Call Meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Ken Kocer

Members Present: Ken Kocer, Micah Hansen, Cheryl Bullinger, Monica Gannon, Melinda Fedeler, Carmen Neugebauer, Julie Hamer, Kim Nida, Laura Schultz

Members Absent: Caleen Jandel

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda: Micah made the motion to accept the agenda as written, Cheryl seconded the motion, all approved, the motion passed.

Approval of February 19, 2015 Executive Council Meeting Minutes: 1 change—title needs to say minutes not agenda. Carmen made the motion to accept the minutes with the one change, Micah seconded the motion, all approved, the motion passed.

Officer Reports – Consent Agenda

President—Ken Kocer
High School Counselor Workshop Committee
We will hold our first committee meeting of the year after the final day of the SDASFAA Conference at Deadwood. The meeting time is set for 7:45 am.

Spring 2016 Conference Committee
Our first meeting of the year is set for Monday evening (March 23) at 6:00 pm after the first day of the SDASFAA Conference. April 4-6, 2016 event in Rapid City.

RMASFAA Board Meeting—February 27, 2015
Justin Draeger, NASFAA provided information on joint projects which RMASFAA and NASFAA can be involved in. He first had us review the missions of NASFAA and RMASFAA to see similarities. Unless we are on the same page our efforts are scattered. Our efforts need to tie directly to our missions. Our challenges:

1. Time Pressure
2. Value Expectations
3. Return on Investment
4. Member Market Structure
5. Generational Differences
6. Competition
7. Technology

States handle State issues, NASFAA and RMASFAA do not get involved with state issues.

What are RMASFAA’s strengths?
Summer Institute
Leadership Pipeline
Networking
Location, conference comes to each state every eight years

SDASFAA is committed to the belief that no one should be denied access to post-secondary education because of a lack of family resources or knowledge of the financial aid delivery system or application process. SDASFAA’s goal is to assist those seeking assistance through all Title IV regulations.
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What can we partner in?  
For example, NASFAA can encourage members to attend SI to earn NASFAA Credentials. Maybe RMASFAA could be the region to offer SI, but need look at costs also.

Build on strengths.  
Allocate and assess resources appropriately. Put resources into your strengths. Example at NASFAA, every year convened 12 committees and kept on going. Did away with committee structure and went to task forces. Only have 4 month commitment with task force instead of 12 month commitment with committees. This has created more volunteers as did not have as much time commitment. Look at the mission and strengths and build on that with task forces.

Integrate products and services.  
Can we pay for one membership for the National, Regional and State memberships with one invoice? Just an idea to contemplate. Way to utilize partnerships.

**NASFAA Structure**  
Members  
Board of Directors (every two years the body changes over completely)  
Board contracts with CEO (Justin)  
Board creates Strategic Long Range plan for CEO to carry out

Utilize NASFAA’s strengths  
Example, why doesn’t NAFSAA set up the conferences for regions and have regions concentrate on their strengths like the program of the conference.

Only two regions that NASFAA can partner with on memberships – SWASFAA and RMASFAA due to these regions having institutional memberships while the others have individual memberships so would not match with NASFAA which also has institutional organizations.

Justin stated some members may look at NASFAA trying to take over the regions, which Justin said just is not the case, just trying to form stronger partnerships and concentrate on strengths. Justin said willing to look at this with RMASFAA and developing a model which can be looked at by the other regions.

**Consent Agenda**  
**Presidents Report**  
- Ideas for Financial Aid Professionals Day – Explore ideas/activities for this day, not making it a self-serving day, but reflect on ways to spread awareness of financial aid issues. Fight the battle not for us but for our students.  
- RMASFAA listening session, more than an update, more participatory by state members. Options for people to react to.  
- Poll everywhere, Art is proposing to use $200 savings from travel budget to use Poll Everywhere, which would draw out more feedback at the RMASFAA listening session. Has participants just click for responses.

