**MINUTES**

**SouthEast Regional Directors Institute Council of Peers**

**Annual Meeting**

**May 18, 2022**

**Annapolis, Maryland**

Attendees

Lori Corley (Ala) Pat Steed (Fla.) Chris Rietow (Fla.)

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury (Fla.) Heather Feldman (Ga.) Scott Warner (Md.)

Leanne Mazer (Md.) Danna Stansbury (N.C.) David Richardson (N.C.)

Robert Hiett (N.C.) Ron Mitchum (S.C.) Sarah Smith (S.C.)

Melinda Goode (Tenn.) Rick Yakubic (Tenn.) Martha Heeter (Va.)

Kevin Byrd (Va.) Carol Jackson (W.Va.)

Others in Attendance

Vicki Glass (SERDI Staff) Jim Youngquist (SERDI Staff)

1. Welcome and Call to Order Martha Heeter, President

SERDI Council of Peers President Martha Heeter welcomed members of the Council of Peers in attendance. Introductions of those in attendance were made. President Heeter welcomed Heather Feldman as the newest Council member.

1. Financial Report Carol Jackson, Treasurer

SERDI Treasurer Carol Jackson presented the financial report for the year. The finances of SERDI are strong and stable. *The Report is attached.*

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Ron Mitchum (S.C.) and seconded by Kevin Byrd (Va.) to approve Treasurer Jackson’s Financial Report. Motion carried without objection.

1. 2022 Membership Report Martha Heeter

In the absence of Vice President Randy Imler due to COVID protocol President Heeter presented the 2022 Membership Report. SERDI has 89 members in 2022. This represents two less members than 2021. A motion was made by Lori Corley (Ala.) and seconded by Danna Stansbury to accept the 2022 Membership report. Motion carried without objection.

1. Recommendations from Future Programming Work Session Martha Heeter

Since many of the participants in the work session were attendees at the annual meeting, President Heeter did not spend a lot of time on the subject other to note that she, and Vice President Imler would be working with volunteer committee members to address meeting logistics for future annual professional development conferences, new executive directors trainings, annual deputy directors & high performing staff conferences, and, a marketing strategy plan for SERDI.

1. Future Scheduling of the Annual Professional Development Martha Heeter

Conference…Month/Days of the Week

This year’s conference in Annapolis was the first annual professional development conference that followed a Wednesday, Thursday Friday schedule. For 23 years from 1996 to 2019 the membership wanted the conference to be held on a Saturday, Sunday, Monday schedule. Conferences in 2020 and 2021 were held virtually. At the conclusion of the 2019 conference in Wilmington, a survey was conducted of the SERDI-state executive directors on their thoughts of a meeting structure. Many of the new executive directors voiced a desire to have the conference during the week.

The Annapolis participation did not reflect an increase in newer executive director participation. Those in attendance stated that many factors could have contributed to overall attendance in Annapolis. With this in mind, a survey was sent out to all 2022 members with a 48-hour return deadline canvassing desired meeting days. Nearly half of the members responded. The majority of executive directors that had a preference suggested that Sunday, Monday, Tuesday would work best. Additionally, there was nearly 100% concurrence that conference needed to be held in April instead of May. With this in mind, it is projected that that the 2023 annual professional development conference and new executive directors training will be held in Georgia in April with a preference of with arrival and networking on Sunday April 16 and conference and new executives sessions being held Monday April 17th, Tuesday April 18th and perhaps extending to end mid-day Wednesday April 18th. The specifics will be determined by the agendas developed at the Council of Peers Fall Planning Meeting.

1. 2023 Annual Professional Development Conference Heather Feldman

Ga. Council Member

Heather Feldman (Ga.) expressed to the Council that Georgia’s Regional

Commission executive directors look forward to hosting the 2023 on the Georgia

coast either at Savannah or St. Simmons Island. Heather will be working with Vicki

Glass, SERDI’s meeting logistics consultant, to work to get the best meeting location

for 2023.

1. Technical Assistance Update Jim Youngquist, SERDI Lead Staff

Jim Youngquist provided the Council with an update on the multiple projects that have been completed or are underway this year:

* Assessment for Western Piedmont COG, Hickory, N.C., staffed by Wendell Lawrence and Jim Youngquist
* Assessment for Crater PDC, Petersburg, Va., staffed by Chris Bickley and Wendell Lawrence
* Assessment for River Valley RC, Columbus, Ga., staffed by Tim Ware and Jim Youngquist
* The Future Direction and Existence Assessment of the Eastern Carolina Council, New Bern, N.C. staffed by Jim Youngquist with Tim Ware
* Assessment for East Tennessee DD, Alcoa, Tenn., staffed by Wendell Lawrence and Chris Bickley
* Virtual Assessment for First Tennessee DD, Johnson City, Tenn., staffed by Jim Youngquist
* Executive Director Search for the Buckeye Hills RC, Marietta, Oh., staffed by Jim Youngquist

1. Other Items and Adjournment Martha Heeter

There being no other business to come before the Council, President Heeter adjourned the Annual Meeting of the SERDI Council of Peers.