



MINUTES
SouthEast Regional Directors Institute
Council of Peers
Fall Planning Meeting
November 3, 2017
Millennium Maxwell House Hotel – Nashville, Tenn

Council of Peers Attendees:

Suzanne Burnette (Ala.) President
Rodney Larsen (Ark.) Treasurer
Pat Steed (Fla.)
Lloyd Frasier (Ga.)
Amy Kennedy (Ky.)
Leanne Mazer (Md.)
Greg Godard (N.C.)
John Bucy (Tenn.)
Martha Shickle (Va.)
Colt Sandoro (W.Va.)

Anthony Starr (N.C.) Vice-President
Dwayne Pratt (Ark.)
Scott Koons (Fla.)
Mike Miller (Ky.)
Jason Vincent (Ky.)
Steve Russell (Miss.)
Cathy Davison (N.C.)
Terry Bobrowski (Tenn.)
Wayne Strickland (Va.)

Others Present:

Jim Youngquist (Staff)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Suzanne Burnette, President

SERDI Council of Peers President Suzanne Burnette called the 2017 Fall Planning Meeting to order, thanking those in attendance for coming to Nashville and, asked each member to introduced himself or herself. She gave special welcome to recently appointed council members, Terry Bobrowski of Tennessee and Colt Sandoro of West Virginia who were attending their first meeting on the Council.

II. Financial Report

Rodney Larsen, Treasurer

SERDI Council of Peers Treasurer Rodney Larsen presented the Financial Report update. He noted that the financial condition of the Council is sound with a current balance of \$73,923.77. This was a great improvement over the \$3,074.00 balance that the Council started off with in 2016 after paying off debt to the National Association of Development Organizations. Treasurer Larsen attributed the financial stability to the increase in dues to \$800 per year and an increase and portion of SERDI Voluntary Council Assessments and Executive Searches as bringing a solid position to the Council. Treasurer Larsen said that thanks to Scott Koons' efforts, SERDI was now incorporated in the State of Florida and that a Federal Tax ID had been obtained. As a result, a new SERDI bank account could be established. Previously, dues and payments for SERDI had gone through the Association of Arkansas Development Organizations account.

A motion was made by Greg Godard and seconded by Amy Kennedy to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

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III. 2018 Membership Packet

Anthony Starr, Vice-President

SERDI Council of Peers Vice President Anthony Starr brought the Council's attention to the 2018 Membership Invitation Packet in their meeting materials. Vice President Starr noted that the packet is similar to those in the last few years with the exception of the added SERDI Futures Summit, which is proposed to take place in February in Atlanta. Next Spring's 2018 Annual Professional Development Conference and New Directors Training will be held at Kingsport, Tenn. May 19-21. Vice President Starr encouraged the Council members to really encourage their respective states' directors to join their professional development association in 2018 and to set 100 members as a goal for SERDI this coming year.

A motion was made by Cathy Davison and seconded by Wayne Strickland to approve the packet for distribution. Motion carried. SERDI Lead Staff, Jim Youngquist told the Council that the packets would be mailed via USPS to the 144 council offices or their P.O. Boxes so that they will receive their packets during the week of November 10th.

IV. Contracts

Suzanne Burnette, President

President Burnette asked the Council to review their contracts before them. She took each contract at a time as follows:

Website Management. She noted that the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission (Va.) has built and maintained the SERDI website, www.serdi.org for the last several years. She applauded the site and work of RVARC. The contract is for \$1500. A motion was made by Pat Steed and seconded by Amy Kennedy to approve the contract for FY 2018. Motion carried.

Financial and Administrative Management. The Financial and Administrative Management contract has been carried out by the Association of Arkansas Development Organizations through the staffing of Treasurer Rodney Larsen. The contract is for \$5,000. A motion was made by Dwayne Pratt and seconded by Cathy Davison to approve the contract for FY 2018. Motion carried.

Meeting Logistics, Contracts, and Management. President Burnette recommended that contract for these services continue to be with Vicki Glass. The contract had been previously for \$8,000. However, the contract has been for the annual professional development conference. Ms. Glass has expanded the focus of her work and support of SERDI through future contract negotiations and contracts for conference sites through 2024, new directors, and this coming year, for the SERDI Futures Summit. President Burnette recommended that the contract be increased to \$10,000. A motion was made by Mike Miller and seconded by Leanne Mazer to approve the contract at \$10,000 for FY 2018. Motion carried.