**President Elect Report**  
- Attended WASFAA for Interregional visit, gave brief summary  
- Call for nominations for 2015-16 Officer Elections, close April 1

**Past President**  
- Examine roles and function of officers, BOD, committees

**Vice President Report**  
- Streamline process for archiving photos and documents
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Associate Member Delegate Report
- Non-Conference Sponsors Presenting Sessions. Concern for non RMASFAA Associate Members getting time at conferences by presenting without them paying the $1,500 Exhibit Fee for the RMASFAA conference.

Secretary Report
- Create template for reporting so consistency with minutes from one secretary to the next

Treasurer’s Report
- Balance sheet, last July is when RMASFAA put $250,000 with Wells Fargo from UBS. $150,000 moved to Charles Schwab in May. $400,000 invested, at the end of the year we were $10,000 less, has rebounded a little with both Charles Schwab and Wells Fargo. Now making recording of the value of the investments every month as opposed to just the end of the year. Wells Fargo and Charles Schwab seemed to be much more attentive to us opposed to UBS. $5,600 to $5,900 will be charged for the yearly audit. Once we made transition from Desk Top to on-line search, we were being overcharged for a separate entity we never had. We did get some refund back for the overcharge.

Association News
- Cross-Committee Partnership, lot of cross committee work going on for monthly posts.
- Putting a communication plan and timeline in place

Conference 2014
- Call for proposals for anyone wanting to do a presentation at the conference, by May 1 committee will determine which presentations will be accepted.
- Will be asking directors to have staff submit proposals
- May want to extend deadline date to register for the conference closer to the conference date
- Put agenda out on website early so people will register earlier
- No food breaks, no coffee, cheapest meals to keep within budget, may look at corporate sponsorship again to assist with providing more food/break options, but P&P would need to be changed. May ask for variance from board. One comment can’t compare food prices in Colorado to those for example in South Dakota.

Corporate Support
- Proposal to change sponsorship structure, would not come to effect until 2016
- Would include 7 value added items for associate members to keep current members interested and to add new members

Diversity and Multicultural Initiatives
- DMCI budget would have enough to offer 6 scholarships for 2015, may need to look over $3,500 budget to determine how many
- Committee members will reach out to state conferences if they need any ideas on diversity for topics

Electronic Initiatives
- New online reimbursement forms to be put live on website
- Would need two forms if part needs to go to individual and part to school
- Beef up leadership pipeline
- Paypal link on the RMASFAA Website Homepage

Finance and Audit
- How much money should we really have in reserve, as non-profit we can have as much as we want without jeopardizing our non-profit status, much discussion on this, may name a task force to investigate further.
- What should our treasurer role be
- Becky working on committee handbook

Will finish rest of the day’s agenda tomorrow, as will need to go into executive session
Tuesday Feb 28
Rearranged agenda due to some leaving early

Old Business
Had on agenda approve Business Meeting Minutes, which was a mistake, these are approved at the RMASFAA Business Meeting this fall

New Business
Action Item: Budget Variance for Vice President
For additional expenses to archive information on website, passed

Action Item: NEC Committee Revision
Aligns RMASFAA’s Policy and Procedure with NASFAA’s Policy and Procedures. NASFAA no longer has a standing committee for Committee Membership so there would no longer had RMASFAA’s member NASFAA Nominations and Elections on the committee. Passed

Action Item: Association Credit Cards
More transparency for treasurer, formalizing procedure. Can’t approve something when already on the credit card. When receipts are sent to treasurer the receipts are also sent to President/Past President for review since can’t disapprove. Passed

Action Item: Committee Recognition
Change in policy for award recognition, keep committee of the year award, but yet recognize other committee work. Each committee chair to do a Blog post on committee members and accomplishments. Add statement on page 16 to add this responsibility for committee chairs. Passed

Action Item: Finance & Audit
Clarify practice as what is in P&P. Vice Chair of Finance and Audit has not been part of the Winter Board Meeting, so striking the verbiage on page 22 that Vice Chair of Finance and Audit be present at all RMASFAA Meetings. Passed

