**Minutes of the April 29, 2015 MCDR Board Meeting**

The MCDR Board met on April 29, 2015 at the home of President Harold Cohen.

Present were: Harold Cohen, Lisa Anthony, David Zoll, Thom McCloud, Tim Stranges, Shelley Korch, Barry Weissman, Edith Guidice, Edward Ketchen, Terry Douglas, and Adrienne Davis

**The Board heard and accepted the Treasurer’s report**

* A review of membership receipts indicates that 50 renewals are overdue and 57 are lapsed.

**The Board received and accepted the Certification Committee Report** submitted by Eileen Coen, attached.

* Please publicize the opportunity for candidates
* Role Players are needed

The Board discussed the following topics

**Summary of meeting with Rachel Wohl**

 Thanks to Donna and David Zoll who met with Rachel Wohl to talk about the future of MACRO.

 Rachel is positive about the forthcoming changes, Chief Judge Barbera is planning a re-organization abolishing all existing committees and creating 11 new committees.

 MACRO will report to the Judicial Council ADR Committee, Tom Ross is Chair.

 Aaron Weiner heads up the behavior change project, under the auspices of the Research subcommittee

 There was a general discussion of the landscape of all ADR in MD

 MACRO is not going to get involved in the regime of certification.

 There will be 6 major divisions under the new Administrative Office of the Court. MACRO will be listed under Programs, under Lou Giesel.

 The minutes of the Judicial Council will be public and on the website

 The Behavior Change initiative is targeting the construction field

 MACRO has taken on a project on how to encourage parties to consider mediation; they ar focusing first on business, then construction and then the idea is to generalize findings from initial efforts. A report is expected to be published next year.

 The questions for MCDR is what do these changes mean for our organization? There was general support to get involved in research.

**Report by David on proposed mediation project for high sensitivity news events:**

 The program is starting in Anne Arundel County but is not exclusive to that location – where there is media coverage, they will contact disputants in the newspaper and send them materials about mediation.

 We can encourage promotion of certified mediators

 Solicitation of information, including testimonials where high profile disputes have been resolved through mediation.

 Members are encouraged to update bios on our website.

The progress of membership efforts

The opportunity to Co-Sponsor Montgomery College/MCDR Mediation Colloquium to be held on November 11 (Veterans Day) from 8:30 to 4:00 at the College’s Germantown Campus.

 The plan is to honor Rachel Wohl for her long term support of the Maryland ADR Community

 The Board approved co-sponsorship. Tim will coordinate our efforts based upon his role as adjunct at the College.

 We will have a table at the program, distribute brochures and marketing material

 We will consider offering scholarships to the program through the Grebe Fund –Lisa will take the lead on this.

**Revision of the list of certified mediators on the MCDR website**

 Barry reports that the website lists only current certified members. The list is accurate and current

 A list of non-member certified mediators that is accurate has yet to be developed.

 Barry will work with Eileen Coen to determine who should be on that list using Certification Committee records

**Plans for the second quarter MCDR meeting to be held May 12, 2015** at the Veterans Memorial Civic Center in Silver Spring

 David Batson, current chair of MSBA ADR will present *Dealing with Difficult People*

 There will be a presentation from insurance representatives regarding services to be offered as a benefit of MCDR membership

 Edie Will draft the notice to publicize the event

 September meeting Barry will present a marketing class

 Hather Fogg is planning a program regarding introverts as participants and mediators for December.

 Discusison of charging for meetings and donations of food by groups, i.e. pizza from insurance reps.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Korch

Secretary