

Montana ASPIRE Business Meeting
Downtown Radisson
Salt Lake City, UT
Oct. 9&11 2011



- I. President Zach Hawkins called meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.
- II. A Quorum was established based on 29 ASPIRE members in attendance.
- III. Zach Hawkins called for meeting Parliamentarian, Rob Rust volunteered.
- IV. Minutes from Montana State ASPIRE Meeting Feb 2, 2011 were reviewed.
Motion: moved by Brandon McLean that Feb 2, 2011 Montana State ASPIRE Meeting minutes be approved.
Second: motion was seconded by Chris Stetzner.
Motion carried: Minutes were approved by acclamation.
- V. Treasurer's report – Balance as of last quarterly sent by John Schafer is \$11,885.
Zach called for motion to approve treasurer's report
Motion: moved by Rhonda Mason that treasurer's report be approved.
Second: motion was seconded by Barb Waters.
Motion carried: Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation.
- VI. Introduction of Members Present.
- VII. Directory Update – Barb Waters asked members to look at new directory on state ASPIRE website and send revisions, if needed.
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership – Mike McLean. Zach reported that there were 19 project memberships last year and 15 this year. He would like to increase project memberships for next year.
 - b. Indian Advocacy – Dugan Coburn reported that the website template is prepared but not in use. Rene reported that the website will be housed on OCHE website temporarily.
 - c. Government Relations – Ray Carlisle asked that when you receive a request from COE, take it seriously and respond. The most valuable emails and phone calls are from students, parents, relatives, friends, tax payers in MT who have an influence on our delegation. Key to success is volume of contacts along with op-eds. Use personal cell phone or email address (do not use project funds to contact legislators)



Mike McLean mentioned that Denny Rehberg is possibly running for Senate. Zach mentioned that Christy Keyes spoke with a Rehberg aide about benefits of TRiO (details to follow).

- d. 2012 Regional ASPIRE conference in Billings – Barb Waters encouraged all state members to join a sub-committee. Conference theme is “Unlocking Potential.” Barb asks anyone who has alumni working in their office to pose for a picture similar to the one in the conference ad displayed during the meeting. Her goal is to raise \$50,000 profit for regional ASPIRE. Conference venue – Holiday Inn Billings.
- e. Best Practices Conference – Lynn Farris (not present). Ray reported in her place. Conference dates – Tentatively May 17th 18th (will confirm) This will be the 3rd annual Best Practices conference.
- f. MCAN Conference – Rene reported that Montana college access network has been around about 4 years. It’s an association of organizations who want to work on access to college. The 1st college access conference 2 weeks ago. Michelle Christianson encourages members to join MCAN. It’s free, meetings are open to all, and it’s an opportunity to network with others & to increase tools offered to students.
Zach – MCIS grant secured through MT Tech – allows expansion of use.

IX. Old Business

- a. Review and revise operating guidelines – brought up after the suggestion of a 2-yr presidential term. Zach proposes ad-hoc committee to review operating guidelines. Goal – by April, gather suggestions and vote on changes to operating guidelines. Current operating guidelines are on MT ASPIRE website.
- b. MT TRiO license plates – Zach researched it. We would need 501C3 status in order to apply. Darlene Samson and Joe Hickman will look into establishing 501C3 status for MT ASPIRE.
- c. Program Facebook / Social Media Pages – set them up as a fan page rather than a personal page. Goal to eventually build up an alumni database and Facebook page. Zach encourages projects to continue building their Social Media pages / interactions / outreach to students.

X. New Business

- a. State Alumni Association – Zach acquired ideas at COE conference. He showed a proposed alumni membership form with membership fee of \$15 for review.
Motion: Moved by Allison Grant that there would be no fee to join the Montana State TRiO Alumni Association.
Second: Motion was seconded by Mike McGarvey.
Motion carried: Motion not to have a fee to join the Montana State TRiO Alumni Association was passed.



- b. Fair Share Raffle – Zach suggested raffling items off as a way of raising money for Fair Share. The topic was tabled until the second half of the meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 11.

Zach called for recess at 5:42 p.m.

Zach calls the meeting to order on October 11, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.

Continuation of Fair share discussion... no one was interested in donating raffle items at the time of announcement.

Zach made changes to alumni association form per yesterday's discussion, copies available @ meeting.

Christy Keyes announced that she spoke with Denny Rehberg's assistant (Will South) regarding TRiO services provided to students at UM Western. He met several students while meeting with Christy in her office. They discussed importance of 1st year program and early engagement of students. Article slated to publish at the end of the month about TRiO services.

c. State meeting help/committees

- i. Dugan – The Montana ASPIRE meeting will take place the 3rd weekend in April, (18 – 20) in Great Falls. It will conclude by noon on Friday the 20th. Heath Alexander will provide training on Thursday the 19th until 3 p.m. on Financial Literacy Programs, he will also pay for part of the cost of lunch on the 19th. No venue has been selected yet.
- ii. CVent Registration – Rhonda Mason volunteered.
- iii. Programs – Christy Keyes volunteered.
- iv. Ads – Zach Hawkins volunteered.
- v. Speakers – Rene Dubay and Darlene Samson volunteered.
- vi. TRiO Achievers – Jacee Krueger (formerly Martin) was nominated by Rob Rust.
- vii. Meals and Hospitality – Brandon McLean, Chris Stetzner and Michelle Christianson volunteered.
- viii. Silent auction/raffle – Mike McLean and FVCC staff volunteered

d. UB Directors Discussion: Grant Writing/Olympics – no updates.

XI. Introduction/Presentation of New State Officers: Dugan Coburn, President and Heather Hibbard, Treasurer/Secretary.

XII. President Elect Remarks – Dugan

- a. Addressed the issue of president-elect. We need to fill that position.



b. Initiatives

- i. Get a better grip on MT ASPIRE and TRiO media – Will make a formal announcement of previous year success and introduction of new officers. Wants to brand the TRiO name for all programs.
- ii. TRiO branding flier – TRiO logo for all programs, with a description of each program beneath. Showcase these posters in all of our offices to get the word out about TRiO, as we go into the political season.
- iii. Getting money and funding for our programs as Dr. Mitchem addressed. Getting the word out to Denny Rehberg and Max Baucus.
- iv. When we sign a student up for our program, hand them and their parents a voter registration. Get them to support TRiO, and to tell Rehberg, Baucus, Tester that we have voters in our programs.
- v. Get more articles in the papers promoting TRiO – news events, activities, other promotions.
- vi. Educate as many people as possible in Montana about our programs.
- vii. Idea – college application week this year. Schools are running out of Pell grant funding earlier, so TRiO-eligible students need to apply for college earlier to have access to those funds.
- viii. Indian Advocacy via MT ASPIRE website.
- ix. Mike McLean suggested eliciting nominations for president-elect. Dugan opened the floor for nominations, but none were submitted.

Zach – MT raffle basket was paid for with state association funds. He asked for personal donations to reimburse the state association account.

Ray – ASPIRE (regional) conf only occurs in MT once every 6 years. Barb Waters will need a lot of help. Everyone should commit to helping Barb plan and conduct the conference.

Christy Keyes suggested service project for both the state and regional conference, similar to the one conducted at the SLC regional conference.

Communicate with all conference committees (Best Practices, state ASPIRE, regional ASPIRE) so that information isn't duplicated.

Dugan gave everyone Denny Rehberg's Washington DC number, asking everyone to call him before the end of the day - 202-225-3211

Dugan called for motions to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Moved by Barb Waters to adjourn meeting

Second: Motion was seconded by Michelle Christianson.

Motion Carried: Adjourned by acclamation.

