Executive Council Meeting
May 22th, 2020
Zoom Meeting

Executive Council: (Voting Members)
■ Kevin DeRuosi  □ Shannon James  □ Donna Shelby
■ Monica Blondin  ■ Korinne Peterson  ■ Ross Glover
■ Melissa Metcalf  ■ Robyn Butterfield  ■ Ebony Carter
■ Linna Tran  ■ Ben Parsons

Committees:
□ Siobhan Keenan  ■ Amy Staffier  □ Jan Combs  □ Jennifer Bento-Pinyoun
□ Brandon Cipoletta  □ Susan Kolls  ■ Jonathan Sparling  ■ Lisa Tablot
■ Betsy Mayotte  □ Thomas Hunt  □ Ina Frye  ■ Beth Feinberg Keenan
■ Sarah Bergeron  □ Dawn Batchelor  ■ Jennifer Sheely  □ Robert Picoriello
■ Lauren Sullivan  ■ Julie Lawton  □ Michelle Clifton  □ Ramon Soto
■ Jaron Tucker  ■ Jeff Bentley  ■ Kaitlyn Ma  ■ Monique Howell
■ Michelle Clifton

Other Attendees:

Meeting started at: 10:04AM
Motion to start: Ben Parsons
Second: Kevin DeRuosi
Welcome: Monica Blondia

• Touching base on meetings and what is going on
• 6-7 months how MASFAA will look like
• Questions about what we are providing our memberships
• Today’s Agenda
  o Go over of what have been happening this month
  o COVID
• Updates from Exec council

Executive Council Reports:

Past President: Melissa Metcalf

• ELECTIONS
  o We have results!!
  o There were a few mishaps with who can vote
    ▪ Associate and Grad got to vote
  o Beth won for Treasurer
    ▪ Associate member cannot hold an Exec Council Position
  o Run the elections again?
    ▪ Kevin does not want another election
  o This was put together quickly during pandemic
  o Official vote to accept the election result
  o Treasurer – Kevin mentioned we are going forward with Beth as Treasurer
    ▪ If anyone has an issue, please reach out to Kevin
    ▪ Kevin made Exec decision to move forward with an associate member, Beth
    ▪ Betsy suggested that we should allow Exec decision to be able to allow associate members to run as Beth was the only one who stepped up
      ▪ Great job Beth!!
    ▪ Melissa mentioned that maybe we should consider changing and allowing members to run
      ▪ We are limited to a lot of volunteers
      ▪ Lawton – We should hold off and put more thoughts into this
      ▪ Ross – This is a trend
      ▪ Why are we separating associate members to begin with?
    ▪ Monica – what about other associations? Do they have restrictions?
      ▪ Yes
      ▪ Example: In RI, they can – but the association is extremely small
  • Beth won for Treasurer
  • Grad Rep – had two candidates
• Ebony won president elect
• Kevin we will revisit the bylaws to see if we can allow associates members in elections – but not allowing to vote(?)
  o For now, we need Beth as Treasurer because no one stepped up and she won unopposed
  o If anyone opposed, please shoot an email
  o We are moving the association forward
• Melissa also brought up about updating the handbook to the current year
  o Kevin, Melissa, and Monica – documenting this year
  o On their agenda to go through bylaws
• Kevin – we can get people more involved because now everyone is okay with web conferences
  o Meeting online

President: Kevin DeRousi

• No updates
• Kevin put together notes and revision of the strategic plan
  o He will send this out for approval

President Elect: Monica Blondin

• We are finally combining technology and membership committees
  o Jeff, Sarah and Johnathan
• New web platform – KeyBridge
  o Contract has been signed
  o Moving full speed ahead with this

