collecting

Statement and balance sheets for Sept & October were reviewed by Knight, **motion** to approve by Ramige, seconded by Miller.

Disbursements were reviewed and approved on **motion** by Ison, seconded by Koenen.

Review MNI spending policy: with **motion** by Ramige, seconded by Miller. Board approved disbursement of annual investment to MNI for operating and special needs/Internship of up to 5% of the MNI portfolio.

2020 MNI Budget. Hills stated that MNI budget would be presented in January, after receiving notice from Blandin about the Grant application for the E & P program.

2020 Internship program: Discussion of MNI funds to be assigned to internship program – on a **motion** by Koenen, seconded by Weber – the live auction at convention will raise money with announcement of MNI matching all funds (%100) raised up to a cap of \$10,000. Also, discussion of 2019 intern photos & comments to be made into flyers that would be placed on all tables at Awards Banquet to show impact of internship on students.

Editors & Publishers Community Leadership; Hills relayed that an Alumni program will be offered in 2020, if Blandin approves MNI's grant application.

Mentor Program/Legacy Giving/other options: discussion on how best to promote. Lisa, with assistance from board members to meet with those who can credit the newspaper industry with their success to discuss giving, sponsor/naming of programming and other ways to implement donations.

2019 Training: Yattaw gave attendee numbers of 3 training programs that MNI hosted in 2019.

2020 Training Suggestions: Provide a mid-June new journalist program for members and current interns, another sales session with Bill Albrecht, public records, cold calling for reporters. Suggestion of repeating some convention programs throughout year & adding a program by Kevin Slimp.

Student Reception: LuAnn to ask advisors to help get students to pre-send resumes or will scan and provide following convention to member attendees.

Raffle: Will do again – hope to sell 150 tickets at \$20 each. Will send tickets to board in advance of convention.

Sponsorships/Silent Auction: Yattaw went over current trade show/sponsorships and asked that everyone supply a Silent Auction item.

Live Auction: Will need to get a 'larger', more 'desirable' item for Justin to auction off. Any suggestions?

Motion to adjourn by Ramige, seconded by Knight at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Yattaw