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Staffing and Technical Assistance to Membership and Council of Peers. President Burnette noted Jim Youngquist's dedication, service, and staffing of SERDI throughout the years. She stated that the current contract has been \$19,000 per year for the last ten years. She suggested that Council consider increasing the contract amount and asked Mr. Youngquist to leave the meeting. A general discussion followed. A motion was made by President Burnette and seconded by Vice President Starr to approve the contract at \$25,000 to Mr. Youngquist for FY 2018. Motion carried.

V. SERDI Futures Summit

Martha Shickle, Council Member

Martha Shickle brought the handout in their packet regarding the SERDI Futures Summit to their attention. Ms. Shickle noted that the conversation to have such a Summit started in a discussion at the Council of Peers Annual Meeting in Daniels, W.Va. last May. The concept is to bring together particularly those executive directors across the 12-state SERDI region who project out to have at least 10 years of service remaining in their careers to understand the future region, how regional councils will adjust to be relevant, and how SERDI needs to adjust to that future to ensure relevancy and assuring that it be the very best professional development association it can be for the 144 regional council executive directors in the region. Ms. Shickle stated that she had been working with Chris Rietow (Fla.) and Jim Youngquist on the initial concepts along with futurist John Martin of SRI in Richmond, Va.

Ms. Shickle recommended that a stipend be offered of \$300 to participants of the February 5-6, 2018 Summit. The Summit will be held at the Concourse Renaissance Atlanta Airport Hotel on the runway of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta. A lengthy discussion followed. Jim Youngquist has been working with Vicki Glass on lodging, food-drink, and meeting logistics with the hotel. He will get Vicki Glass to get a guestimate on on-site costs; and, will get those back to the Council of Peers so that a decision can be made on a stipend amount for those participants who will need one.

The Council wholeheartedly supported the Summit concept. It was suggested that perhaps the Appalachian Regional Commission, Economic Development Administration, and the Delta Regional Authority might be interested in sponsoring the Summit.

Ms. Shickle told the Council she would move forward working with Jim and Vicki on getting cost estimates, etc. so that the Council can make decisions moving forward.

VI. Building the Agenda for 2018 Professional Development Conference

Jim Youngquist facilitated a discussion identifying potential topics for the 2018 conference May 19-21 at Kingsport, Tennessee. A draft agenda based on the topics will be sent to the Council for review. It was decided that the agenda should included speakers, panelists, small group and report out sessions, and, specific subject breakout sessions.

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VII. Building the Agenda for the 2018 New Directors Training

It was determined that regardless of the number of new directors in each year, that the turnover in the industry warrant an annual New Directors Training. The Council identified a number of topics that they felt need to be in the program.

Traditionally, the training has been held the Saturday morning prior to the start of the annual professional development conference. It was suggested that Jim Youngquist look into possibly beginning the New Directors Training on Friday evening with an opening session followed by a reception and dinner, with a full morning session on Saturday.

VIII. Other Items

Application for Federal 501(c) (6) Status for SERDI. Following up on the early recognition that SERDI was an incorporated entity in the State of Florida and now held a Federal Tax ID number that perhaps an application should be filed to become a 501 (c) (6) so that SERDI could accept grant and other monies. A general discussion followed. Scott Koons had recently gone through the process of filing for a 501 (c) (6) in his region and volunteered to work with Jim Youngquist to put paperwork together to file. A general discussion followed. A motion was made by Steve Russell and seconded by Scott Koons to move forward on applying for such status. The motion carried with Pat Steed voting no.

Veterans Administration Care Program. Jason Vincent shared with the Council the Pennyrile Area Development District's effort in establishing a partnership between The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to develop Veterans Directed Home and Community Based Services (VDHCBs) programs to enhance home-based supports for veterans. Mike Miller and the Kentucky River Area Development are nearing completion of their implementation of such a program. The Council has asked Mr. Vincent to send information on the program to Jim Youngquist so that he can distribute to the Council of Peers members.

Certification for Executive Directors. Terry Bobrowski asked if their had ever been consideration of trying to develop a certification program for regional council executive directors. There had been discussion going back to 1994 and on several other discussions regarding certification. Scott Koons said that he felt that the landscape of the industry had changed and that the new generation of the directors and potential directors are more interested in the development of certification. Mr. Koons said that he expected NADO to consider it next year. Jim Youngquist suggested that perhaps SERDI could be a partner in this effort with various SERDI programs being part of a national certification effort.

IX. Adjournment

There being no other business, President Burnette adjourned the 2017 SERDI Council of Peers Fall Planning meeting.

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