Action Item: Approval of Annual Audit, Tax Filing
Chair of Finance and Audit and Treasurer recommended that there be a full audit this year instead of the review. With all changes would be a good idea. Passed

Next moved for a budget variance for the extra cost for the audit for up to $1,000. Passed

Action Item: Membership Dues Deadline
Change P&P, clarify that membership deadline is March 15, no earlier deadline of February 1. Aligns with the practice we are actually doing. Passed

Action Item: Request to add Professional Connect LLC as an associate member was passed yesterday.

Action Item: Added by Art, requested to add Ad Hoc committee chaired by Joe Donaly to look into possible partnerships with NASFAA. Passed

Leadership Pipeline
Should we run concurrent sessions so there is always a cohort going through. Maybe have 2 co-chairs, one for planning and one for implementation. Haven’t had many applicants for the pipeline. Is there enough interest for concurrent sessions or would there be more interest if the pipeline was continuous.

Membership
10 ahead total ahead of where last year.
Push for members who have allowed their memberships to lapse, not for non-financial aid members
Possibly work with ATAC in archives for membership data
Working with ATAC to possibly require membership payment prior to event registration
Membership Fee Structure- take a hard look at what we are doing and why we are doing it. Possibly adjusting fees based on enrollment

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Summer Institute
Faculty group put together. Registration live this week. Theme: Financial Aid’s Totally Tubular MixTape
Summer Institute starts Monday and goes through Friday noon. Going with flash drives instead of CD’s to students. Prepared for 180 enrollment this year.

Training
Training Topic, Communicating with 21st Century Students, will be at all state conferences except CAFAA, which is in conjunction with the RMASFAA Conference.
New thing this year, training tips of the month, has links to resources.

CAFAA
Jerry was not at the board meeting, Natalie gave report
Implementing a new tier based membership model
Revamping Logo, having contest
Strategic ways to spend reserve funds - $4,000 to $5,000
Value of a board retreat for spending reserve funds, currently tabled
Looking at a treasurer elect position

KASFAA
Governor signing proclamation with Financial aid awareness month
Ben had a great experience with the advocacy pipeline in Washington DC
2017 Co chairs for RMASFAA 2017 in Kansas Tony Lubbers and Myra Pfannenstiel
Eliminated College Goal Sunday and replaced with an FAFSA Task force to find ways to assist ways to assist families
Ben will be leaving for another career venture, Brenda Hicks will be replacing as President for remainder

MASFAA
Combined State Conference with Aspire, TRIO, Indian Education,
Second year involved in National Training for Counselors and Mentors, Department of Education project supported by NASFAA
Reaching out to Tribal Colleges for greater membership in MASFAA
Doing membership survey to challenge board to see what more association can do

NeASFAA
Speed Dating at their Support Staff Workshop, able to ask questions in areas the staff has usually never had contact with.
Combining Communications/Membership Committees
Combined Professional Development/Awards Committees
Nebraska Legislative Task Force to advocates for state grant program

NDASFAA
Exiting College Goal Sunday

SDASFAA
Discussed our expanded Fall Decentralized Training Model
Updated board on progress for RMASFAA 2016 Conference in Rapid City
Report on Counselor Training Event

UASFAA
Needed to Leave early
Efforts for member involvement

WYASFAA
Small but Strong, they don’t do a lot of bureaucracy and just cut to the chase
Did not do Support Staff training this year
Have a FAFSA Frenzy Event in Wyoming with a similar concept to College Goal Sunday
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Final two items
What type of services and support can RMASFAA provide to the state level
Assist Joe Delay (President in 2016) in not scheduling conferences at the same time. So far only South Dakota and Kansas have their state conferences scheduled for 2016.