NEW COMMITTEE – Technology and Membership

Jeff Bentley

• With the frustration of the current website i.e. not able to post at certain links and the website lost its’s place as a resource for the financial aid community
• The goal is to create a new website
• The Committee will commit to researching on what best meet their practices
  o Membersclick was one they were deciding
  o Going forward with KeyBridge
• The new website will be updated in July (GOAL)
  o We are in the early stages in this new website
  o We are welcoming new members so if anyone wants to join, come join
    ▪ If you have a technology eye to come over
Betsey Mayotte asked - do the various committee have an input on what they want on the website
  o YES!
Kevin – 8-10 hours of support
  o More control over update the site, more autonomy
  o Looking forward to get this up and running

10:55AM Kevin moved members to 3 different breakout rooms

**Group 1**

**Cares Act** – Lauren, Linna, Katelyn, Amy, Ross, Monica, Jennifer, Melissa, Sarah, Ebony, Korinne, Monique

The big questions: How are others handling the Cares Funding? What about graduating students?

- Salem state is being specific
- Melissa mentioned BC has not taken it
- Monica – Assumption has not
  o They want to give it to the graduating seniors
  o Amy mentioned her institution disbursed before they left
- Jennifer mentioned her institution awarded all rising 3rd year students
- Lauren – title IV eligible?
  o Sent before graduation
  o Getting tons of push back about this
- Amy – Dep of Ed is constantly changing rules and regulations
  o The graduating seniors implication is not right because the student was enrolled when this pandemic happened
- Monica – we haven’t given our official decision yet as the institution is worried about audit
  o Schools are being penalized for not using it right away
- Lauren – are we able to give a complaints because of the delay?
  o NASFAA undocumented, DACA – strong objection of this
- Monica – doing a set amount and focusing on undergraduate students - $500 a student
- Amy – have both – funding was 75% undergraduate pell eligible… 75/25
  o Came up with a chart
  o Pell undergrad gets the most and then it goes down
  o Online not receiving any
  o $123,000 left of funds and creating an application if students want more
- Ebony – we let students apply, and put a cap – food, transportation, living and let the student identify and provide documentation
  o Had a lot of students who left Boston to go back home – so provide lease contract etc.
• Had upset students who had to continue to pay rent – received funding but couldn’t cover the full amount
  • Total max is pell limit
  • Jennifer – awarded every rising 3rd year for $1,000 each
    • 3rd year was the only year that their semester was push back
    • 300,000 total
    • Remaining is through application process
  • Lauren – emergency funding
    • Had 200 application and then decided to select their own candidates
    • Anyone who has a valid ISIR, pell eligible and anyone who lost campus housing
      ▪ First tier awarded $1,000
      ▪ Second tier $700
      ▪ Third tier $300
      ▪ A little cushion for those who believe they qualify
      ▪ Anything else be used for summer time etc.
• How was it awarded?
  • Katelyn – through banner on their award screen
    ▪ Coded and added to their award
    ▪ Added Care act budget to not overaward
    ▪ COVID application
      ▪ Wifi bills
      ▪ What to justify their refunds?
  • Monica – Student Accounts just pay the funding by using debit cards
  • Amy – anyone who got direct deposit got it and then email others to sign
    ▪ Any those who don’t send check
  • Korine – forcing student to do direct deposit
    ▪ Maximum is $1,000
• Did anyone schools used more than half?
  • BU giving it all to students?
  • No one in the room
• NASFAA – 15th guidelines – no one touched that yet
• Katelyn - $180K
• Are anyone of your students going to bow out of the match?
  • Have any funds?
    • Amy – we did that this current year about the changes but haven’t talked about it next year
    • Ross – building from ground up
      ▪ Goal not reduce institution match
• How are you going to deal with online or offline courses?
  • Tuition only?
    ▪ Are we doing room and board?
Can we wait before sending out different bills?
  o Amy we are extending and waiting before sending things out
    ▪ Amy do full year to remove online
  o Lauren – tri-semester and offering free tuition next term
  o Monica – manual

