

AEC Conference Call

April 27, 2014

Attendees:

Karen Krsak	Desiree Friedman	Richard Messenger	Monique White
Marlene Atwood	Mike Hinz	Herb Nichols	Ruth White
Willie Banks	Randy Hopkins	Patty Petesch	
Linda Bommicino	Maria Johnson	Pat Pretty	Guests:
Katherine Branch	Ed Koch	Alan Roth	Max Siegel
Jackie Callender	Don Lawrence	Dave Shrock	Renee Washington
Val Foss	Jim McKee	Steve Vaitones	

Conference call began at 8:00 pm ET.

Websites – Karen has received several emails regarding the new IT vendor as opposed to a National staff person for websites. Renee stated that nothing really changes, as we still have the National Office staff person – either Desiree or someone from her staff will remain the point of contact. We have had this IT vendor for over a year.

AEC Job Descriptions – The officer job descriptions are posted on the Associations home page. If anyone is interested in running for office, they will be able to see the responsibilities that go along with the position. Ruth suggested that this should be available and posted for all National Committees. Renee said she will discuss with Stephanie.

Accreditation Update – The end of March was the due date for adjustments and the final edition has been sent back out. Plans for Improvement were requested, where needed. The subcommittee will review the Plans at the Workshop. No Association ratings have been changed at this point. Since we have changed the timeframe, we need to have a session on the accreditation process at the Workshop.

Association Workshop – Jim stated we will basically repeat the same type of schedule as last year since it worked so well. We need to ensure that we have enough power supply for all attendees, since we are trying to go greener. Dave said he would ensure that this is handled. Desiree has a draft schedule ready for Karen and Jim to review. Dave will provide photo copying locally, so we will not have to ship out from the National office. Karen asked us to consider if we want to continue bidding out the Workshop; or do we want to keep it in Indianapolis; or do we want to do it in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Renee pointed out that we should consider the revamped Annual Meeting schedule that should allow us to hold our Workshop at that time, along with the other workshops that are also held at the Annual Meeting. We will have a presentation on this at the Workshop. Karen suggested we do a test run in 2015 because it will be the 30 year anniversary of the Associations Committee, which was formed in Houston, at the same hotel we will be at. It was recommended that we send out a Survey Monkey to get a feel for how the majority would vote.

Region Meets – all 7 are now set up on the calendar. However, Marlene reported that some websites are not even mentioning the Regional Championships. We need to get more granular at the Regional level and send out information to the chairs of other committees.

Exact Target – is the new company replacing Delivera. Our goal is to get this transitioned in May. Delivera will not be sunset until we are totally transferred over and all Associations are good to go. Delivera notified us that there is a problem with some email systems, like Yahoo, AOL and Gmail. Desiree believes 8 Associations are affected.

Bylaw Template – is complete and ready to be posted. Norm and Scott have approved it, and Desiree will post it right away.

Legacy Emails – the National Office is answering questions as they arise. They have elected not to send out directions on how to link with existing email accounts, since there are too many and it might overwhelm people. Desiree assured us that unique addresses can be made for each Association, you only need to notify her of your needs. Associations will be able to send in names of people to assign email addresses to.

Grant Letters – Renee will be sending out the letters, hopefully on Wednesday. 6 Associations were turned down but will be considered next year. 5 will get letters notifying them of reports or other information that they need to turn in. Karen was shocked after seeing the report on Associations that did not complete the post grant requirements.

Rumor Mill – a rumor is circulating that the National Office will be taking over the verification of birth certificates. This is absolutely NOT true. A communication will be sent out to ensure that people know this. However, they will continue to verify any birth certificates that are sent directly to them, as they always have.

Max Siegel – Max wanted to assure us that the National Office is here to provide the resources we need. Over the next 3 years, we will be in a position to double our operating revenue. Max will sit down to engage in real conversation to determine our needs. Max thanked us all for living through all the changes that have been made, and is happy to report that we have gone from 1 million in the bank, to 6 million right now, and 20 million by the end of the year. Max is excited to discuss what they can do to help us achieve our goals. Ruth asked that he include the 57 Associations and Max agreed to do so. Willie told us this kind of money will make us much more professional and help us to move forward. Over the course of the next month, we will announce four new partnerships – a shoe company, an educational company, Hershey and possibly an airline.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm. The next call will on Sunday, May 18, 2014.

Submitted by
Linda Bommicino, Secretary