



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Sunday, September 5, 2021

PRESENT BY ZOOM: Stirling Phillips, Merry Lymn, David Lewis, Barry Weissman, Janne Weissman, Laverne Day, Deborah Kleinberg, Thom McCloud, Michael Sallustio, and Kimberly Cathrell.

NOT PRESENT: Ceecee Paizs, Cheryl Jackson, and Ramona Buck (Thom McCloud and Ramona Buck alternate participation).

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Council for Dispute Resolution was called to order at 12:00 p.m. and concluded at 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING of May 17, 2020, previously circulated by e-mail, were accepted.

In the future the minutes of the Board meetings will be circulated by e-mail to the membership and will be posted on the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barry Weissman reported that our expenses are low. MCDR needs to re-register with the tax authorities. Enrollment is down, but MCDR is financially sound.

MENTORING: Stirling Phillips reported that the Mentoring Committee has a program in place. There are several people who have signed up as mentees. However, there have not been enough people signing up as mentors in order to do a proper matching. The mentoring committee is looking to involve the Maryland State Bar Association or the Maryland Judiciary to see if mentoring can be incorporated into their programs as counting toward pro bono service.

CERTIFICATION: The certification committee is working with the Professional Mediation Board of Standards to expand our certification program. Currently, the main concern is protecting the intellectual property developed by the certification committee. 120 people have been certified

by MCDR. The committee is planning to survey these individuals to learn how certification has affected their mentoring careers. Thom McCloud reported that Martin will attend the next meeting of the Standards Board to explore our mutual interest in some type of partnership and report back to the Certification Committee. Based upon that Board's interest in participating in MCDRs certification, we would be willing to defer November in order to do a demonstration of the certification process for their Board.

PROGRAMS:

On September 24, 2021, there will be a zoom roundtable titled BABY SAFE COURT.

On October 24, 2021, there will be a zoom program on Parenting Coordination, what it is and requirements in Maryland.

From December 7 to 11, Cee Paisz and Laura Burrows will be presenting a 40-hour training program on Parenting Coordination.

Members should have received notification about these programs. Registration is necessary to attend.

There was some discussion about whether it would be good to add a regularly-scheduled drop-in zoom session, with no planned program so that members could meet and discuss whatever is on their minds.

MEMBERSHIP: There appears to be some interest in reciprocal membership benefits with other mediation organizations. Some of the benefits might include member rates for programs. This needs to be explored.

Also, a question will be sent to the membership as to whether they would be interested in receiving a newsletter.

BAR LIAISON: The MSBA newsletter will be including an MCDR section. There is a developing mediation quality assurance group. MSBA mentors will be able to get pro bono credit for serving as MCDR mentors.

AWARDS: A committee will be formed and will meet every two years to select candidates for the various awards made by MCDR. The awards will be conveyed in coordination with the program committee.

NOMINATIONS: The nominating committee will be sending a ballot to the membership for election of officers.

BYLAWS: A separate document will be circulated to the membership to vote on proposals for amendment of the by-laws regarding:

- the addition of Board member positions;

- allowing the current treasurer to exceed his term until an apprentice for that position can be found trained; and
- amending the awards by adding one award and further defining the others as well as setting up an awards committee.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The date of the next meeting was not set.

Respectfully submitted,

Merry Lymn, Secretary