

# MRPA Programming Section Meeting

## September 16, 2011

### Maple Grove Community Center

Tonya Love, Elk River  
Ryan Parks, Roseville  
Roxann Maxey, Roseville  
Pat Tuma, New Brighton  
Harvey Feldman, Parc, LLC  
Andy Soltvedt, Golden Valley  
Kari Hemp, Bloomington  
John Stutzman, Chanhassen  
Travis Karlen, Plymouth  
Vanessa Fiedler, U of M Youth Programs

Sarah Molnau, Waconia  
Lisa Abernathy, St. Louis Park  
Michelle Tessar, Falcon Heights  
Ann Davy, Minnetonka  
Sara Woeste, Minnetonka  
Nicole Gorman, Minnetonka  
Jason Eisold, Richfield  
Kristin Aarsvold, Edina  
Kelly Mertes, Richfield  
Michelle Snider, MRPA

#### **Agenda**

- Meeting was called to order by Tonya Love at 10:05 am

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **Additions to the Agenda**

- 3,2,1 Network Session:

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes not present for approval

#### **Professional Connections**

- Mankato was Sept 14

#### **Topic Discussions**

- Small group discussions around what went well, didn't go well, how to improve with Summer Programming, Seasonal Staff Communication, Warming Houses – Adaptations due to budget cuts
- Elk River – worked well to over hire this summer as back up / sub staff

#### **Workshop Committees & Roundtables**

Upcoming / Proposed Professional Development

- MRPA is trying to help sections with cross training opportunities / sharing opportunity resources across sections
- Training ideas will be shared at the October section chair meeting
- Chairs will discuss what collaborations could take place – chairs will bring collaboration ideas back to each section to decide what to offer
- What are professionals looking for from roundtables / trainings?
- Send ideas of what you wish MRPA could provide to Tonya Love at [tlove@ci.elk-river.mn.us](mailto:tlove@ci.elk-river.mn.us)
- Idea list

- Best practices with volunteers
  - Sponsorships & donation policies
  - Naming rights
  - Learning to work w/ HR dept. / standards in HR – legality laws for non-exempt vs. exempt employees – employment law – state/federal restrictions/updates (esp. for under 18 hires) – HR/PS dept doing background checks vs. BCA
  - Safety & Emergency management plans for Parks & Facilities
  - Adult sports heat index / severe weather plans
  - Difference between generational hires – how to manage, train, operations, etc...
  - Seasonal staff hiring
- Send any 2012 Conference topics ideas or speakers to Kari Hemp [khemp@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:khemp@ci.bloomington.mn.us)

#### Leaders in Training Roundtable

- Lisa Abernathy & Kristin Aarsvold are working on – looking for feedback will be sending out a survey
- Would attendees like best practices with LIT programs w/ a presenter or table topics
- Kelsey from Roseville could possibly help
- Give feedback to Lisa [labernathy@stlouispark.org](mailto:labernathy@stlouispark.org) or Kristin [kaarsvold@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:kaarsvold@ci.edina.mn.us)

#### Summer Leadership Workshop

- Went well – participants seemed to enjoy the day – facility (IGH) worked great
- Becky Sola has the evaluations
- Over 100 seasonal staff attended
- New topics were covered
- Participants want / like the interactive key note speakers
- Saturday before Memorial day weekend worked well
- Need a location for 2012

#### MRPA Updates

##### Staff Report

- Summer Softball is winding down, Fall Softball is starting up
- Jerry is attending a National meeting next week
- Deb attended the Hershey Track & Field event w/ 5 kids from MN – every MN kid placed well
- Strategic Plan – have been working on for 18 months
  - Gathered all member data
  - Will be unveiled / presented at the Thursday breakfast at the conference
  - Looking for feedback & comments

- Trails Workshop October 5 in Plymouth w/ SRF Consulting
- Concussion Workshop October 13 in Roseville – legal perspective & what are other communities doing

#### Conference Updates

- Conference begins September 20 – Aquatics Conference has 40 registered
- Annual Conference Wednesday, September 21 – Friday, September 23 – 307 registered (277 for conference, 30 for customer service afternoon)
- Exhibit Hall on Wednesday is full
- Lisa Abernathy does have enough volunteers
- 3,2,1 Network session is Thursday at 9:00 am – looking for professionals to be on the panel and breakout with students – contact Kristin Aarsvold [kaarsvold@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:kaarsvold@ci.edina.mn.us) if you could like to help as a professional for students to connect with
- MRPF Casual Connection is Friday morning w/ a hot breakfast from 8:00 – 8:30 am
  - Introduction & role modeling to how Casual Connections work
  - New this year is a punch card – go to 5 Casual Connections get a free MRPF mug
  - At Casual Connections a higher level professionals are planed around the room – the crowd is casual, topic discussions take place in smaller groups
  - Meetings mix-up / reorganize so you meet everyone in attendance
  - Follow up contact information is sent out for those who attend
  - Welcoming new MRPF Casual Connection committee members
  - More information contact Roxann Maxey [Roxann.maxey@ci.roseville.mn.us](mailto:Roxann.maxey@ci.roseville.mn.us)
- 2012 Conference Committee has been meeting
  - Make sure to budget to travel to Craignun in Brainerd in 2012
  - Feedback on food/beverages send to Roxann Maxey or Michelle Okada [Roxann.maxey@ci.roseville.mn.us](mailto:Roxann.maxey@ci.roseville.mn.us) or [mokada@ci.woodbury.mn.us](mailto:mokada@ci.woodbury.mn.us)
  - Send any 2012 Conference topics ideas or speakers to Kari Hemp [khemp@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:khemp@ci.bloomington.mn.us)
- Consider joining Minnesota Recreation & Parks Foundation – MRPF is a group of professionals who do fundraising for the association – offers scholarships and professional development
  - Grant 3 student scholarships each year
  - MRPF relies heavily on yearly memberships
  - Go to [www.mnrpa.org](http://www.mnrpa.org) click on MRPF to become a member or donate
  - Can attend a Foundation meeting

- MRPF will have a booth at the exhibit hall & is sponsoring a keynote speaker
- MRPF is a part of Give to the Max Day in November

### **Board Update**

- Had a guest presenter on the alternate FICA plan – members will be hearing more if the board decides to endorse (around seasonal / PT staff)
- 2012 budget was introduced – updated budget presented at October meeting

Meeting Adjourn 11:25 am

**Next meeting: October 14, 10:00 am, Shoreview Community Center**