



RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 2, 2021
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Mike Thielke, Scott Warner, Susan Harrison, Charlotte Davis, Dakota Matthews, Amanda Clevenger, and Megan D'Arcy

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mike Thielke called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. Review of Minutes from the May 14, 2021 meeting

Mike Thielke reviewed the meeting minutes and Charlotte Davis provided the status update on the items requested in the last meeting. Ms. Davis reported that she is working on the formal criteria for accepting new requests to RMC and updating the personnel policy. Don Mulrine moved the motion to accept the minutes, Susan Harrison seconded. The May 14, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved with follow-up items continued to be worked on.

III. Discussion

Strategic Plan – Mike Thielke informed the Committee that the purpose of this discussion is to assess whether the goals of the strategic plan are being met. The Committee discussed Goal 1.4 and how the upcoming Strategic Plan for the Rural Maryland Foundation will better define their purpose which will aid in how they want to pursue federal funding. Committee members discussed Goal 3 and how it relates to the grant process as included in the guidelines and criteria. Ms. Davis shared information on the purpose of the letters to the legislators that highlight grant projects in their respective districts. In addition, to notifying legislators about ribbon cuttings related to grant projects and mailing them a copy of the annual report. Mr. Thielke asked for an update on the nominating committee. Ms. Davis informed the Committee that the Nominating Committee will be meeting in the beginning of October. Mr. Thielke thought it would be helpful to have an outline of what they plan to do to review and discuss at the at the November Join Planning & Development Committee meeting.

2021 Rural Issue Survey Results – Charlotte Davis shared the draft results of the 2021 Rural Issues Survey. Committee members discussed the need for a more thorough and possible professionally conducted survey to help establish the priorities of the RMPIF and MAERDAF grant programs. get at the heart of the issue. Ms. Davis stated that the current survey is used as a marketing tool to engage people at events, and it helps to make introductions and with face to face interactions on the Council's work. Ms. Davis will further analyze and present at the annual meeting in December and staff will look into other survey options for future use. Susan Harrison stated that she will share resources by email following the meeting that will include information on polls, surveys, or studies might provide more useful information for setting priorities for RMC and RMF, assessing and prioritizing rural needs, and measuring public value of our work.

IV. Other

Mike Thielke asked if there were any other topics. Susan Harrison inquired about responsibility for reporting on the success of the strategic plan. Mr. Thielke stated that he reports on the status of the plan at the quarterly Board Meetings. Mr. Thielke suggested a 1-

to-2-page summary on the status of the strategic plan to be reviewed at the November 2, 2021 meeting. Charlotte Davis stated that she will complete the report.

- V. Adjourn
Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 2, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.