President Elect-Micah Hansen
The Decentralized Committee is one of my main responsibilities. I am working on a contract from AmericInn, Chamberlain, for our board meeting and decentralized training, November 16 & 17, 2015. I hope to have the contract to sign at the upcoming board meeting. Will be working with my committee for them to start brainstorming on other topics other than the one NASFAA will present to us as the decentralized topic—if anyone on the board has ideas, please pass them along. We do not know NASFAA topic at this time.

I have assisted both the president and past-president with tasks for this year, and will continue to assist in any way I can throughout the year.

Past-President-Cheryl Bullinger-The duties of the past president are as follows:

a. Remain on the Executive Council for one-year to assist in carrying out continuing council matters.
b. Perform such other duties from time to time that may be assigned by the President or the Executive Council.
c. Serve as the Chairperson of the Recognition Committee.
d. Serve as Chair of the Spring Conference Committee.
e. Review constitution and policy and procedure manual, and make recommendations when necessary to the Executive Council prior to the fall Executive Board meeting. Certify that any by-law changes are in accordance with state and or federal regulations governing the Associations corporate status.
   1. I have not reviewed constitution or policy and procedure.
f. Conduct a cursory review of the Treasurer’s books and report findings to the Executive Council at the winter board meeting.

As past president I have worked on the following
1. Spring 2015 conference we had 44 in attendance. I especially want to give thanks to the Spring 2015 conference committee outstanding group of dedicated individuals. Without their help this conference would not have been possible.
2. Chair of the Recognition Committee: Contacted the SDASFAA Members and worked with receiving nominations for the Outstanding Service and Douglas Steckler award. Years of service reviewed and updated for service to financial aid profession.
3. My goal is to begin reviewing the policies and procedures and provide recommendation to the board at the July board meeting on any updates that may need to be made.

Secretary-Monica Gannon
Draft meeting minutes from the 2/19/15 Board Meeting were sent to the board to be reviewed on 3/19/15. I have also sent these draft meeting minutes and the finalized 11/17/14 Board Meeting minutes to be posted to the website.

Officer Reports
Treasurer: Caleen Jandel-2015 Balance Sheet and 2015 Asset Statement attached to the end of the minutes. Caleen sent notes to Ken who delivered the report. Discover paid their 2015 institutional member dues in 2014, miscellaneous expenses were up because of memorials and Ken’s trip to the Senate.

Caleen’s notes for the report:
2014 Balance Sheet
Income
• Discover paid their 2015 dues in December 2014, so only $2,475 of the membership dues are for 2014
• People were still paying for the 2013 HSCW in 2014, so only $3,350 of the HSCW income was for 2014….more of 2014 income came in 2015

Expenses
• Miscellaneous expenses were up from 2013-two memorials and a portion of Ken’s trip to the Senate Banking Committee hearing
2014 Asset Statement
- No additions or subtractions were made to the savings account
- The Wells Fargo CD was closed out in May 2014 and a 59 month CD was purchased with the money at US Bank

2015 Balance Sheet
Income
- Still missing 2015 membership dues—some of these being associate members who could also generate sponsorship money
- As of 3/20/15 several people need to pay spring conference fees
- High School Counselor’s Workshop income is all from 2014. Everyone has paid!

Expenses
- HSCW expenses are all from 2014. The last and final invoice was received on 3/20/15 (to be paid yet).
- Micah needs to submit receipts for food, cab, etc; hotel, airfare, and registration have been paid.

2015 Asset Statement
- No changes from the 2014 Asset Statement

2014 HSCW Summary
- The last and final invoice for Mitchell’s catering was received on 3/20/15 (to be paid yet). Cost per Attendee figure will be updated once this is paid.

Historical Record
- Support Staff Workshop was not held.
- Miscellaneous Income from 2013 was for a refund for a RMASFAA conference registration fee; nothing similar for 2014

Micah made the motion to accept the Balance Sheet and Asset Statement as presented, Julie seconded the motion, all approved, the motion passed.

