

Member Services Committee Meeting, June 20, 2019, 9:30am

Discussion on Annual Conference schedule/locations – Bob Sheehan

Bob Sheehan reported that at the last meeting of this committee, group agreed to switch the Winter meeting to the Metro area and the Spring conference to Kalamazoo. He stated that many from the West side of the state have expressed concern with having to drive further away from home in the Wintertime. Bob also reported that holding a conference in the Metro area creates a situation where the Metro delegation is unable to stay overnight, due to travel limitations, and are not attending the Metro area conferences for that reason. Suggestions have been brought forth to hold 2 of the annual conferences in Traverse City, with the 3rd in another area of the state (to be discussed and determined). Group discussed positive and negative implications of certain areas of the state for conferences. The Novi venue is the best option for meeting space and budget but can only offer 90 hotel rooms. Group discussed having Traverse City in the Fall and in the Spring then have the Winter Conference in either Kalamazoo or Novi. Bob stated that he would like to organize a survey in a contrasting manner, so that it would ask “Would you rather” type questions. Group agreed this would work well. He would like the survey to not cite specific venues, rather ask what areas would work best at which time of the year. Group continued to discuss pros and cons of different areas at different times of the year. Group agreed to have Bob send out the survey and then have the Member Services Committee hold a telephone conference in the next few weeks to make decisions for the 2020 conferences. Craig Reiter made a Motion to send out the survey to be created by Bob Sheehan and give authority to the Association to make changes according to survey results of 60% or more in favor. There was no second and discussion continued among the group. Wil Morris suggested that a phone call be held for the Member Services Committee to review results and make changes after that. Group then discussed reviewing results by email, then decide if a phone call is needed.

Group then discussed which “members” would be surveyed. Recommendation was made to send one survey to each agency and have each agency compile and respond accordingly. This would avoid skewed feedback such as 20 responses from one area and only one from another area. Group agreed this would work better than sending to hundreds of individuals, which would make gathering data even harder. Bob will send out the survey and will email results to the group.

Group voted to send out survey, with results emailed to the group and possible phone conference of the Member Services Committee if needed.

Discussion of By-Laws and Nominating Committee Issues (enc) – Jan Plas
Nominations from the Floor and Nominating Committee Election Procedures

Jan stated that the By-Laws does not have any reference to Nominations from the floor. He stated that many at the conference stated they did not want nominations from the floor. Jan stated that the Nominating Election Procedures should not run the By-Laws; rather the By-Laws should dictate the Election Procedures. Craig agreed with Jan. Jan stated that no nominations from the floor should be allowed, except when instances discussed, and this should be listed in the procedures and the By-Laws. Group reviewed the decision made at the August 2018 meeting (from those minutes) in regard to the Member Services decision on whether or not to allow Nominations from the floor. Bob suggested that the procedures be changes to say the Member Services Committee recommends; not the Nominating Committee recommends. Group agreed by consensus. Group discussed reasons for NOT allowing nominations from the floor.

Group voted to change the Election Procedures to be approved by the Member Services Committee, NOT the Nominating Committee, and to reflect NO nominations be allowed from the floor in Item 5, but to keep allowance of nominations from the floor as listed in Item 13 as well as other instances it may be needed, and that the By-Laws Committee evaluate the need to change the By-Laws for any changes from this procedure, and to have the By-Laws Committee add a section on Election of the office of President.

Parking Lot Items

Group would like a review of the survey results from the Spring conference.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am.