

## MINUTES

### **GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON ENDOWMENTS AND PHILANTHROPY**

Northwest Power and Conservation Council Conference Room  
Thursday, September 15, 2005

#### Members Present:

Sue Talbot, chair	Brian Magee
Barbara Anthony	Galen McKibben
Dale Burgeson	Sharen Peters
Linda Coulston	Alberta Rivera
Donna Davis	Jim Soft
John Delano	Peter Sullivan
Mike Halligan	Josh Turner
Amy Kelley	

#### APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES

Sue asked if any changes need to be made to the July minutes. Hearing none, Dale motioned to accept them as distributed; Peter seconded the motion. The group unanimously approved the minutes by voice vote.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Donna reported that the current Task Force Statement of Activities showed \$300.00 in contributions (from Intermountain Children's Home) and \$1,165.18 in expenses for an ending fund balance of \$5,356.19.

#### NEW TASK FORCE BROCHURES

Sue handed out the limited number of brochures that were ready from the printer in Missoula. She noted that the rest will be available soon, and she will figure out a way to get them to the next meeting, in her absence. They will be distributed at the Montana Nonprofit Association conference in October.

#### DISCUSSION RE: JULY MEETING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

There was a follow-up discussion of the July meeting with Dan Bucks and Jim McKeon, and how the Task Force should proceed in terms of working with them on future projects. Jim thought it would be great to have them participate in the Lunch & Learn sessions, that it would help draw attendees – especially CPAs. He was concerned about logistics; it would be best if the same person represented the DOR at every session, but since they are held across the state, he wondered if they'd be able or willing to do that.

He raised the issue of the L&L sessions: when and what will they be? He explained the state of the federal IRA rollover bill, that Senators Grassley and Baucus have introduced a Katrina relief bill that includes the IRA rollover with a sunset at the year's end (this was a compromise, as Grassley did not want it in the bill at all, wanting to save it for a comprehensive bill he plans to introduce next year). He said that the House Katrina package does NOT have the provision in it, but because they do have a stand-alone IRA rollover bill, Jim thought it likely that the provision would be added in conference committee.

Given the preparation involved in pulling the L&L sessions together, and given that there is no guarantee that the sunset provision will be lifted, Jim thought that there simply was not enough time to hold sessions this fall. He suggested holding them next year, giving DOR a bullet assignment and time frame and requesting

their feedback. He thought that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter would likely be best for them – after their busy season and before the legislative session (i.e. in the Fall of 2006).

Sue suggested making the sessions available to people in outlying cities via VisionNet. Jim said that they held them in Glasgow and Sidney the last time around, and probably would again. But he thought that perhaps the DOR could create a video for their portion, which could be played in those locations where they were unable to attend. Sharen suggested looking into getting Martin Burke (of the Tax Institute) on the agenda. Jim also thought it would be worthwhile to put together a half-hour session for the Tax Institute, both on the endowment tax credit and the IRA rollover. He said we wouldn't be able to do it this year, as the agenda is already out, although he could talk with the person running the Katrina section and make sure they mention the IRA rollover provision in the bill. It would also be a good opportunity to give Sen. Baucus some kudos for getting the provision in the bill.

Sue recapped by saying we should talk with the DOR about doing something next fall, and we'll work with them to come up with something that won't overburden them. Mike warned that the fall would be a busy time with elections and the upcoming legislative session.

Josh reminded that DOR offered to link the EndowMontana website to theirs. Galen will follow up with Jim McKeon.

#### **MNA 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Brian reported that they are in the final stretch getting ready for the conference, and that they have a record number of registrants. Sue offered dinner at her home on Monday night, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, to any Task Force member attending the conference.

Sue will man the table for the Task Force at least part of the time. Galen will work at getting a laptop computer with the EndowMontana website on it for the table, so that visitors can peruse the web site and sign up for the list serve or to place their endowment on the list. Amy will create materials for the display board, which Sue will assemble.

#### **MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR**

In Sid's absence, Sue said she had nothing to report on how things were going on setting up a meeting with the Governor and/or Lt. Governor. They have both been extremely busy.

There was discussion about holding a Governor's Conversation later in the year, focusing on what's happened in the past ten years since the Task Force's inception, and where to go from here with efforts to increase philanthropy in Montana. Sue asked when would be a good time to hold a Conversation. Mike suggested looking at the Governor's schedule and seeing if there is an awards ceremony or other event that we could tie into, holding it the day before or after such an event. Josh reminded that the past Conversations were held in late fall, after the elections.

Sue will follow up with Sid about moving that along and getting a sense from the Governor about when would be a good time for a Conversation.

#### **10-YEAR REPORT**

Sue suggested that Galen post the draft report that Ralph wrote on the bulletin board, and alert the Task Force members to read and comment on it.

Amy will ask John Scibek to follow up with Jim McKeon at DOR to ask about revised tax credit numbers for the report. Ideally, we would be able to continue with the data compiled by Steve Browning and Cindy

Utterback when the Task Force hired an intern several years ago, although it is not clear whether DOR is tracking that amount of detail.

#### **FEDERAL LEGISLATION**

Continuing the earlier discussion about the IRA rollover provision, it was decided that both the Task Force and the Montana Nonprofit Association would write a letter to Sen. Baucus, applauding him for his efforts on the IRA rollover and expressing support for nonprofit reform. Jim suggested sending a similar letter to Jonathan Selib, the staffer who has done a tremendous amount of work on this. He added that Sen. Baucus' staff should be cc'd on the letters, and that they should be thanked as well. Jim will send out information on the IRA rollover when the time comes.

#### **WEBSITE UPDATE**

Galen reported that he's been spending time updating the minutes on the web site. From here on, Amy will send the minutes to Galen in PDF format. It was noted that the directory also needs to be updated on the web site. Amy will send out a request to the membership for updated information, and forward the updated information to Galen to post on the web site. Someone mentioned that Judy Held might be moving to Billings, taking a job with Billings Deaconess Hospital. Sue said that Judy had asked to continue her membership on the Task Force, even if not representing rural Montana; Sue said her participation would be appreciated.

Galen said one thing new to the site was county information, on the map section. Amy suggested adding a countywide tally of endowments, as well as a statewide tally. Galen said that there were new additions in Chester and Joliet – both new school foundations.

#### **TASK FORCE LIST SERVE**

Galen will proceed with restarting up the list serve – the type we had before, more of an e-newsletter than a discussion group. He will get the old list from MCF and work to update it. He will also add a button to the web site through which people can sign up to be on the list, and Sue will work to get people to sign up at the MNA conference table.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on **October 20**, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council conference room. Since Sue will be unable to attend, either Sharen or John Scibek will chair the October meeting.