Old Business
2015 SDASFAA Conference: Cheryl Bullinger/Board Discussion
As program chair for the SDASFAA 2015 Spring conference, the Spring 2015 Conference Committee has been busy taking care of all of the details for a wonderful conference. We have a great agenda and some fun events included in our program. We have 44 registered including 2 non-paying speakers for the conference. Weather conditions are very favorable so all should be able to attend. We are looking forward to a successful conference at The Lodge in Deadwood, South Dakota. Last year we had 62 attendees and may have a negative income from this conference.

2016 SDASFAA Spring Conference: Ken Kocer-See President’s report.
Because RMASFAA is at Rapid City, we are also doing the 2016 SDASFAA Spring conference in Rapid City. Which is why we are doing the Spring conference in Rapid City 2 years in a row. We normally switch between East and West river every year. It is on the RMASFAA calendar. It is important for us to have it on the calendar early for planning purposes especially for the Department of Ed. First committee meeting is tonight at 6:30 p.m.

New Business
Support Staff Workshop Review: Board Discussion
Carmen advised that Erin created the Support Staff Workshop survey, she did a great job. Results were in the middle, no big response to no longer have it or that we should have it. Personally I am seeing that we have budget cuts and travel is suspended and I see that others budgets are just as tight. When looking at the survey, if there is not a firm commitment to the workshop then it won’t be a priority with the budget. The committee also had very mixed responses.

Discussion ensued regarding the definition of Support staff and why the numbers were down. With lower numbers, the participants don’t enjoy it as much. We need to get more people involved w/SDASFAA itself, not separate support staff. Are the support staff the direct student service people? If the supervisors normally only send Directors and Assistant...
Directors, can they afford to send others to SDASFAA also? Maybe if we do not have Support Staff workshops anymore then people will plan their budgets to send people to Decentralized and Spring conference.

Do we as a board, maybe offer 6 free registrations for a drawing to Decentralized or Spring conference? The problem again is who to offer the drawing to, who is support staff.

Kim motioned to discontinue the Support Staff Workshop, Cheryl seconded the motion. Discussion ensued that support staff is so wide a definition and perhaps those days are gone. We also don’t necessarily want our personnel to think they are not a part of the team. Kim amended the motion to discontinue the Support Staff Workshop but encourage the board to find other avenues to include them in the Decentralized training and Spring conferences. It is a great way to get them involved and feel a part of the team. A lot of it depends on the school’s Administration and with state school’s the legislature. Melinda seconded the amended motion. All approved, the motion passed. Next meeting in July we really need to think about ways to include the Support Staff in Decentralized training and Spring conference. Maybe we do a poll of the Directors and find out what they need for training opportunities for the Financial Aid staff not just support staff.

The following is the report of the Support Staff Workshop survey:
The SSW Committee designed an 8-question online survey to gauge interest in the continuation of this event.

An invitation to complete the survey was emailed to the SDASFAA listserv on 12/11/14. A reminder was emailed on 12/29/14, requesting that anyone who had not already done so complete the survey by 1/9/15.

The survey collected 31 responses. Some responders chose to skip certain questions, which are reflected in the survey results (attached).

The top reasons indicated for support staff not attending SSW were lack of interest in sessions being offered and inconvenient location/travel constraints.

Responses as to whether or not support staff would be more likely to attend other SDASFAA events (such as Decentralized Training or Spring Conferences) if SSW was to be discontinued were pretty evenly split: 14 said yes, 16 said no.

When asked if they felt SSW should be continued, only 5 responders, or 19.23%, indicated that it should be held every year. 11 responders, or 42.31%, felt it should be held every other year, while 10 responders, or 38.46%, felt SSW should be discontinued. 5 responders skipped answering this question.

After reviewing the survey results, the SSW Committee discussed the challenge of coming up with topics for the workshop that are applicable to everyone, since several responders commented on a lack of interest in the topics and/or the topics don’t apply to them. We understand that a similar challenge is faced by other committees in determining agenda topics for Decentralized Training and the Spring Conference.

