



Board Meeting Minutes

October 16th, 2018 6 pm

<i>Minutes Approval: 12/18/18 (Nov. 2018 session cancelled due to inclement weather.)</i>	<i>Yea: Laura Miller, Jared Reynolds, Sandra May, Chelsea Bailey</i>	<i>Nay: none Abstaining: none Missing: Gary Miller</i>
---	--	--

Attendees: Laura Miller, Jared Reynolds, Sandra May, Chelsea Bailey, Jessica Livingston, board members. Additionally attending: Joe Conti

Apologies: Gary Miller

The meeting began at 6:02 pm. Agenda topics and additional items are presented in the order discussed.

The board members introduced themselves to Joe and then voted to approve the **minutes** of the September meeting following a motion to approve by Chelsea and a second by Laura.

Committee Reports:

Website: Robots have discovered the blog, which was set up to require approval of all comments rather than allow auto posting. The resultant spam messages will be deleted. Jared suggested a future blog post on the value of our volunteer’s time and reminded the group we should be tracking members volunteer time, particularly time donated by professionals. Jessica will research online/app solutions to record this. We will also want to record expenses which individuals have shouldered rather than our using MMNH official funds. Joe contributed the thought that where all board members contribute volunteer time, grant requests are often more successful!

Sandra will prepare proposed verbiage for the site welcoming guest bloggers and advised Jared she would like to post a blog about the 1MillionCups initiative soon, either authored by him or with his input.

Treasurer's Report:

Jared reminded us of the potential CRDC 5K grant which could assist us which formal planning initiatives. There is a December deadline. Laura suggested he continue the application process in hopes of securing funding for a strategic space funding plan. The Claremont makerspace was assisted by a particular person who may be able to do similar work for MMNH.

1MillionCups is confirmed for its first session at Grappone Hall at NHTI. Interested parties can sign up via Eventbrite (which will allow us with head count for coffee and pastries). The first presenters will be

Cyborg, a local tech startup, and Franklin Gear, an apparel company to our north. Sandra suggested a bulletin board flyer be developed promoting the monthly meetings with volunteers dispatched to put them in different geographic areas, and Jessica volunteered to take this on. Laura will also send out a newsletter reminding our followers of the launch.

Space: Laura reported on Gary's behalf that he has had some discussion with a local developer who may be willing to donate rental of a small downtown unit for the first makerspace.

Classes: Jessica brought up the topic of classes. She has contacts who can assist with space for future cooking classes. The board decided to push back a course schedule until after the next general meeting in hopes of broadening our pool of potential teachers and getting a better idea of what classes would be popular.

IRS Application: Laura presented the possibility of submitting a 1023 EZ application for non-profit status, which is simultaneously less costly and less complicated than the traditional form. She has received a verbal opinion from a tax professional that this would be appropriate given the group does not expect more than \$50,000.00 in receipts over the first three years. If we receive a larger infusion of donations than anticipated given our current pace of growth, the group would potentially have to go back and complete the standard form. Joe Conti provided his professional opinion that the EZ form would be appropriate for our group given our modest projections.

Both Joe and Jessica had to leave at this point. Joe is interested in working with us further perhaps as a board member, and will review whether he has any legal conflicts of interest that need to be considered.

The board discussed the \$275.00 IRS application fee to be paid from our account and agreed we were fully comfortable with the under 50K earnings projection. Jared moved that we vote to submit the IRS Application and Sandra seconded. The members present for the 7:18 vote – Laura, Jared, Sandra, and Chelsea – all voted yes, and Laura indicated that Gary voted yes in a phone conversation with her earlier that day.

MakeltLabs meeting: Laura brought up a trip to the Nashua makerspace she and Sandra had made the evening before. The Makelt Labs group is happy to help with messaging on what a makerspace can bring to a community and advised that while providing a space for creative ideas to be exchanged and for people to learn new skills, the space provided a large social advantage to Nashua with people coming just to hang out and play board games. Also, the organization grew with relatively little corporate sponsorship or grant money but rather with crowdfunding and steady donations of tools.

The **10/23 general meeting** was discussed. Notices have been sent to several publications. In an effort to get new potential volunteers engaged ASAP, an **Outreach committee meeting** will be scheduled pending Jessica's availability. Examples of different work that can be delegated include social media engagement, guest blogging or even vlogging, talking to employers about matching donations and disseminating notices on various bulletin boards.

Having covered all topics on the agenda with some additions, the group agreed to conclude at 7:59 by general consensus.