



RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 6, 2024

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Chair John Hartline, Don Mulrine, Scott Warner, Susan Harrison

RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Megan D’Arcy, Leeza DeCheubel

I. Welcome and Introductions

John Hartline, Chair

- a) Committee was welcomed, and meeting was called to order at 10:07 am.

II. Review of Minutes

- a) March 14, 2024: Susan Harrison made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, Scott Warner seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- b) July 19, 2014: Susan Harrison made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, Scott Warner seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Youth Committee

- a) University of Maryland, Extension 4-H Youth Committee Discussion
 - a. Susan Harrison advocated for 4-H and is in favor of the opportunities provided to youth throughout the state. Ms. Harrison emphasized the dedication shown by program members, and believes that both, youth from rural and urban communities, can benefit through attendance.
 - b. The event is scheduled for February 2025. The committee discussed allocating funds and providing sponsorships through a statewide level.
 - c. The committee will wait to make a motion until reviewing the budget and sponsorship agreement with the Executive Committee on September 13, 2024.
- b) Keith Campbell Youth Engagement
 - a. The committee will organize a meeting with Youth Committee in the next order.

IV. Strategic Planning Update

- a) Charlotte Davis discussed the outcome of Board Retreat, June 27, 2024, Adkins Arboretum. Communication is in process of being resent to virtual workgroups to move forward. The timeline of the strategic plan is to be adopted by the end of the year.

V. Rural Issues Survey

- a) Charlotte Davis provided response numbers for the current survey memberships: 63. An additional email will be sent to promote engagement by members, and more

responses are expected to generate. Ms. Davis stated results of the survey assist in demonstrating the public value of RMC and serve as a marketing tool involvement to outside parties.

b) The committee explored the University of Baltimore-Schaefer Center for Public Policy Proposal. There are challenges that come with polling. As a result, online surveys may yield a higher response rate. The committee is interested in scheduling a survey consultation, and meeting with the researchers connected to the Schaefer Center.

VI. Other

a) EPA/Schneider Electric Grant Opportunity

a. Charlotte Davis informed the committee that this has tentatively been removed from the agenda. Efforts may resurface and be explored in the future.

b) JLW Communications, LLC Proposal

a. The committee agreed on the importance of strategic outreach pertaining to rural issues. Further investigation of media relationships and press consultants will be explored.

VII. Adjourn

a) Don Mulrine made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Susan Harrison seconded the motion.

b) Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.