

Missouri Association on Higher Education and Disability Board Meeting November 6, 2008

I. Call to order

Adam Meyer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. Members Present

Adam Meyer	Suelaine Matthews	Jan Eudaley
Karen Blessman	Kim Fernandes	Maureen Ottenlips

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting were sent to the Executive Board and were approved via e-mail. They are currently on the MOAHEAD website.

IV. Recap of Asperger Conference in Fulton, Missouri

- Adam reported that over 100 registrants attended. Thanks to the hard work of the workshop committee consisting of Bob Hanson, Karen Thompson Wolfe, Barb Hammer, Jane Young and Adam Meyer and thanks to Tabitha Haynes for setting up the registration on the MOAHEAD site.
- Suggestion - confirmation of the registration emailed back so those who work at colleges can process payment.
- The budget covered most of the conference costs – there was only an additional \$500 not covered by registration fees. This money will be used to start another conference in the future.
- Adam noted that registration via the web was very efficient and we should do this for Tall Oaks conferences.
- The planning group expressed an interest in conducting another conference but the challenge is to offer something that would be of interest to DSS, VR and Agency professionals. TBI and psychiatric were two topics suggested.

V. New Business

A) Budget Update

June / November 2008 report on the web.

B) Website update

Tabitha continues to clean up the site. Any new request to post on the website should be approved by the Executive Board. Tabitha should chair the approval process. Suelaine also recommended putting more training modules on the website.

Jan mentioned that Tom Thompson at Harper College has an excellent site for Disability Services – technologically up-to-date with captions and an area featuring staff members. She proposed that the Board decide what we would like on our site and then let the membership get involved in areas they have interest. Would it make sense to have Tabitha chair a committee to develop items for the website, such as “Introduction to MOAHEAD”, “Our History”, “How you get information”, “Links to local and national agencies”. Adam will assign each board member sites of AHEAD affiliates to review along with Harper College and PEPNET sites.

C)AHEAD Affiliate Phone meeting

Kim Fernandes

- Mississippi affiliate sponsors three AHEAD audio conferences for their members and holds them in various locations so all can be involved. All thought this might be a good use of MOAHEAD money.
- Adam suggested that MOAHEAD consider conducting audio conferences or webinars. Dawn Huber who was a speaker at the recent Aspergers Conference would be a possible candidate. He also asked all board members to come up with names of other local talent.
- There will be a survey sent out in February or March to affiliate liaisons asking for lists of events/activities and information on how each affiliate is structured. There will be a session on this at the next national AHEAD conference with the intent of instructing others about what happens within other state affiliations.

D)Survey Membership & Activities

Adam Meyer

According to the recent MOAHEAD survey, most of our members prefer October as the most popular month for conferences –are willing to travel up to 3 hours for workshops and feel membership rates up to \$40 are acceptable.

E)Registration Giveaways

Adam Meyer

Four complimentary registrations to the Aspergers Conference were given to MOAHEAD members and since it was so well received, the Board is considering doing this again for future conferences.

F)Travel Reimbursement Procedures

Submit receipts to Amy for reimbursement. Adam will create a form for use with the receipts.

G)Transition trainings

Charges of \$25 per person discussed. This would include a copy of the MOAHEAD guidebook to each participant plus handouts/materials. (Future trainings for Neosho, Eureka, Kansas City and Springfield are being planned)

Karen Blessman suggested that more qualified high school students would attend the workshop during the day than at night due to work schedules. Sue talked about last summer's transition training for parents and students at the FV campus. Continuing Education registered people for the concurrent workshops offered to both groups. The number attending was disappointing but this was the first year and we are more hopeful for next year.

Karen asked if having workshops on the high school campus would be better but most agreed that the college setting has been better.

Sue will look at the transition training for resource teachers to see if it needs updating with the help of Tabitha, Julie, Karen, Kim, and Adam.

H) What to do for Members/What should be our focus now?

A discussion of our mission and what members expected from MOAHEAD were:

- Be part of a professional organization
- Support through the list serve, conference at Tall Oaks, local and national workshops, feeling connected with others in our field
- Help with giving credence for establishing policies and procedures when working with administration
- Provide a collaborative effort in getting things done and being able to offer professional development events like the recent Aspergers Conference
- Provide a power source to influence local, state and national leaders.

Sue recommended surveying members regarding the use of the website. Adam said he would send a survey in mid-December. Karen will check with Missouri Vocational Special Needs Association (MVSNA) and the council for Exceptional Children to include the survey in their newsletters.

Jan proposed putting a counter on the guidebook to see how many hits it gets. It was decided that counters for different sections of the website would help us determine what was effective.

Karen also recommended advertising through the Regional Professional Development Center for the audio conferences.

Adam will look into how the Mississippi affiliate did their conferences.

Offer one tech giveaway for updating their profile was also suggested.

Karen will contact the RPDC to find out if they could facilitate audio conferences and help with advertising our events.

D)Expanding MOAHEAD membership

Discussion on whether we should extend membership to groups other than DSS providers.

The advantages would be to increase networking and have various perspectives about issues.

The disadvantages would be the focus on DSS might be less and a lot of irrelevant topics might start being on the list serve.

Jan suggested reaching out locally to agencies to network might be a good idea.

Adam will get info from the other affiliates who have expanded their membership.

Next board meeting will be a phone conference on January 30, 2009 between 10 and 12 noon. Details provided later.

VI. Adjournment

Adam Meyer adjourned the meeting at **3:30pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Maureen Ottenlips