

MINUTES
GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON
ENDOWMENTS AND PHILANTHROPY

Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council Conference Room
 Thursday, June 15, 2006

Members Present:

Sue Talbot, Chair	Amy Kelley
Sid Armstrong	Tim McCauley
Linda Carlson	Jodi Medlar (MCF)
Linda Coulston	Dennis Peterson
Donna Davis	Peter Sullivan
Dorcie Dvarishkis	Josh Turner
Judy Held	Judy Wing

APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

There were no errors or changes noted. Peter moved to accept the minutes as corrected; Linda Coulston seconded the motion. The group unanimously approved by voice vote the minutes as distributed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The monthly Statement of Activities prepared by the Montana Community Foundation for May 1 through May 31, 2006, showed \$2,625 in new contributions and \$500 in expenses for an ending fund balance of \$6,346.20. Sue reiterated that she'd like to have 100% participation by Task Force members as contributors.

Several TF members volunteered to make phone call follow-ups to letters Sue had sent out:

- United Way of Lewis & Clark County: Tim said a check would be in the mail by the end of the month.
- Rocky Mountain College: Dorcie will follow up
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation: Judy Wing will follow up
- Several hospitals that have not yet responded: Judy Held and Dennis will follow up
- Ruth and Vernon Taylor Fund: Sue will ask Cathy Campbell to call
- Carroll College: Sue will follow up with Barbara Anthony

Linda Carlson asked how much money the TF needs to raise. Sue said that a target was never set for the ongoing expenses, but that we'd estimated \$10,000 for lobbying expenses and \$25,000 for the Conversation (although the Steering Committee will determine a specific budget). She reiterated that we'd agreed to seek sponsorship from the trust companies and other corporate entities for the latter two.

WEB SITE AND LISTSERVE

Galen couldn't attend the meeting, but he'd sent a note to Amy to say that the only website activity had been to update the directory. Dennis reported that he and Dale had spoken about writing the planned gift analogies, but where unclear whether they were to be actual stories or generic ones. The group agreed that they should be generic "Bill & Mary" type stories. **Dennis and Dale will finalize the examples and send them to Galen.**

NOTE TO GALEN: It was suggested that these examples should show up as a pop-up box when someone rolls their mouse over the type of planned gift the example is to illustrate. That way the page will not get too long.

Judy Held asked whether an e-newsletter or any other correspondence besides the “thank you for signing up” went out to those who registered for the ListServe through the web site. Nothing has been sent to date. It was agreed that **Amy would write the e-newsletter**, with an **update about the Conversation to be written by Sid**. The e-newsletter will also include a blurb asking people to send their success stories – “another unique way of recognizing your donors!” – and any questions to share with the group. **Amy will send the text to Brian to send out to the list.**

10-YEAR REPORT

Galen had dropped off two copies of the draft report, which were passed around for comment. It was agreed that **Amy would send out an e-mail to all members asking for their comments by Friday, June 23** on the copy that Galen posted on the web site at www.EndowMontana.org/pdf/tenYearReport.pdf.

The general comments generated at the meeting were:

- The report should be two color throughout (black and “Blue Cross blue”)
- We need the logo and a “This report was printed and paid for by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana” somewhere on the report.
- The design should look similar to the web site and brochure, and it should use the same fonts
- There should be more photos of philanthropic activities rather than former Task Force events and former governors (could use the images from the web site and brochure). This comment pertains both to the cover (members didn’t like the capitol image) and throughout the report. **Amy will send Galen images from the brochure.**
- The first page should be a letter from the Governor/Lt. Governor (**Sid will obtain**)

MNA CONFERENCE

The Task Force will be a “break sponsor” for the Montana Nonprofit Association annual conference, September 25-27 at the Red Lion Inn in Helena. They anticipate 300 participants this year. Several members who’d attended last year’s conference said it was wonderful, with participants leaving inspired and armed with very useful information. Judy Wing recommended sending board members.

Sue ran through the checklist of benefits to Break Sponsors, and the group agreed that we’d like to take advantage of all of them:

- 1 complimentary registration
- An Exhibit table (the TF has a tri-fold display board from last year; **Galen will be asked about setting up a laptop with the EndowMontana website as we did last year**; there should also be sign-up sheets, brochures, and an updated fact sheet on the tax credit – **Amy will send the old one to Sid to update. Sue will bring a stamp and ink pad for participants who visit the table for the raffle.**)
- Listing in the pre-conference miler
- Signage at the conference
- Our logo in the registration packet (**Amy will create from the brochure cover and send to Gail Brockbank**)
- Name listing in the conference packet
- Special recognition placard displayed during breaks

GOVERNOR’S CONVERSATION

Josh reported that she and Sid have been busy recruiting steering committee members, as recommended by the Task Force and suggested by others, including the Lt. Governor. The list was approved by the Governor. Sue and Steve Browning also recruited members from this list. A letter from the Governor and Lt. Governor went out to all

potential steering committee members, either thanking them for accepting the invitation to serve or encouraging them to accept the invitation. Thus far, the following people have accepted (in addition to Josh and Sid):

- Sue Talbot
- Brian Magee
- Donna Davis
- Linda Carlson
- Elouise Cobell
- Peggy Beltrone
- Steve Browning
(co-chair)
- Sherry Cladouhos
- Mike Halligan (co-chair)
- Lynn Hamilton
- Dan McLean
- Alan Nicholson
- Sharen Peters
- Jon Satre
- Tom Siebel
- Peter Sullivan
- Margie Thompson
(co-chair)
- Carol Williams
- Bill Pratt

In addition, several others are still considering participation: Tom Elliot, Jim Scott, Phyllis Washington, Dan Weinberg, Joel Long, Steve Corning, Lowell Duffner (who can't travel to Helena but wants to share his ideas). The Governor is also asking Bob Nance and Huey Lewis. Judy Held suggested several others from Eastern Montana, who might be asked to participate via tele-conference: Al Thiessen, John Olson and/or his daughter Karen, and Tom Cote.

The first Steering Committee meeting will be on June 27th at the Montana Room of the Governor's Office. The Lt. Governor will not be able to attend the first meeting, but will be a regular participant. The Conversation will be held on November 15th, at the Governor's residence. It was noted that the date also happens to be National Philanthropy Day!

Some of the potential Conversation topics were discussed:

- Repealing the sunset on the tax credit
- Increasing the credit % for outright corporate gifts
- Helping nonprofits (i.e. hospitals) fund infrastructure needs

Judy Held brought up the last subject, noting that the Billings Clinic Foundation is concerned with this issue and that it is the subject of a recent report from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Civil Society Studies and Institute for Policy Studies. This report can be found by selecting "Communique #5 - Investment Capital: The New Challenge for American Nonprofits" at the website www.jhu.edu/listeningpost/news. Sid noted that this is also one of the "Critical Capacities" identified by the Philanthropic Divide project.

Sid noted that any suggestions, thoughts, or ideas for the Conversation should go to her and/or Josh. She and Josh have been working on letterhead for the Conversation, using the Governor's logo (that is on all of the doorknobs at the capitol) and adding "for Philanthropy" to the "It's a New Day" motto. Dorcie suggested adding "An initiative of the Governor's Task Force on Endowments and Philanthropy" at the bottom. **Josh will send the draft letterhead to Amy, who will finalize the layout and make a pdf for committee members to use.**

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the regular third Thursday, which is **July 20th**. Sid has already reserved the **Department of Labor** meeting room (on Lockey, behind the capitol and immediately next door to the Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council).

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.