Misdemeanant Probation Association

Zoom Meeting

July 17, 2023

Present via Zoom: Lindsey Buntin, President; Omar Gamez, Vice President; Jen Crossen, Past President/DMCJA; Mindy Breiner, Treasurer/CJTC; Camille Jackson, Secretary; Omar Nunez, Education and Training/Audio Visual; Terrance Lane, Education and Training; Donna Struthers, Membership; Daniela De Paz, Nominations; Tara Faust, Legislative; Kristine Nisco, Technology; Dae’Janae Anderson, Public Relations; Judge Leone, DMCJA; Regina Alexander, DMCMA; Trish Kinlow, DMCMA; Jenn Burnham, AOC; Stacie Scarpaci, WTSC

Lindsey Buntin called the meeting to order at 10:04am.

Declaration of a Quorum, introduction of board members.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from April 23, 2023 board meeting by Jen Crossen

2nd by Omar Nunez, with no discussion minutes approved.

**Board Reports:**

**President Report:** Lindsey Buntin thanked the board for their dedication to MPA.

**Vice President Report**: Omar Gamez said he is excited to be back on the board. He hopes to be able to help any board member that needs any.

**Past President Report:** Jen Crossen said she has a couple of things she wanted to speak about from the last year. She felt the MPA is held on a very high regard by other agencies.

**CEC Recognition**- Melissa, Mindy educated the CEC about Probation, how we are not a line item on any organization’s budget and how we are able to do so much from fee’s collected through membership and the conference. They were reminded that we existed and provided a training scholarship to hold a training.

**GR-22:** DMCJA rules committee admitted to the oversight of not bringing a member of MPA into the discussions regarding treatment reports and confidentiality. If you ever hear about someone who’s court does not acknowledge that all treatment reports are covered by GR 22 not just Therapeutic Court’s, please bring that up your judge as all judges decided that GR 22 covered it.

**Highway to Hedges:** Collaboration between MPA and DMCMA to educate all counties about MPA and what the org can do for their court. Reminded admin about the Building Bridges Program that provides support to courts for supervision or general probation questions.

**MPA to AOC:** The CMS project comes with many hurdles our state has not had to face and our liaisons are the ground workers who ring the alarms for these hurdles. We were able to bring membership concerns to AOC regarding permissions and information sharing. Just another way for overarching policy makers to understand the importance of MPA and reminders to bring us to the table for these discussions

**Conference:** Through a HUGE amount of adversity, the board pulled together and put on a pretty successful conference. Thank Lindsey, and Paul for getting it pulled together, Mindy for begin available for her insight, Omar Nunez for stepping up and taking charge of A/V as well as pictures, Dae-Janae for her willingness to help out and bring the 50/50 to life. It takes a village, and our village did amazing things

**Microsoft Central Repository**. Thanks to Kristine for hearing my plea to get all the MPA information into one location so that information does not get lost with time and individuals moving on to different chapters in their lives. This year will be the task to get familiar with the program and enter the information we currently have so that future boards can build on it.

**Leadership:**

Definition: The action of leading a group of people or an organization (oxford)

As a member of the MPA board regardless of our role, we are all looked upon as leaders. This means how we appear in public and private reflects this organization. Whether we are in an environment that supports us or does not, eyes look to you to see how to respond. Please make sure that we take a moment to assess a situation fully, remember how our response will define that moment in people’s minds and act accordingly for the good of the organization.

Excited for this board and how we can continue to build our presence, promote probation and support our members through the leadership of Lindsey and this year’s board.

**Treasurer Report:** Mindy Breiner shared the Treasurer’s Report for April 24, 2023 to July 17, 2023, and went over some of the highlights with the board. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report made by Camille Jackson, seconded by Jen Crossen. With no discussion the motion was approved.

See Report:



**Secretary Report:** Camille Jackson stated there have been two motions that were voted on by email since the last board meeting.

* May 8, 2023, motion made by Melissa Patrick to approve the Continuing Education Scholarship request of Daisy Lomeli from Lakewood Municipal Court for $600 to pay for DV-MRT training. Seconded by Kristine Nisco, with no discussion motion passed by email.
* May 15, 2023, motion made by Lindsey Buntin to allow additional scholarship funds in the amount of $300 be made available to be use to grant the scholarship request to pay for registration fees for ORAS training for Diana Bastian at Pasco Municipal Court. Seconded by Mindy Breiner, with no discussion motion passed by email.

**Education and Training Report:** Omar Nunez and Terrance Lane are the new Education and Training board members. Omar thanked Terrance for agreeing to take the other chair position. He also stated the 2024 conference will be in Vancouver, WA. He went over some of the hotel amenities and destination. We will be at the AC Hotel by Marriott.