A couple of recommendations from the SSW Committee:

1. Perhaps we could ask if there should be a focus on sessions that would/should be of interest to all support staff such as customer service, dealing with complex situations, brainstorms on office efficiency (using suggestions from one of the survey commenters), and then 1-2 financial aid sessions such as Federal Update, FAFSA Update, etc.

2. Perhaps the SSW should be discontinued, but a couple of breakout sessions added to future Spring Conference and/or Decentralized Training that would be targeted to support staff, such as dealing with difficult people, customer service, etc. As part of the agenda for Spring Conference it could list “Targeted to Support Staff,” yet anyone who was interested could attend if they wanted.
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“We have always sent someone.”

“Associate member”

Question 5
30 Answered, 1 Skipped
Would having more detailed information in advance (location, dates, topics) help in deciding to attend or send staff to SSW?

Answer Choices  Responses
---  ---
Yes  56.67%  17
No  43.33%  13

Question 6
30 Answered, 1 Skipped
If SSW is discontinued, how likely are you to attend (or if you are a supervisor, send staff to) another SDASFAA training instead, such as Decentralized Training or the Spring Conference?

Answer Choices  Responses
---  ---
It is more likely that I (or my support staff) will attend other SDASFAA training.  46.67%  14
It would make no difference in whether or not I (or my support staff) will attend other SDASFAA training.  53.33%  16

Question 7
26 Answered, 5 Skipped
I feel the Support Staff Workshop should be:

Answer Choices  Responses
---  ---
Held every year  19.23%  5
Held every other year  42.31%  11
Discontinued  38.46%  10

Comments
“For some this is the only workshop they get to go to”

“Either revamped so the content is a little more complex and pertinent to FA, or discontinued.”

“I’m really on the fence as to whether or not have it every other year or discontinued.”

“Strictly speaking from the viewpoint of our institution, the SSW could be discontinued and there would be no ill effects.”

“But it is very much topic driven for me. Also, the fear in going to every other year, or less, people can tend to move on and forget about it.”

“I think it can depend on the topic... but it's a good opportunity it's just hard with overall numbers in our state to get a big turnout.”

Question 8
10 Answered, 21 Skipped
Please offer any further comments or suggestions you have regarding the Support Staff Workshop.

“Concentrate the topics more toward support staff, and have more learning tools available for them.”

“I feel that the Support Staff Workshop is important as this workshop is the only thing that employees in lower level positions can attend to gain knowledge of new FA items that have come down the pipeline and for support staff to meet other SDASFAA employees on their same level.”

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“We have 4 support staff, and their jobs are fairly complex. The support staff content has been a little light for the level of duties they have. Perhaps, it would be a good idea to invite support staff to Spring Conference and Fall Training.”

“I think, at least for me, I will make sure my staff can get to other events of SDASFAA.”

“Strength of the agenda is my primary concern.”

“I feel SSW should be held every other year with a location on each side of the state.”

“I truly like the idea of having it every other year. It gives support staff the chance to get together and network. I don’t know how many support staff get the opportunity to attend Decentralized Training or the spring conference because of staffing limitations.”

“I have found that there is too broad of job descriptions in what each support staff person(s) actually does in each office. Therefore, coming up with topics that everyone can benefit from is nearly impossible.”

“Since so much training is now available on line, it is easier and more economical to utilize that…”

“I think it is a great networking opportunity but because of the changes in the loan industry…SDASFAA needs to focus more on the content of the training. The same training that works for Decentralized Training probably won’t work for Support Staff. I think the members attending should have more input and sharing of knowledge. Focusing on customer come to mind.”

RMASFAA Board Update: Ken Kocer-See President’s report.
Justin Draeger talked about what ways NASFAA could partner w/regional associations, not take over but partner with them. More schools are belonging to NASFAA but not RMASFAA, there is more of a competition for budget dollars. RMASFAA will setup a committee to see how this could be increased.

