

**Montana Lodging & Hospitality Association
General Membership Meeting
Big Sky Resort, September 27, 2017**

Call to Order

President Steve Wahrlich called the 2017 general membership meeting to order at 8:30am. Approximately 60 members were in attendance.

Approval of 2016 Minutes

Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2016 membership meeting. Motion approved.

Financial Reports (Attached)

Stuart Doggett provided explanation of line items and reviewed the income and expense lines to date. Total assets of the association on September 14, 2017 were \$131,238.91.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion approved.

Stuart also mentioned the MLHA Bylaw updates which were emailed out to the membership with no objections received. The changes were mostly just clarifying words and some minor changes with board approval.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the bylaw changes as presented. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

• **Convention / Education Committee Report – Valerie Edwards**

Valerie Edwards thanked everyone for attending the convention and thanked the Big Sky staff for hosting. She also thanked the Big Sky sales team for hosting the drinks at the Tuesday night banquet. She noted that we had a record 43 vendors, with 13 being new suppliers and a record 103 attendees, with 34 of those being in sales and marketing. Lastly, she thanked Meghan Coppola of 320 Guest Ranch for putting together the Trade Show Clue game and Tina Wiser for putting together the scavenger hunt. End of conference evaluations will be sent out, so she reminded everyone to complete them so the committee knows what everyone would like to see in 2018.

• **Sales & Marketing Council – Valerie Edwards**

Valerie stated that the Sales & Marketing Council currently has 52 members with 32 up for renewal. The council handed out renewal applications at their Monday meeting. The June 2018 retreat will be held at the Clarion Inn Copper King Convention Center in Butte, MT June 3-6. Valerie ended by introducing vice-president Erica Kimble – she will move into the Sales & Marketing president position next year.

• **Membership/Non-Dues Report – Jim Tucker**

Jim noted the tremendous increase in Allied membership due to record attendance at this year's Trade Show. He also noted that although Lodging membership is down, we've already added six new members in this fiscal year. This committee will continue to promote new membership and is taking suggestions to get new members.

• **AHLA & Legislative Report – Steve Wahrlich**

Steve noted no report since Brian Crawford already gave this update in his session on Tuesday.

Break – Ballots were distributed.

2018 Board Members

The following slate of officers were presented by Matt Sease on behalf of the Nominations Committee. With current board member Tim Geisler being the sole person running for Treasurer, five board positions are open with four being open two-year terms and one being a one-year term. There is also an additional director position that will be appointment by the Chair for a one-year term.

Board of Directors running (Lodging)

- Shelli Mann – Boothill Inn & Suites Billings
- Jim Tucker – Comfort Inn Helena
- Bryce Baker – Best Wester Golden Prairie Inn Sidney
- Tina Wisner – Hilton Garden Inn Billings
- Lauri Tognetti – Yogo Inn Lewistown
- Scott Arensmeyer – Town Pump Hotel Group Great Falls
- David O'Connor – Buck's T-4 Lodge Big Sky
- Mark Richardson – Holiday Inn Bozeman

Legislative and PR Committee Reports, Stuart Doggett and Steve Wahrlich

Stuart noted that before the 2017 Legislative Session Voices of Montana Tourism and Dax did great work with the educational round tables to educate the value of tourism. These round tables were very beneficial and will be done again.

During this last session there was the most activity he has seen in decades and he thanked the Legislative Committee for their help. Stuart then highlighted the bills MLHA tracked during the 2017 session.

Resolutions Committee Report

Ryan Kunz and Tina Wisner presented the 2017 Convention Resolutions.

Other Business

Charlotte Lauerman with MLHA was the recipient of the raffle basket. Proceeds of \$1,526.00 will be given to BSCO (Big Sky Community Organization).

Results of Balloting

The following were announced as elected to the MLHA Board of Directors:

Directors (two years)

- Shelli Mann – Boothill Inn & Suites Billings
- David O'Connor -- Buck's T-4 Lodge Big Sky
- Jim Tucker – Comfort Inn Helena
- Tina Wisner – Hilton Garden Inn Billings

Directors (one year)

- Scott Arensmeyer – Town Pump Hotel Group Great Falls

Treasurer (unopposed)

Tim Giesler – Ruby's Inn / Erck Hotels, Missoula

2018 Conference Location

The membership selected Clarion Inn Copper King Convention Center in Butte as the 2018 conference location.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10am