

MINUTES OF THE MNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS ZOOM MEETING, September 25, 2020

Present: Justin Lessman, Chad Koenen, Diann Drew, Tara Brandl, Mark Weber, Chris Knight, Crystal Miller, Karin Ramige, Doug Hanneman, Debbie Evans & Lisa Hills

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m. by President Justin Lessman. The minutes from the April 23, 2020, meeting were approved on a **MOTION** by Ramige, seconded by Knight.

Finance Report Debbie Evans reviewed disbursements, financial statements and balance sheets for June - August. The finance report was unanimously approved on a **MOTION** by Hanneman, seconded by Koenen.

MNA Convention

The MNI Student reception/event will be moved to coincide with the Intern program. Ideas for the reception included: collecting resumes from students and job openings from newspapers to share at the event; Doug Hanneman suggested a "Things I wish I knew before graduating" virtual program.

On a **MOTION** by Koenen, seconded by Hanneman, passing unanimously, the discussion was referred to the MNA journalism education committee for programming recommendations.

Fundraising.

Silent and Live auctions will not be held at the 2021 MNA virtual convention. Other fundraising options will be discussed at the December board meeting.

Raffle

MOTION by Brandl, seconded by Drew, to hold a MNA raffle in 2021. The Motion was unanimously approved. The winner will receive a 50/50 split of the pot up to \$500; raffle tickets will be sold by board members and by MNA for \$20 each. Drawing will be held in conjunction with the BNC awards presentation.

Diann Drew offered to help coordinate.

2021 Intern Program

There is interest in offering a 2021 intern program. **MOTION** to table the discussion until the December MNI board meeting was made by Koenen, seconded by Knight, passing unanimously.

Virtual Peer Networking and 2021 E & P program

The MNI virtual peer networking was an enormous success. VPN participant survey results were overwhelmingly positive. Nearly all participants asked for MNI to offer additional networking discussions. Seven topic specific sessions will be offered in October.

Hills shared that MNI intends, if at all possible, to offer the 2021 E & P workshops in person.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 on a motion by Koenen, seconded by Knight

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Hills- MNA executive director