RMASFAA is coming under a lot of fire for having a lot of money and not using it. It should be just a percentage for reserves in case of a catastrophic happening during summer institute or conference but the remainder should be used for member services.

RMASFAA is debating about running 2 concurrent groups for the Leadership pipeline vs. a 2 year cohort and only starting every 2 years.

Montana had a neat idea. To encourage membership and attendance.

2016 RMASFAA Fall Conference Update: Laura Schultz-Status Update
Not much has changed since last time. We are asking the committees if they have met yet and do they need more people on the committees. They have asked for budgets from the committees and are still working on a theme and a logo. They do have the food locked in.

2014 Review Committee Report: Micah Hansen
The 2014 Review Committee did not get to review the books before Caleen went on maternity leave. We will be reviewing the books at the SDASFAA conference coming up next week. It seems we must make this report multiple time per year, but that doesn’t make much sense as it is a once a year review. Perhaps in Deadwood we can also recommend a change to that. Because Caleen was not able to get together before the February meeting. Monica reviews the books today and there will be a report at the Business meeting.

2016 SDASFAA Board Nominations: Cheryl Bullinger
Ken advised that the President-Elect, Secretary, and 2 Institutional Member at Large positions will be open. I will be visiting with the SDASFAA Members during lunch on Tuesday March 24 to let them know they can nominate themselves or others and that I will be contacting the SDASFAA Members to serve and do their part to lead SDASFAA to a strong and promising future.

Last year it was very exciting to have multiple people for each position on the ballot. Sometimes it really helps to encourage others.

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Recognition Committee: Cheryl Bullinger
I submitted request to the membership for nominations for the Douglas Steckler Professional Development Award and the Outstanding Service Award. I did not receive very many responses so sent several emails to the SDSFAA Membership asking them to please nominate. The executive council by voted by secret ballot using survey monkey on the Outstanding Service Award and the Recognition Committee also voted by secret ballot via survey monkey on the Douglas Steckler Award.

2015-Douglas Steckler Professional Development Award-Erin Richards
2015-Outstanding Service Award-Ken Kocer
We may need to remind the membership next year that anyone can nominate for these awards. We may only have one person that can vote on the award, but anyone can nominate.

Kristy O’Kief provided a spreadsheet on the years of service to financial aid and will have the plaques available for the SDSFAA Banquet and Award Night. Spreadsheet has been attached to the end of these minutes.

2015 Fall Decentralized Training: Micah Hansen-See President-Elect’s report.
The committee will be meeting tomorrow. There was a suggestion to add the topic to Decentralized Training regarding how to determine homelessness for Dependency.

SDSFAA Column in SLFC Newsletter: Board Discussion
Discussion—who would do the column, who would chose the topics and how the topic would be chosen. If we do the column we need to make sure to distribute the column to all of our members for publication. We also don’t want it to look like we show favoritism to any specific member. When the board has a topic and publishes it, the members can chose whether to publish it or not. Would encourage the disclaimer that SDSFAA in no way endorses this particular organization. See attachment at end of minutes for sample of newsletter.

The following is the e-mail from SLFC:
Thanks for your time yesterday! Per our discussion I’ve attached a digital copy of College Planning Newspaper that we distribute to all the high schools in the State of South Dakota. We also give this to parents at financial aid nights, conferences, when we display at South Dakota High School Activities Association events (1 Act Play Festival, Boys and Girls Basketball, Volleyball, State Debate, etc.) and county fairs and this year the state fair in Huron. High school counselors have found this as a useful tool to give to students and parents along with the education they receive from the SDSFAA reps and Great Lakes that do the financial aid presentations.

