

# MAINE SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

*Mission:*

*Educating and empowering members to provide healthy meals  
to Maine Children in pursuit of lifelong wellness.*

**Thursday February 9, 2023**

**Cushnoc Brewing**

**40 Front Street- Augusta ME 04330**

**12pm**

**(Lunch Provided)**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Whitney Thornton Time: 12:10 pm

Executive Board: Whitney Thornton (X) Alisa Roman (X) Mary Emerson (X) Allison Leavitt (X) Tina Fabian (X)

Voting Board Members:

Dave Roberts () Vanessa Richardson () Wendy Collins (X) Caroline Trinder (X) Erin Dow ()

Non-Voting Board Members:

Cassandra Ring (X) Jane McLucas() Jeanne Reilly (X) Stephanie Salley (X) Ellen Demmons (X) Ellen Dore ()  
Melanie Lagasse () Abbey Pelletier (X) Dottie Janotta () Adrienne Ackroyd (X) Jody Fournier (X), Stacy O'Neil (X),  
Samantha Wedgewood (X)

## **Communications/Correspondence:**

Start w/ Vendor Comment - Melissa Decoffe from Waypoint spoke on the value of onsite food shows. She discussed the option of "speed dating" type format where all participants would have set time with each vendor and then would cycle through the entire show. This format may work in future years.

NE Regional Conference- Overview - Delegation attended NERC in Burlington, VT. Several vendors sponsored networking events - which was well received.

See hand out on LAC position paper - LAC March 5-7, Delegation will address Position Paper - emphasizing universal meals.

Whitney has emailed awards people to update receiving the last few years plaques

October 27, 28, 29 Save the Date- North East Regional in Portsmouth NH

## Action Items:

Secretary's Report- Minutes from October 26, 2022 meeting were distributed

*Recommended Motion:* to approve minutes

Motion: Allison Second: Caroline

Vote: All in Favor

Treasurer's Report – See attached Financial Summary

*Recommended Motion:*

Motion: Wendy Second: Caroline

Vote: All in Favor

## Committee Reports:

Education Committee: Allison reported that they did investigate a number of new venues, but these venues were not available for dates. Holiday Inn by the Bay has been reserved for this year's conference. Keynote and breakout speakers are being investigated.

Legislative Committee: LAC March 5-7. Abby, Alisa, Caroline, Whitney & Erin will be attending. Caroline is setting up meetings with both Senators and Representatives offices. She discussed the position paper and push for national universal meals. Jeanne Reilly will be attending LAC as part of SNA's Legislative Committee. Currently there are 6 states with universal meals. One district in a state that does not have universal meals had over \$27000 in debt in just one month. Jeanne also discussed proposed new standards around sugar and sodium. She encouraged everyone to read the new proposed rules and provide comment.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/proposed-updates-school-nutrition-standards>

Communications Committee: No Report Vanessa unable to participate due to poor wifi at restaurant

Membership Committee: Erin provided a written report to Whitney. Current membership 307, MSNA has a 96% retention rate. There will be a membership drive this spring and she has requested materials and will promote with MSNA. Dues will be increasing for SY 24 Employees from \$36 to \$40, Managers from \$38 to \$42, Directors from \$130 to \$143, and processing fees from \$2.50 to \$3.00.

Nominating Committee: Tina Fabian reported that Caroline Trinder has been nominated to be vice president

Finance Committee: Has not met. No report

Industry Committee: NOI Show - Currently 14 vendors signed up for Virtual Food Show. However there has not been much promotion on the event. Concern about probable low attendance was discussed.

Motion to cancel the Virtual Food Show scheduled for Feb 14 & 15 was made by Alisa, Seconded by Allison. Motion passed with all in favor

Also discussed the value of having different levels of Industry Partners (Gold, Silver, Bronze).

Program Committee: Discussion occurred during the Education Committee report.

## MSNA Partners Updates:

Cassie Ring shared Let's Go - shared information on Culinary Boot Camp - that will take place Aug 14-18, with 24 slots at Westbrook High School. School districts are limited to 3 people per district. Cost is free & there are scholarships available.

Stacy from General Mills - She is based in Maine and looks forward to working with us. She distributed reformulated breakfast bars that would meet the new sugar standards.

Adrienne Maine DOE - She discussed the proposed new standards and also encouraged everyone to comment. She discussed the proposed timeline for implementation beginning Fall 2024. She also discussed increased grants that will be available to assist rural areas with the implementation of new standards. Adrienne reported that they are currently down 3 people - Cindy Chase retired, Robin Kerber left - position is posted, and there is a new CACFP at Risk position. Adrienne discussed summer food service and possible waivers for non-congregate feeding. She received kudos from those in attendance at recent ICN Training.

### **Old Business**

1. Summer conference update/details. HOLIDAY INN- Portland
2. \*Update from last meeting\* Raising the dues of state/membership – not discussed
3. Finance Committee Audit? (Mary Dave Alisa?) - not discussed

### **New Business**

1. February mini food show and going forward the future - will be in person - will consider options
2. Scholarships- Ideas on reminders to members. Big showing for BOSTON ANC - suggested trying to have vendors sponsor scholarships.
3. Upcoming events: March 5-7 LAC in Washington DC (Whitney, Alisa, Caroline, Erin, Abbey)
4. Next meeting on rotation would be virtual- do we want that? - Vote was for in person - Whitney to determine location.
5. Updating membership roster. Scheduling out emails about awards/scholarships/etc - Whitney encouraged everyone to check the information for their district in the MSNA drive/Membership All information comes from SNA - so please update member information with SNA

### **Adjourn:**

Motion: Caroline

Second: Samantha

Vote: All approved

Time: 1:34 pm