

# Meeting Minutes: Executive Committee

Date: 5/17/2018

Minutes prepared by: Shannon Hartwig

Location: 121 East 7th Place, St. Paul, MN 55101

## Attendance

* Jim Thalhuber – In Person
* Kathy Peterson – In Person
* Dean Ascheman – Via Phone
* Nate Aalgaard – Via Phone
* Nancy Fitzsimmons– Via Phone
* Joan Willshire, MCD Executive Director
* Erica Schmiel, MCD Legislative Consultant
* Shannon Hartwig, MCD Staff
* Amber Madoll – Absent

## Approval of Agenda and Minutes

**Action:** Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the agenda; it was seconded by Nate Aalgaard. It was approved by unanimous voice vote. Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting. Nate Aalgaard seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## Committee updates

Access: Nate gave a brief report on the work that is moving through the Access committee, the group meets roughly every month that there is not a full council meeting.

Council Vitality: The group discussed the need for the formation of a new committee. Development of the Council Vitality included discussion of the need for a group to assist with the recruitment within the network circles of the members who will be leaving the group either due to resignation, or expiration of appointment. In the past we have had issues filling vacancies in the more rural areas, for the year 2019 we will have eight council membership terms that will lapse or expire. The Council Vitality committee will identify current members whose terms will expire in 2019. MCD Council Chair, Jim Thalhuber appointed Dean Ascheman as **the Council Vitality** Committee Chair, suggestions to the committee will be made from the Executive Committee.

## Staffing update

Joan Willshire informed the group that we will be moving into the second round of interviews for the Legislative position that is open. We have 6 that we are inviting back, of those six, we expect to make a selection.

## Public Policy Update

Discussion Joan Willshire and Erica Schmiel provided a recap of the proposed Policy Agenda and current issues. The [legislative updates](https://www.disability.state.mn.us/public-policy/legislative-updates/) can be found on our website.

The group discussed house file 4437, a motion was made by Dean Ascheman.

**Action:** A motion was brought forth by Dean Ascheman oppose the proposed constitutional amendment to dedicate some sales tax revenue for roads and bridges, HF 4437, Over all MCD DOES support Roads and Bridges. Kathy Peterson seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## Committee Updates

Executive Committee members have been serving as the Policy Committee, Council Chair Jim Thalhuber would like to extend gratitude and acknowledge the professionalism and great work that Eric Schmiel has put forth during her short time with the council, as her service as the Legislative consultant has been exemplary.

Council Vitality, Dean Ascheman reported that he will be contacting the 9 members that are scheduled to lapse as of January 2019, he will be contacting the group and working on recruitment from the members local area contacts.

Nate Aalgaard, reported the Access committee has been busy working on Position papers and local area issues.

## Council Business Discussions

Council Engagement- In effort to increase council member communication and engagement, development of a new report item was added to the Executive Committee agenda as a standing item. Council Member Local area reports, members will report from their area to the Executive Committee. Council Member Nancy Fitzsimons reported from her area on local issues. Issues included reports from local newspapers, community activities and issues that she is involved in on the employment level.

## Strategic Planning

The group reviewed the MCD Strategic plan document, suggestions were made on updating the 2018 statewide branding. Recommendations were made to remove the item ”pay for service” as it does not fit within the scope of current programing, and to add 2 items State Park Access, and Digital Access under Goal 1. The item will be forwarded to the June 7, Full Council meeting for review.

## Chairs Report

Yearend budget report, we are on track.

## Executive Director Report

Joan Willshire brought forth information about the only Disability new paper in the state, Access Press, and a local area cable show titled Disability View Points, Both programs are in need of assistance, or partnership in order to continue serving the public. There was discussion about how, and if MCD can help in some way. To date, there is no plan in place to provide financial assistance.

**Future** **Meeting Planning**

The next executive Committee meeting will be on July 19, 2018. The next Full council Meeting will be September 27th, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Shannon Hartwig