He spoke about some of the guest speakers and topics he would like to have at the conference. They would like to do a privilege walk, MPA news and icebreaker each day. They would like to host a wet lab. Would like to have one or two VIP speakers. AOC, DOC, would like to have a 3-4-person panel with what to do about threats from clients. Mindy, Omar Nunez, Officer, Mental Health Specialist.

Terrance would like to have a client go through some of the day-to-day barriers our defendants may face.

He also talked about forming an MPA Committee of 5 people to help with the running of the conference for next year. He has reached out to the people he would like on the committee and has had positive responses from.

Hotel parking has been negotiated to $15/day for the MPA members. There will be street parking available, however it may not be close to the venue.

He discussed some of the changes they would like to make including playing soft background music sometimes in the day, having a stage, also planning to change the awards to day two instead of day three. There will also be recommended after-hours events available to MPA members. He would like to have more photos taken during the conference.

They would like to host an MPA Board and Winner Dinner on the evening of Day 2 April 30th.

Omar Gamez spoke about adding the DV MRT vendor to our list that we reach out to for sponsorship. He asked if we could reach out to the local probation office for activities to do or restaurants to go to.

**Nominations Report:** Daniela De Paz said she still needs to learn more about what her role is and asked what her budget is for her position. Lindsey will reach out to her this week. Mindy advised that there is $500 budgeted for the awards and $150 available for costs incurred in the position.

**Membership Report:** Donna Struthers was not present.

**Legislative Report:** Tara Faust stated she had nothing to report. Legislative has not had a lot of movement since the last meeting.

**Technology Report:** Kristine Nisco said she will defer to Jen Burnam regarding the CMS-CLJ. This afternoon is the training for the Enterprise Justice pilot courts.

She also spoke about the Outlook 365 email invites she sent out earlier this month. There have been issues with people logging in to the email assigned to each board position.

**Public Relations Report:** Dae’Janae Anderson is new to this position, and she asked the board to look at the website and see if anything needs to change. She asked the board to email her our name and position and photo. She would like to make the website easy to navigate. Ashe asked if we have specific colors or what we want to coordinate the look of the website. She would like to update our social media as well. If there are any open positions, please let her know to put on the website. She also stated it is national probation and parole week.

**Audio Visual Report**: Omar Nunez said he spoke with Rebecca Gretch regarding the conference. She said they can mail in technology a couple of weeks in advance of the conference. They could also do a walk-through prior to the conference if needed. For speakers the technology is included in their price. There is a complimentary microphone as well. If we want more, we will need to cover that cost.

**Liaison Reports:**

**District and Municipal Court Judge’s Association (our liaison):**  Jen Crossen had nothing to report. She plans to attend their next meeting coming up.

**Administrative Office of the Courts:** Jen Burnam said they are starting training at the pilot courts. Next Tuesday is the probation user acceptance for enterprise justice. This is last chance to decide if they are ready to go live. The courts are being provided with workbooks on what business process to test. She is doing training next Tuesday for enterprise supervision. They will use this information to decide when to open to go live. The hope is mid-late September. There are some e-ticket transferals that needs to work with the JIS platform. They are keeping a zoom room with business analyst available to any questions these pilot court users can get instant help online.

**Criminal Justice Training Commission:**  Mindy Breiner said the academy is set for September 11th-22nd. She has been putting together the agenda and asked if any board members would like to help to please reach out to her.

**Unfinished Business:**

Editing the Scholarship Money:Mindy Breiner stated the conference registration is $175. We have been giving out scholarship money at $1200 in scholarships. We had talked about changing the amount to $1225 so we could then cover seven scholarships evenly. Motion to add $25 to the scholarship fund made by Mindy Breiner, seconded by Camille Jackson, with no discussion the motion passed.

Mindy advised the board that there are two scholarships. One covers the conference costs, and one covers outside MPA training. We have $1200 set aside for outside MPA training.

Encouraging Eastern Washington members to be more involved in MPA. Lindsey asked the board for ideas to encourage departments in eastern Washington to be more involved with our association.

Increasing conference dues for Misdemeanant Probation Association. Currently the MPA conference dues are $175 and there has not been an increase in several years. Costs for the conference have continued to increase without our association increasing the money we bring in. Mindy said in 2005 the conference costs were $90, increased 2011 $110, increased 2019 $175

We had 110 attendees with this rate and it was our highest attendance.

Lindsey asked the board if we should send out feelers about the increase and hopefully be able to send something to membership explaining the increase. For now, we will keep costs for the conference where they are. Mindy reminded Omar and Terrance that the more vendors we have, the more income the conference will bring in.

Next meeting October 16, 2023. Lindsey asked the board to consider meeting in person for future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 11:38am