

MASCOE Conference Call

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Roll Call

The MASCOE board members met by conference call October 26, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. Members present for the call were Mandi Bird, Kristy Gray, Debbie Leeper, Tina Young, Jared Singer, Cathy Hemme, Katie Hall, Randon Leathers, Barb Denker, Sheria Yancey, Jackson Jones, Gayle Wilson, and Laura Saratt. Jessica Claypole was also present.

Scholarships

Tina Young addressed the board with updates on the new scholarship application process this year, stating it will all be online. Once the site goes live, Tina will email information to all MASCOE board members to then forward out to their members. Tina emphasized the need to advertise the application period and that there are several different categories available that some members may not be aware of - Traditional, Open Continuing Education, Member Continuing Education, Grandchildren, and Associate Member Scholarships. Tina also discussed that the online process requires the applicant to finish the application once they start or their work will be lost – they can't start the process, save their work and then return later to finish. To this point, Tina informed the board that she has the list of essay questions for the application that she can provide ahead of time to anyone interested in applying. All applicants from the state will be forwarded on to the Midwest Area for judging.

President Singer opened the call for discussion among members. Barb Denker commented that there have been multiple scholarship categories for several years but there was never any interest from Missouri. There also seems to be questions about if the same scholarship winner can apply for the same scholarship in consecutive years, which is allowed if the applicant fits in the same category for consideration. President Singer suggested posting detailed information about the scholarship process on the MASCOE webpage and then having a daily update put out on the Missouri FSA Intranet that can drive people to the website. Barb Denker also mentioned that a daily update can be published closer to the application deadline as a reminder.

President Singer asked Treasurer Barb Denker for an update on scholarship funds and past awards. Currently, the scholarship account stands at \$4600 and the proceeds from the silent auction, typically between \$600 and \$800, will be included in this amount. She also informed the board that historically, there have been two, \$500 scholarships awarded to "traditional" students.

Tina Young informed the board that 25% of proceeds from the National Convention scholarship auction come back to host state. Jackson Jones stated that the auction typically brings in \$10,000 or more each year. Tina Young proposed asking each state to donate 2 or 3 silent auction items for the convention to help with that effort. Randon Leathers informed the board that generally, the state hosting the National Convention will not host a state convention. Therefore, we will rely on proceeds from the National Convention to fund our scholarships for next year. Members also discussed asking

Missouri counties to donate silent auction items and decided to leave it up to each county if they wanted to contribute as we are already asking for donations for the wine/spirit pull and volunteers to help in St. Charles.

There was discussion about increasing the amount of each scholarship or the number of scholarships we award this year based on the current funds and potential proceeds from National Convention. Cathy Hemme proposed increasing the number of scholarships instead of the amount of each. Members discussed holding off on increasing the number or amounts too much this year until we have a final proceed amount from National Convention that we can then start from for next year's scholarships.

Mandi Bird moved to fund three scholarships in the amount of \$500 each for this upcoming year. Debbie Leeper seconded. President Singer asked for any objections, to which there were none. Motion passed. There will be three, \$500 scholarships awarded from MASCOE for 2017.

Service Awards

Debbie Leeper discussed the distinguished service awards and the upcoming application deadline of January 1, 2017. These applications must be submitted online. She informed members that Missouri has not recently submitted any nominations so she suggested the organization look at this opportunity, advertise it and work on getting nominations submitted. The three categories for consideration are Service to Community, Service to FSA and Service to NASCOE. Members discussed getting information out about the awards in conjunction with the scholarship information and getting it posted on Daily Updates, MASCOE webpage and via email. Debbie Leeper stated that the application is fairly simple but the write-ups need to be specific and detailed. There was a question raised as to whether a monetary prize was tied to the awards. Jackson Jones informed the board that award winners are recognized at National Convention but there is no cash or money involved.

Other Business

President Singer concluded the meeting by informing members of plans for the next in-person board meeting, which will coincide with the FSA state office Christmas party in December, tentatively scheduled for the 14th or 15th. No members expressed objection to this. As soon as a date is confirmed, President Singer will inform members so they can plan accordingly.

A conference call for National Convention planning is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 12:00 p.m., as confirmed by Randon Leathers.

No other business was brought before the board.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica A Claypole

2016-2017 MASCOE Secretary