

MDA Board Meeting  
May 14, 2008  
GranTree Hotel, Bozeman Mt

**Members present:** Flower Aston, Didem Park, Carla Cox, Allison Harmon, Minkie Medora, Mary Ellen Holverson, Katie Bark, Christine Emerson, Colleen Keiser, Deb Jones, Melissa Tyvand, Patti Snyder, Lisa Ranes, June Lewis, Pat Bollinger, Susan Jordan, Yvette Phillips.

Meeting was called to order by Deb Jones.

February 8, 2008 board meeting minutes distributed and reviewed. One correction included policy 10.10 approval.

**Nominating Committee Report** by June Lewis

June Lewis read a report prepared by Nonie Woolf, nominating committee chair. The nominating committee got off to a late start, but was able to accomplish the necessary tasks. Nonie thanks June Lewis and Katie Bark for their assistance.

The results of the 2008 MDA elections included:

President-Elect: Susan Jordan

Treasurer: Flower Aston

Delegate: Carla Cox

Members-at-large: Jessica Beacom, Melissa Tyvand

Nominating Committee: Charlene Johnson

51 total ballots were received, with 48 valid. 3 were invalid due to missing an ADA member number. There were no write-ins.

2008 MDA Awards include:

Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year: Destiny Anderson, nominated by Nonie Woolf.

Recognized Dietitian of the Year: Marci Butcher, nominated by Sue Larson.

Emerging Dietetic Leader of the Year: Alison Harmon, nominated by Lynn Paul.

Outstanding Dietetics Student for 2008: Noel Williams, presented by Alison Harmon.

A new award this year, the Award of Excellence for Nutrition Advocacy for 2008, awarded to Senator Max Baucus.

Nonie lists some ideas for improving the process/work of the nominating committee. These will be included in the Chairperson's notebook.

**Board Member Introductions**

All in attendance introduced themselves and their roll on the board.

### **Treasurers Report** by Flower Aston

As of May 13, current expenses are 11,960, total income is 16,772, checking account balance of 20,893, CD balance of 23,000. Deb will send out the treasurer's report.

### **Annual Meeting Report** by Didem Park

The planning began last May, with committee members Didem Park, Alison Harmon, Flower Aston, Deb Jones and Katie Bark.

Problems encountered included an outdated list serve data base and some individuals (10 or so) indicated they had not received anything in the mail or email regarding the conference. The early bird registration was extended to accommodate them.

The total estimated budget of the conference is 31, 992. The actual budget/net income/net loss is not yet calculated, and will be passed on to the members ASAP via list serve.

There were a total of 89 registrations with \$14,240 income from these registrations.

Other concerns included power point handouts printed 6 to a page vs 3 to a page, and power point version 2003 vs 2007, with a computer with 2003 version unable to read 2007 version. A flash drive with that software converter was brought if needed.

A Principles of Affiliation and the Affiliate Annual Report and Assessment is due to ADA by 8-1-08. Therefore the first face to face meeting is proposed for 6-27-08 in Bozeman. Then subsequent meeting dates proposed are 8/22, 11/14, 2/13/09, and May 13 (during the conference).

Didem relates her topics of interest for the following year include

- 1) Strategic Plan
- 2) MDA/ADA logo
- 3) Board self check
- 4) Web site
- 5) Montana Internship
- 6) Public policy/legislation

### **Professional Issues** by Alison Harmon

Alison has two areas that she will focus on during her board time:

- 1) Sustainable food systems. She feels it is important to get information out on this, as well as get students involved. There will be a student giving a poster presentation on this topic. She notes there were 14 other states that had/were having a sustainability session at their conferences this year.
- 2) Montana internship. There is a conference session on this topic on Friday. It will be a brainstorming session on getting this started.

### **Public Policy** by Mary Ellen Holverson

There has been a change in the structure. There is no longer a link but public policy coordinators to act as the liaison. The state issues are taken care of by the state.

This year, MDA approved working with food bank. Two presentations were given: one to DPHHS and OPI.

Concerning DPHHS, MDA and Food Bank network requested consideration of 6 requests in the upcoming DPHHS budget proposal. One request has been included in the budget, to provide sustainable funding for local WIC agencies to administer the WIC/Farmer's Market programs. Another request may possibly go through, to review current state rules for asset and Gross Monthly Income limits for food stamp clients. One other request, to increase access to nutrition education for Montana seniors through existing media facilities, will be worked into their plan of work.

Concerning OPI, 3 requests were proposed in the upcoming budget proposal, and 3 were included in their budget. These included, to improve access to school meals through improvement of school food equipment needs, provide one-time start-up funds for new School Breakfast Programs, and to provide one-time funding for a pilot Universal Breakfast Program project in 20 schools.

The public policy committee is looking for more input-ideas for anything that needs to be brought to legislation.

Due to the policy change in no longer having a "link", other policies will need to be updated as the language will change. A motion proposed by Lisa Ranes, to change policies, to reflect the current policy of coordinators replacing the link, was proposed. It was seconded by Didem Park. The motion was carried.

### **House of Delegates** by Carla Cox

Two issues are being discussed,

- 1) Future of RD credentialing. They are looking at alternative avenues to get RD credentialing. Under consideration is DTR becoming RD's over time, those with a BS in another field with an additional 2 years training becoming RD's, encouraging more PhD, and master levels getting RD credentialing.
- 2) Changing US family dynamics, and the practicing RD.

### **Communication** by Chris Emerson

A decision was made to switch to a new web host with better service as the goal. However, the new host is configured different and it cannot read the files. Therefore the web site is not up and running yet. The question is to use the current web host and get assistance, or to go with someone else. Lisa Ranes motioned to form a subcommittee, consisting of volunteers Susan Jordan, Pat Bollinger, David Rowell, and Chris Emerson, to work on the web site host, and decide course of action by June 15. The motion was carried.

**Licensure** by Pat Bollinger

There have been 16 requests for program approvals through CDR, which is more than in years past.

There are currently 270 licensed nutritionists, 10% are not in Montana.

An area of concern is updating the scope of practice. Will be looking at updating it through the rule structure. A committee of 6 interested people has been formed to update the scope of practice.

**Other issues**

May 23 is the deadline for newsletter articles. Kim Pullman is in a job transition; therefore, she may not be as easily reached by email. May still send articles to her or send articles to Chris Emerson, and she will be sure Kim gets them.

Chris Emerson has been responsible for checking the MDA's mailbox. Now that she is leaving the board should she continue to do this? It was decided she could continue and she is Ok with doing it.

Mary Ellen is the historian for MDA. She reminds us to send her anything you may have.

**Presidents Report** by Deb Jones

She has written a report that she will have available at the annual business meeting.

She found the town meetings to be especially beneficial.

Deb presented a gift to all board members for their work.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Phillips, RD, LN  
MDA secretary