

**MINUTES**  
**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON**  
**ENDOWMENTS AND PHILANTHROPY**  
Northwest Power Planning Council Conference Room  
Thursday, May 17, 2007, 10 a.m.- 11:50 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Sue Talbot, Chair	Dorcie Dvarishkis
Barbara Anthony	Jean Jenkins
Sid Armstrong	Brian Magee
Linda Coulston	Galen McKibben
Steve Daniel	Bill Pratt
Donna Davis	Peter Sullivan

**APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES**

There were no errors noted or corrections requested. Peter made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed; Steve seconded the motion. All approved by voice vote.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Those in attendance worked to ready additional Task Force (TF) 10-Year Reports for future mailings.

Bill asked about the status of SB474 dealing with UPMIFA; **Sid indicated she would check on it.**

Sue reported that she had sent an email to Aidan Myhre regarding further publicizing of the passage of SB150, the building of case studies of Tax Credit beneficiaries, etc., all of which will aid our Lunch and Learn programming; attention should be turned to this after the Special Session concludes.

Sue also reported that she had received an email from Mike Halligan, who has requested that the Task Force members review HB746 language and concept. There is continuing interest from Mike and others to pursue passage of this capital tax credit next session, and he would appreciate TF input.

In regards to having the Montana Community Foundation represented on the TF, Sue indicated that she had made contact with MCF Board member Stan Nicholson; Stan is considering the opportunity to serve. Sid also suggested Bill Kearns.

Sue read a letter from Sharen Peters, who has requested a move from TF active to advisory status in order to allow her to more fully achieve retirement. As Chair, Sue has granted her request, and she will inform the Governor.

Greetings to the group from John Delano were also shared.

Sue asked for thoughts relating to Dan McLean's email on HR 2000, the bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage private philanthropy (Personal Philanthropy Act of 2007). Steve was supportive; Sid expressed concern, wondering if the bill would circumvent safety nets set up to prevent abuse of donor-advised funds; Bill asked for clarification if these were pre- or post-tax transactions. Sue encouraged all to look into it more and bring their impressions to a future meeting.

Sue outlined the thank-you packets she has assembled for those legislators who voted in support of SB150 – a letter, TF brochure and the 10-year report. These will be prepared when Amy Kelley returns, and will be passed around at the June meeting so that members can add personal notes to legislators they know.

### **FUNDRAISING STRATEGY**

Sue shared the list of previous TF supporters, and strategies for approach were discussed. A letter will go out in June to current TF members and advisory board members; outside donors will receive a letter and a 10-year report. Samples of the letters were distributed and feedback was offered. Sue reinforced that checks should be made payable to Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA), with TF noted on the memo line. She was also encouraged to include a return envelope in the mailings. Follow-up assignments were made. **Sid offered to draft a letter to be sent to local/regional community foundations soliciting their support**; it was thought that this letter could also serve as a model for letters to trust departments and other such potential supporters. **Bill offered to help secure the list of foundations.** Barbara suggested drafting letters to the editor to aid in the public understanding of the TF, SB150, etc.; **Sid will draft something for submission to the weeklies and dailies.**

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Sue distributed the MNA-TF financial reports through March 31, 2007. She noted that while the Lobbying account showed a deficit of approximately \$2,000, dollars have since been given to bring the account current. The General account shows a balance of approximately \$4,200, and there is slightly less than \$10,000 in the Conversation account. Sue also commented that there has been little expensed to date to MNA for bookkeeping services.

### **LUNCH AND LEARN**

Jim Soft and John Eastman drafted a program concept for 2007, which was distributed. After review and discussion, Peter made a motion to pursue the program concept; Sid seconded the motion. The motion passed on voice vote. It was noted that the budget and fundraising plan would be developed by Brian and Jim. It was agreed that the program should be promoted through the TF and MNA. The question was raised about having a webinar component to the program. Timing and site location(s) need to be determined. Peter suggested working with the insurance professionals and financial advisors for continuing education (CE) credits, in addition to the CE availability to accountants, lawyers, trust officers, etc. Bill requested that a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that is prepared for the sessions also be posted on the Endow Montana website. **Sid requested a brief report on past sessions – budgets, locations, attendance – to aid the TF in planning and decision making.**

### **INDIAN PHILANTHROPY PROJECT**

Bill presented for Major Robinson, who couldn't attend today. The various stakeholders in the project were discussed, and state government as a stakeholder was added. Sue will ask the Governor about convening a working group for this project. Bill also has distributed a preliminary concept paper on the Native American Philanthropic and Infrastructure Development Initiative proposed by the Big Sky Institute. He noted that initial work was underway with potential funders to find Native American capacity-building monies. A mini-retreat with foundations is planned for June (Grantmakers for Effective Organization). Bill reported that Major will be leaving his post this summer to return to Lame Deer;

coverage for the transition has not been finalized. Sue shared the contact name of Dennis McAuliffe from The University of Montana; Denny coordinates the RezNet project at UM.

### **FUTURES COMMITTEE**

In addition to the Futures materials distributed since the last meeting, Bill shared information from the group's meeting held May 16, 2007, where they worked to finish the environmental scan. A final draft of a report of their work will be sent to the Committee for review, then will be sent to Sue as TF Chair. The Committee next meets June 6, 2007, where they will consider the future alternative options, what might be needed now, and recommendations for where the TF might go next. The group is tying in the recommendations from the Conversation; the idea of a real estate philanthropic easement was revisited, and reference was made to a recent Chronicle of Philanthropy article relating to such. The Committee's report will come to the TF; the plan also includes sharing it with Montana and Wyoming foundation funders (Kelly Bruggeman of First Interstate Foundation was mentioned) to explore funding possibilities. Bill commented that Philanthropy Northwest was funded for a part-time communications to serve Montana and Alaska. A survey, to better gather feedback on what TF members see to be the top three working priorities, was suggested.

Sue asked about the Forum for Rural Philanthropy; it was reported that the Forum, part of the Council on Foundations work, will take place August 7-9, 2007; Linda Reed of the Montana Community Foundation is serving as program chair. The Forum will follow up on Sen. Baucus' challenge to the Council last fall, and will deal with foundation support, federal policy, and other topics.

### **NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would held on Thursday, June 21, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at the NWPPC; Sue indicated that Amy would send out the notice. Peter noted that he will be away on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The group also chose to meet July 19<sup>th</sup>, and suggested no meeting for August 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.