11:12AM Kevin – Each group take 5-10 minutes to present

Associate Members

  • Betsy – We shared a lot of what our institution are doing
    o Webinar
    o Relief for private loan lenders
    o What membership might need
      ▪ MASFAA COVID Page
      ▪ Berklee has a good one
    o Whether the membership might find it useful for a webinar
      ▪ PJ
      ▪ SAP
      ▪ Gap year
      ▪ If this is useful, associate group can do a webinar for end of June
        o Members of this group will make sure this happens
  • Jennifer Sheehy – member portal – membership expired
    o Budget restraints
      ▪ Her school is not allowed to join other associations
    o Ben suggested there’s a way to push the membership date due
  • Membership is strong
    o Kevin mentioned that if people are unable to pay their membership then that will be tricky
    o Monica – having reduced cost or having it free next year?
      ▪ Something to think about
    o Ben – we will need to be purposeful to what we are offering for this one year
    o Ross – like a financial aid grant that we cover it now and next year it’s on your own
    o Kevin – institutional membership? Most schools are small so we will not want to go this route
      ▪ We can look again at a lower rate
      ▪ This is another discussion to crunch numbers and map out
  • Kevin – Associate members – I like the webinar idea
  • Monica – NASFAA is offering a webinar every couple of weeks
    o What if we do panels?
  • Betsey – every two weeks we do a panel/webinar for 45 minutes about one topic
    o We will need people to volunteer to be on this panel
• The small associate group can manage the panelists
  - 6 of them will do a draft topic
    ▪ We will need Exec Council to respond quickly
    ▪ Kevin – volunteering Salem State zoom

**Elected Membership Group**

- Ben and Robyn – talked about strengths and what we can offer
- Ben mentioned that he created a page for his office
  - A central place for everyone to review it
  - Ben organized it
  - Betsy – can you do that for our MASFAA page?
  - It’s a google site with basic functionality
    ▪ It has different links to FAQs, NAFSAA webinar, Dep of Ed
    ▪ This is fully searchable
    ▪ This is a site only the team can view
    ▪ Google Campus – one of the google office is google site which allows you to build a website
  - Betsy – can you duplicate that? Like copy and paste? Pulling content and organizing it
    ▪ Ben – yes I can do this!

**CARES ACT**

- Monica mentioned that the forum was used to talk about what our schools did
  - Half of us distributed and other half is waiting for guidelines
  - A meeting to discuss about terms, tri-semester,
  - Running things by one another
- Kevin – we are all doing things slightly different
- Ross – MASFAA is intimate setting and seeing how things are being implemented. This makes everything feel better of whether schools on track
  - Kevin – yes this small group is great with meeting and discussing about what others are doing and TRUST

**Summary**

- Kevin – can each person draft what their institutions are doing?
  - Kevin took half of the CARES ACT and used EFC of three tiers
  - Make a list of what people are doing at each institution
  - Offer guidelines
- In the next week, can you all answer the questions for ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS and send to Kevin and CC Monica
- Any questions?
  - Who has the ability to lock or change membership?
- Julie/Michelle? Michelle will check
- Let’s extend until the end of June

- Committee chairs – Kevin wants to set up separate meetings
  - Learning in September
  - How to adapt moving forward
  - Will set up with everyone within two weeks
  - What MASFAA 20-21 will look like
  - What events are coming up?
    - Do you think it can be virtual?
    - How will it look like virtual?

- Is there an official designation yet?
  - Kevin – we have not set that up yet
  - Usually during year-end
  - We’re just trying to get things done one at a time
  - Jeff – trying to figure out membership
    - Monique/Kevin July to June
    - Ben – President January to December
      - Monica mentioned that because there are many changes, we are keeping July to June date
      - We need to solidify that
    - Do we switch membership to January to December too?
    - Monica – this is confusing
      - Example if Ebony will do president for 6 months and 6 months with committee
    - Kevin mentioned that in the next meeting we will address more of this

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Motion to end meeting: Kevin
Second: Robyn
End time: 12:09PM