

MICHIGAN REALTORS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES COUNCIL

Business Meeting during the M.A.R. Convention Thursday, September 27, 2007 (Soaring Eagle, Michigan)

A regular meeting of MRAEC was held at the Soaring Eagle Convention Center, Mt. Pleasant Michigan at 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2007.

The following members/attendees were present: Elaine Adkins – Downriver, President; Elaine West – Greater Lansing, President Elect; Gary Walter – Southwestern, Treasurer; Kris Jaynes – Saginaw, Secretary; Pat Denial – Alpena; Robin Kalnins – Montcalm; John Cooper – Eastern Thumb; Dale Zahn – West Michigan Lakeshore; Sharon Armour – Detroit; Pat Jacobs – North Oakland; Teresa VanderWall – Mason Oceana Manistee; Donna McClain – St. Joseph; Onu Keely – St. Joseph; Cathy Case – Central Michigan; Nancy Merdzinski – Ann Arbor; Amber Youngs – Paul Bunyon; Sally Baker – Paul Bunyon; Michelle Morgenstern – West Michigan Lakeshore; Kim Hatchew – Clare Gladwin; Matt Maire – Greater Kalamazoo; Kathie Feldpausch – M.A.R.; Bobbi Sexton – Grosse Pointe; Pat Niebor – West Central; Kristi Benedict – Northeastern; Sharon Buckner – Lapeer and Upper Thumb; Michelle Brant – Livingston County; Cheryl Yost – Western Wayne; Tracie Gorham – Shiawassee; Kathy Perrett – Battle Creek; Bob Adamowski – Bay County; Patty Young – Midland; Jenni Shephard – Lenawee; Ryan Tucholski – Dearborn; June Clark – Monroe; Melissa Tee – Jackson; Kim Thompson – Flint; Rhonda Elliott – Traverse Area; JoAnn Overzet – Traverse Area; Brenda Roney – Water Wonderland and Doris Nuremburg – Flint.

Elaine Adkins, President, called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.

The agenda that was passed out had the following items added: to approve the minutes from June and to add strategic planning committee report.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from June 27, 2007 as written, John Cooper seconded and all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Gary presented the financial report as of September 11, 2007 that shows the council as financially healthy. Also presented was the 2008 Proposed Budget with some discussion. Gary made a motion to accept the Year to Date report and the 2008 Proposed Budget, Pat Jacobs seconded and all in favor.

A motion was made to keep the MRAEC dues at \$65.00. A question was raised regarding RPAC donations and if it will be included on the dues billing again. Issues and mobilization was brought up and the idea of the group making a lump sum payment from our resources and/or adding a line item for issues and mobilization for \$3.00 per members. There was more discussion and the amendment withdrawn.

M.A.R. UPDATE – Kathie informed the group that registration is open for the October 19th local staff training seminar to be held at the Lansing Association office. She also

gave an update on the convention and thanked everyone for their support in promoting it to the members. Next year the convention will be at the Marriott in Detroit and in 2009 at Grand Traverse. The Michigan REALTOR magazine won a MSAE award and they are looking for bids to print the magazine. Membership count is currently at 28,700. RPAC postcards have begun to go out to members. There will be a member survey next year and a website evaluation. Kathie was asked if M.A.R. would consider a reduced fee for A.E.s for the convention. The new photo license requirement is being phased in, the line at the expo of those in attendance getting their new license is quite long.

Bill Martin, C.E.O. Michigan Association of REALTORS congratulated Matt Maire on the job he did as emcee of the opening ceremony. He informed the group of some A.E.s leaving due to retirement or moving to a different association and the loss it was for our state – Judith from Traverse Area and Doris from Flint. Doris will be chair of the AEC/RCE Committee next year.

Michigan is almost like an island in the United States due to our economy with our \$1 billion deficit. M.A.R. is trying to cut back and trim costs whenever they can. The governor will be talking to the citizens later today in regards to the government shutdown. No-one in Lansing thinks the shutdown is a good idea – reforms and cutting expenditures are hot topics. The delegate body meeting and the dues increase is a membership issue not an A.E. or M.A.R. staff issue. The Michigan Fair Housing Center recently recognized and gave out awards to Bill and to Furhad.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee – Doris handed out ballots and read the duties of each position. It was asked if there were any nominations from the floor and being none she made a motion to close the nominations, Bill Martin seconded and all in favor. Each candidate gave a brief background on themselves and ballots were filled out and collected. Doris and Bill were the tellers.

RPAC – Matt reported that Brad Ward, M.A.R., had emailed him a report but Matt was already at the convention and hadn't received it. He will e-mail it to the group at a later date. Matt spoke about what an honor it was to be a trustee and that they have a retreat the following week. Elaine Adkins also urged all to donate, so that our group could be 100%.

Professional Development – Elaine West reported that the summer seminar went well and that the morning session here at the convention went well also.

Business and Strategic Plan – Dale Smith handed out a report that included which projects had been completed (bylaws revision, vision statement and leadership manuals) and that the committee's current projects were 1) development an online resource guide 2) new A.E. project that would include regional mentors and calling tree and 3) miscellaneous ideas such as a blog, legal online database and mini seminars held throughout the year.

Recognition – Kim handed out appreciation plaques for Judith and Doris and let the group know that a \$250.00 donation to RCE was made in Judith’s name from the MRAEC.

RCE – Doris reported that there are four candidates in the group that will be taking the exam in October and they are Ryan, Kim, June and Kris. Scholarships from MRAEC are available if anyone is interested.

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to those elected to the 2008 Leadership team:

Elaine West – President

Gary Walters – President Elect

Kathie Feldpausch – Treasurer

Tracie Gorham – Secretary

A motion was made for the ballots to be destroyed, this was seconded and all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Update on MiPDQR – The program is now open for individual brokers and MLS companies to participate. MiRealSource will only upload REALTOR listings and only REALTOR members will be able to access.
2. Current policy of MRAEC in regards to retiring association executives and how they are recognized – Dale Smith gave a brief history and there was discussion that leadership should have leeway. Dale, Elaine Adkins and Elaine West will work on the policy and bring it back to the group in January.
3. MRAEC President serves on the M.A.R. board of directors for one year during their term. In talking to past presidents, by the time you are on board with what is going on, it is time to stop down. It was suggested to make the term of the MRAEC president a two year term, to begin effective January 1, 2008.

A point of order was raised, that the bylaws would have to be amended and therefore a notice of a bylaw change (vote) would need to be sent to the MRAEC membership two weeks before a vote was held. The M.A.R. board of directors meets six times per year, they go on a retreat also. Ideas included the president elect sitting in on the meetings as a non-voter so when they take over they know what is going on or another idea was to appoint someone from the group as our representative to the M.A.R. board of directors.

The M.A.R. bylaws would have to be reviewed to see how our group is handled.

We should also consider limiting our representative to two, two year terms to reflect that of a M.A.R. director. Dale Smith, Elaine Adkins and Elaine West will bring something back to the group in January.

Gary made a motion to amend our organizational standards to reflect that the MRAEC director to the M.A.R. board of directors be done by an election process and it be for a two year term. Nancy Merdzinski seconded. Intent: to have a

bylaw amendment in front of the group at the January meeting. The motion was defeated.

NEW BUSINESS

MRAEC website – Bobbie from Traverse Area has been maintaining and updating the site but will soon be retiring. Elaine West will contact those who signed up to see what can be done.

Elaine Adkins thanked the group for allowing her to serve as President.

A thank you plaque was presented to Elaine Adkins for her work during her term as MRAEC president.

Adjourned: 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Jaynes