

West Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
Business Meeting
Pipestem Resort
Pipestem, WV
April 9, 2010

Meeting called to order at 9:05am

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Steve Quaser motioned and Kaye seconded to accept minutes as written. Motion approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jan Ruge motioned and Tresa seconded to accept treasurer's report. Motion passed

ARCHIVES

Still have photobucket site. Amanda can provide login and password. She will send the information to James to put in an email blaster.

AWARENESS AND COUNSELOR'S WORKSHOP

College Goal Sunday was held on Jan 27. It was successful and a lot of families and students were helped. Recommendations were made to help improve some items. 2011 it will be Feb 13. They want a couple more sites so if anyone is interested they can contact Angela Holley at MU. Angela is very receptive to having more financial aid people on the steering committee. Nina sent out a survey asking about financial aid nights that were done. She will be sending that out again, so it is requested that we reply as soon as possible.

AWARDS

Gave out six awards for years of service. There was discussion in the exec meeting about going to 20, 30 and 40 timeframe instead of 20, 25, and 30. We did not have any retirees this time. We get information from awards from what individuals put on there registration information

EMAIL BLASTER/NEWSLETTER

James was not present. We have not had a newsletter, but have had some email blasts. Any time there is information that needs to go out, please get it to Sandra or James and we will make sure it goes out.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES

Brian could not be with us but has been sending out information about changes.

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS TRAINING

Steve Riffon was not present, but he will be soliciting sites for training.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Canaan valley is the site for fall Oct 27-29. Looked at several locations for 2011. Lakeview will likely be site for spring. We will shoot for last two weeks of April to try to accommodate the quarter hour schools. We will be looking at Bridgeport and Cedar Lakes. If anyone has any ideas, let Trish Harmon know. We have steered away from Charleston because of costs.

NASFAA TRAINER

We opted not to go with NASFAA training materials. Damia Dobbs was asked to present two sessions on Verification and Net Price Calculator.

NOMINATIONS

Votes have been tallied. For secretary Alicia Stromski-Frye from WV Northern; President elect will be Trish Harmon from New River CTC

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND CONSTITUTION

No changes until the exec committee Tuesday. Tresa will get that updated as soon as possible.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

There are 141 current members. We have 12 new members but only 11 showed up. Jean Ann sent emails out about members did not return and most said it was an inopportune time to leave the office.

Starting July 1, the State Education department will no longer pay registration for one person from each Technical college. So extra effort may want to be given to those.

WEBPAGE

Power point presentations from this conference are on the website. You must be a paid member to access the presentations. There is lots of information out there about the association, the constitution, and the directory.

Sandra is interested in feedback on how helpful everyone found having the presentations out on the website before the conference.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER ISSUES

It was discussed during the exec about vendors paying \$750 and some paying the \$110 and attending the conference. It was discussed during their sector meeting and there was some consensus that it was a lot of money in today's economy. Sandra asked how long we wait and Carla suggested we wait until August to see what happens. We will try to meet sometime in June and Carla will gather some data for us by then and we will discuss further at that time. Carla tried to recruit an associate member and had no luck.

SPRING 2010 CONFERENCE

Spring conference is completed. We have evaluations, please complete the evaluations and drop in the box at the registration table. We request that the nametag holders be recycled.

FALL CONFERENCE:

Meals have been selected for Canaan and will be working with program committee. Registration is going to be somewhere around \$110-125. They made promises that they would be renovated and that did not happen but we are locked in to go back to Canaan. There was some suggestion that we ask Canaan to work with us on lowering room costs or throw in a free break because they did not follow through with the renovation. Michael White suggests having the fee set before the end of the fiscal year so they can use money left over from this fiscal year to cover the costs. We would have to work with Sharon to create a much more generic form to put on the website. That will be given more discussion to see what we can do

Sector meetings:

Public:

The main concern was the new filing date for the FAFSA with regard to WVHEAG and the reduction of the grant amount because of the extension.

Private:

Similar concerns about the grant program and concerned about students being told that they were going to get more than they are. Just because there is an April 15 deadline doesn't mean that everyone that filed by that deadline will get awarded.

Community and Technical Colleges

Talked about the Chancellor trying to get the schools to switch to trimesters. He is trying to get schools all year around and get them out quicker. That will be a huge adjustment for the schools but he is in very heavy discussion. It's going to alter calendars and affect other schools too where transfers are concerned. They talked about YRP and elimination of ACG.

Proprietary/Technical:

The proprietary/technical sector discussed the ramifications of many people in the sector retiring or leaving. As a result, there are and will be a lot of new people coming in to the jobs in need of lots of basic training. These people are Guidance Counselors or Advisors and have the need for beginning to end basics. Some suggestions were to have some very basic nuts and bolts sessions regarding filing FAFSA's and processing including what documents to collect and put in a file. There was also discussion on the need for sessions on HEAPS & Part time HEAPS, beginning VA sessions and a session with a person from each regional WIA board to update on what is going on in each region, and accreditation and course approvals. There was also a suggestion that there was a desire to have someone in a Cyber Café-type setting to demonstrate VA Once and how to

navigate that system and give new passwords if needed. Finally it was also requested that there be a brief one or two sentence description for those people new to the profession that might not know what the jargon in a title of a session means.

Associate:

As an associate, Carla suggested that maybe we should look at not having vending. It is something to think about going through as we see how things work out

OLD BUSINESS

We put the old laptop in the cyber café and there were a couple of people that used it and thought it was a good suggestion.

NEW BUSINESS

We sent Tresa and Damia to the NASFAA leadership conference in early March. We had not sent anyone in a couple of years. Sandra attended MASFAA last fall and has been attending the board meetings and be more present and representing us in as many events as she could.

ADJOURNMENT

Sharon made motion to adjourn at 9:50am