

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC PURCHASING OFFICIALS (MAPPO)

MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2009 at Wachusett Mountain, Princeton

Officers Present

John Story, President
David Geanakakis, Vice President
Katharine Sacca, Treasurer
Mary Delaney, Secretary

New Members Attending

Deborah Harvey of Lexington and Thomas Watkins of Salem

Guests Attending

Judy Smith from the Town of Danvers

Conference – Opening Remarks

At 9:00 am, John Story, MAPPO President, welcomed all to the MAPPO Fall Conference, and thanked Mary Delaney for hosting this meeting. John then introduced the MAPPO Officers and Executive Board.

Mary Delaney then welcomed everyone to Wachusett Mountain and gave a brief description of the area.

Conference – Session 1

Mary Delaney introduced Joan Matsumoto, eProcurement Manager, Occupational Services Division. Joan spoke on central purchasing programs through the Comm-PASS system. Joan explained that the program is available to any public agency. Joan then gave an overview of the “Quick Quote” program that will soon be offered through Comm-Pass. Quick Quote should be launched in early 2010 and will be available to all public agencies, including municipalities.

Conference – Session 2

Beverly Sleeper introduced Neil Cohen, Deputy Inspector General at the Office of the Inspector General. Neil spoke on procurement fraud, ARRA funding and contract fraud. Neil provided members with an anonymous hotline number for reporting fraud: 800-322-1322. Neil also welcomed phone calls directly, if he can be of assistance: 617-722-8819.

Lunch

Meeting temporarily adjourned for lunch on-site from 12:15 to 1:15 pm.

Business Meeting

John Story opened the business meeting. He announced the next meeting will be hosted by Marian Currier of Chelmsford on Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

Chris Bradley updated everyone on the website development. A contract is now in place, the colors and theme have been chosen and design work is continuing. Four additional people are needed for the Website Committee to join Chris, Katharine Sacca, Mary Delaney, Dave Geanakakis and Dan Doucette. Anyone interested should contact Chris about joining at cbradley@natickma.org.

Katharine Sacca gave the Treasurer’s report. She indicated that membership dues are coming in steadily and the member list should be finalized by our November 18th meeting. Anyone who has not yet paid dues should contact Katharine at ksacca@chelseama.gov, or send in to MAPPO, c/o Katharine Sacca, 500 Broadway, Chelsea MA 02150.

Beverly Sleeper updated members on upcoming speakers. November 18th will be Kathleen Colleary from the Bureau of Municipal Finance Law to discuss procurement cards. Beverly asked if members would be interested in a speaker on Food Services Management Bids, which will be considered.

David Geanakakis reminded members to contact him about name badges, since he still has many that have not been picked up. David's email is dgeanakakis@town.brookline.ma.us. David also reminded everyone that CEU credit sheets for the past three years are still available, and to contact him for those as well.

Mary Delaney said there are still some members having trouble receiving emails. She asked members to first check with their IT departments to have the incoming email address mapposecty@gardner-ma.gov added to "accepted" addresses, but to contact her if email issues persist.

Announcements

None

Minutes

Motion made and duly seconded to approve the minutes of September 16, 2009 as written. Motion passed.

Legislative Update

Dan Doucette updated membership on the status of "dollar one" which is included in House 15, and the outside sections of some other pending bills. Dan explained that efforts continue to have this important issue dealt with.

An anonymous membership poll was distributed at this meeting with respect to Qualifications-Based Selection of engineers for public works. Dan explained the purpose of the poll is to gauge the group's feelings on the subject, and the results of this poll would be tabulated and distributed to the membership at a later date.

Conference – Session 3

Beverly Sleeper introduced David Wallace, Director at the Division of Apprenticeship Training. David reviewed the Commonwealth's Apprenticeship Program. David also spoke on the ARRA requirement that 20% the total hours of employees be performed by registered apprentices when under a public works project funded by the Economic Stimulus bill. David offered that his presentation is available by email and welcomed anyone to contact him at dwallace@detma.org.

Conference – Session 4

Mary Delaney introduced Brian C. O'Donnell, Assistant Attorney General, Fair Labor Division, and Deborah A. Anderson, Assistant Attorney General, Bid Protest Unit, both from the Attorney General's Office. Brian and Deborah spoke extensively on various items of interest to MAPPO members, touching upon Chapter 30 of the Acts of 2009, ARRA requirements, bid protests and real property transactions.

Meeting Adjourned

President John Story thanked everyone for a successful day, and closed the meeting at 3:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary A. Delaney, MAPPO Secretary