

# **MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC PURCHASING OFFICIALS (MAPPO)**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

March 12, 2008 at Amrhein's Restaurant in South Boston, MA

Elaine Shola, MAPPO president, welcomed everyone and thanked Michael Bare for hosting the meeting. Michael gave a quick history of Evacuation Day celebrations in New York and Boston and the St. Patrick's Day parade Sunday.

Mike Bare introduced the guest speaker, Professor Michael Lavin from Suffolk University. He gave a unique perspective on municipal government. He discussed: what it takes to be a good municipal manager (he's written papers on this subject), how we achieve excellence, and operational efficiency as part of a management style. He mentioned Max Vaber (traditional bureaucracy, follows orders from above, set up rules and regulations, best practices) and Frederick Taylor (time studies, a management consultant, efficiency expert, scientific one best way to manage organization, "my way or the highway"). There is not just one atypical community, he believes there are five types. The type of community and type of management style both are dynamic. Dump the "one size fits all" mentality.

Mike thanked Professor Lavin and gave him a book from South Boston.

New members attended. Michelle Wendell from Saugus, Ron Shire from the MBTA. The following guests attended: John Fitzpatrick from SOWMBA, Andrea Woods from Franklin, Alison Campbell guest of Carol Antonelli, Lester Gee guest of Rita Vaga, and Dave McGrath retired from the MBTA.

Raeleen Parsons is now the Purchasing Agent in Watertown.

The next meeting will be the Spring Conference at the Cyprian Golf Club in Boylston on April 16 hosted by Re Cappoli and Norma Collins. The following will be speakers: Pat Sordill of Sordill Consulting, Attorney Bob Ritchie of the Attorney General's Office, Edie Silva of SOMWBA, Attorney George Matthews of DCAM, Attorney Brian O'Donnell of the Attorney General's Office and Attorney Kelly Whelan of the Inspector General's Office. Send questions in advance for Brian and Kelly to Katherine Sacca. Golfing will be available after the conference on an 18-hole championship course \$40 per person, \$15 per cart or a 9-hole par-three course \$15 per person, \$10 per cart.

Motion was made and seconded to accept minutes of the January and February 2008 meetings. Approved by members.

More volunteers are needed to man the booth at the STAR Conference May 6. Contact Katherine Sacca.

It was requested that members present vote to allow us to purchase promotional items to be distributed at the STAR Conference. A number of ideas were discussed and a motion was made to approve the purchase of promotional items. The motion was seconded and approved by the members present.

The MAPPO Fall Conference will be held on October 22 at Montvale Plaza in Stoneham. Motion made, seconded and approved by the members.

Peggy Nickerson, Steamship Authority wanted to remind members that MAPPO emails are seen by many and passed on to others. She mentioned her situation recently, an email to the membership letting them know the outcome of a recent request for their help in a possible bid protest. She mentioned that, after the email was sent out, about receiving a call that her email had been forwarded. Discussion took place regarding temporarily removing someone from the email list, however if they are paying members, that would not be possible. Should we add to emails "privileged info for members only" and should we not be sharing messages? Neil Cohen from the IG made a brief comment. It was noted that emails are public records. No action was taken pending further discussion.

Cathy Carney followed up on last month's discussion about CORI policies for contractors. The Norwood Personnel Board has not yet taken up the issue of a CORI policy for bids and it has been tabled until their next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, David Geanakakis, MAPPO Secretary