

**MINUTES**  
**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON**  
**ENDOWMENTS AND PHILANTHROPY**  
Northwest Power Planning Council Conference Room  
Tuesday, January 16, 2007, 1:00 p.m.

**Members Present:**

Sue Talbot, Chair	Brian Magee
Sid Armstrong	Galen McKibben
Barbara Anthony	Jodi Medlar
Linda Carlson	Aidan Myhre
Linda Coulston	Dennis Peterson
Dorcie Dvarishkis	Bill Pratt
Judy Held	John Scibek
Jean Jenkins	Jim Soft
Amy Kelley	Peter Sullivan

**Note:** *This was an abbreviated meeting held in the early afternoon following the MNA “Montana Nonprofit Day” at the capitol.*

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES**

Peter made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed; Barb seconded the motion. All approved by voice vote.

**TASK FORCE 10-YEAR REPORT**

Sue reported that she had stickers made to cover and correct the error in the 10-year report regarding the dollar amount of gifts generated due to the tax credit over its 10-year existence. She had several members take reports and stickers to paste them in.

**REPORT ON SB 150**

Aidan reported that the Senate Taxation Committee took executive action on the bill that morning, passing it out of committee unammended (with the exception of one technical spelling change). [NOTE: SB 150 passed the full Senate, 50-0, on January 19 and was transmitted to the House.] The bill will next be heard in the House Taxation committee, which has not yet been scheduled. Aidan noted that the committee is chaired by Rep. Lake, who has been supportive of the tax credit in the past.

Aidan suggested that the focus be on renewing the credit for the next 6 years as a good tool for philanthropy rather than on the buildings exclusion unless there are questions. She pointed out that because the “Whereas” clauses in the original bill defined an endowment as a “permanent irrevocable fund,” the group should focus its comments on the original intent of the endowment tax credit. Sid noted that she would like to see testimony in the House Taxation Committee from some local community foundations about what endowments have done for them – local foundations built by local people that keep the funds working locally. All agreed that was a good idea.

There was some discussion about whether anyone was considering a stand-alone tax credit for capital campaigns. Aidan said that there were several placeholder bills, which could potentially serve that function, although she has not heard of anyone proposing it:

- [LC0811](#) (Sen. David Wanzenreid): “Allow tax credit for capital construction donations to tax-exempt organizations”
- [LC2174](#) (Sen. Dan Weinberg): “Revise qualified endowment credit” (Draft cancelled 1/11/07)
- [LC1893](#) (Sen. Lynda Moss): “Make tax credit for endowments permanent” (Draft cancelled 12/7/07)

**Amy will forward the Task Force “2-Pager” to Galen to post on the web site so that it can be downloaded by anyone interested and/or handed out to legislators.**

#### **POTENTIAL NEW TASK FORCE MEMBER**

Sue introduced Major Robinson, from the Governor’s Office of Economic Development. Major is interested in participating on the Task Force; Sue will submit his name to the Governor as a potential new Task Force member. All welcomed Major to the group.

#### **TASK FORCE E-NEWSLETTER**

Amy has drafted an e-newsletter for Brian to send out through the MNA system. **She will update it** to reflect that the bill has now passed the Senate Taxation Committee: a thank you to committee members, a request that people encourage all Senators to vote for SB 150, and the list of House Taxation Committee members with their e-mail addresses for people to contact. **Brian will e-mail it out upon receipt.**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Sue compiled a list of all who gave to the Task Force in 2006, and those who’d not given since 2005. It was agreed that requests for contributions should be postponed 2-3 weeks until the TF fiscal sponsorship is officially transferred to MNA.

#### **FOLLOWUP ON GOVERNOR’S CONVERSATION**

Sid reported that the proceedings are close to completion. **Amy will send out Sid’s small group discussion notes to TF members for comment.** Sid said that the next step will be to send out a draft to all Task Force members to review. **Amy will do the layout for both the long and short versions.**

#### **IRA ROLLOVER**

Jim reported that there will be a national pressroom presentation on March 20th with testimonials on the IRA rollover. They have the room reserved and the charities lined up, but now they need to be sure the Senate Taxation Committee staffers show up. Jim reported that Sen. Dorgan is re-upping the 2001 full version of the bill. He will alert TF members if letters should be written to Sen. Baucus.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the regular third Thursday: **February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** Amy will notify members as to location. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.