My idea for our newspaper was to add a section called the “Counselor Corner”, “Counselor Connection” or something like that where financial aid professionals can talk about a certain topic of their choosing explaining the financial aid process. I envision counselors explaining to students and parents what they see as the #1 problem that people have or don’t do during the financial aid process. I would like to help in making the process easier and less stressful. I want to make this newsletter an even better tool that is has been for the last few years. When I was on the road last week and the beginning of this week I discussed this with a number of the colleges, universities and technical schools in eastern South Dakota. It generated a mixed response as I can well understand. I just want everyone to understand, in this section, I don’t want anything said about iHELP. I’m not looking for any type of testimonial or endorsement because I know that you can’t do that. I’m just looking for professional advice that we can pass on to students and parents.

When I stopped to see Kristy in Mitchell she had a great idea. Instead of have a certain school providing information may be have a representative(s) of SDSFAA give advice. Then it wouldn’t be represented by a certain school. That really made a lot of sense to me. But the question then would be does SDSFAA as a whole feel comfortable with it. We print 20,000 of these at one time and I have enough of our current paper to last me through most of this year. If this is something that SDSFAA would be in agreement with it wouldn’t be printed until the 3rd or 4th quarter of this year.

Thanks for everyone’s time in considering this opportunity!

NASFAA Leadership Conference Recap: Micah Hansen
First off, Thank You SDASFAA for allowing me to attend this event! The conference was entertaining and educational. This year the conference added a second track to the conference for New and Aspiring Director that doubled the size of the conference. Topics covered in the “Association Management Track:

- Legal and fiduciary obligations of a board and the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience.
  (Run by Dr. Michela Perronne – a fantastic presentation)
- Leadership characteristics.
- Running meetings and managing conflict.
- Chances to compare and contrast with other associations

There were also multiple mini-sessions during lunch covering ethics, media calls, work-life balance, and networking.

The conference wrapped up for a little over half of the participants with the Legislative Expo hosting panes of NASFAA staff and a few other analysts to discuss the current state of higher education, proposal of free community colleges, and upcoming budgets.

Unfortunately with the Homeland Security Budget, and the visit from Israel’s Prime Minister, over half of the participants couldn’t get/ or keep meetings with their representatives. I did receive contact back from Kristi Noem’s office and encouraged their new education person to reach out to SDASFAA any time that they want information or have questions on higher education topics.

Committee Activity from Liaisons: Board Discussion

Ken state that as a liaison it is not just about getting a report from the committee it is also letting them know the board is interested in the committee and wanting to know what their concerns are. Keep the communication going.

It would also make it easier for the Secretary standpoint to not repeat the committee activity if they are already an item under officer report, new or old business.

We will need to discuss what to do with the Support Staff workshop committee. Change it to a Professional Development committee and have them work on programs for Decentralized and Spring conference, or do educational articles to the membership. Do we then have to update the By Laws for it? Currently we do not have a Support Staff workshop committee, we have an Education committee and the SSW is a sub-committee. We need to discuss this at the Business meeting, as a change to the By Laws requires a notice to the membership and a vote by the membership.

Ken Kocer-See President’s report
2015 HS Counselor Committee
2016 Spring Conference Committee

Micah Hansen-See President-Elect’s report
2015 Fall Decentralized Training

Cheryl Bullinger
2015 Spring Conference Committee-See item under Old Business
Recognition Committee-See item under New Business

Julie Hamer
Committee of Record and Website
Committee of Record and Website has nothing to report.

Melinda Fedeler
Membership Committee
Nothing to report.

Carmen Neugebauer-See report under New Business
2015 Support Staff Workshop Committee

Kim Nida
Review Committee

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Becky Prible reported that there was no report.

Other
None

Announcements
Next meeting: NASFAA is the week of July 18th. Ken wants to meet in person and is thinking of Cedar Shores. July 14 is a tentative date at 10 a.m.

Adjourn
Cheryl made the motion to adjourn, Julie seconded the motion, all approved, the motion passed.
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**BEGINNING BALANCE**

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SDASFAA is committed to the belief that no one should be denied access to post-secondary education because of a lack of family resources or knowledge of the financial aid delivery system or application process. SDASFAA's goal is to assist those seeking assistance through all Title IV regulations.
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