



**NDASFAA Executive Board Meeting
February 4, 2021
11:00 am CST
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Welcome/ Call to Order - President Marcia Pritchert called the meeting to order at 11:00 am CST.

Present – Board Members: Marcia Pritchert, Judy Hager, Christopher Meek, Amanda Woidyla, Bethany Vincent, Chelsea Larson; Guests: Lindsey Benson, Laurie Weber, Janelle Kilgore

Approval of Minutes from October – Judy moved to approve, Chris seconded, minutes approved

New Business:

FAFSA Completion Project - Janelle Kilgore, Vice Provost Strategic Enrollment Management, UND

- *How can we support our state?*

Janelle discussed the significant decrease in ND FAFSA filers, even compared to national averages. Discussion around a one-week FAFSA drive across ND – week of February 15. Help create conversations across state and support high school counselors who are already swamped with additional COVID issues. Janelle offered to draft a global press release for campuses. Amanda is presenting on Sunday at 2 pm for BND for the NDCA conference and could add this to her presentation. BND has a weekly communication to all ND high school counselors and principals on Mondays, and she will pull analytics on viewership of those emails. Other options discussed for messaging included live Q&A on FaceBook, 1:1 Zoom sessions to assist families for incoming students, and TRIO outreach

- Amanda: Displayed Insights website – up to 34%, but 14% behind last year
- May be difficult for smaller campuses to support – remind that deadline hasn't passed, not too late, ask us if questions – tie to Financial Aid Awareness month – all hit on same week through each campus' marketing channels – social media, websites - helpful just to remind families that we can help with FAFSA. It is up to each campus as to how they offer support.
- How to communicate through NDASFAA?
 - Could BND share a specific campaign
 - Amanda can connect with DACAC
 - Amanda can provide content to use
 - Marcia send email on behalf of NDASFAA – request campuses to promote week of 2/15 – Marcia will draft message and send to group
 - Will add BND links to resources

- Consider a plan for NDASFAA to coordinate outreach in future years

Unpaid 20-21 Membership Dues - Bethany Vincent

- Need contact for CommonBond – former rep has left – new contact has not responded
- Nelnet – we had removed last year – new rep reached out, but hasn't paid yet
- If they don't come through, we will remove them in July (they had one year to pay)
- Please send contact if you have one
- Lindsey will look for contact through RMASFAA

Annual Spring Conference - Lindsey Benson and Laurie Weber

- Virtual vs. In-person (needing Board approval)
- What are other RMASFAA states doing?
- Timeframe (two half-days, 2 full days, etc.)
- Fee structure
- Platform
- Discussed what is set currently. The Grand Hotel is booked, but can be canceled with no penalty. The Federal trainer is scheduled. Brenda Hicks, NASFAA Chair, is scheduled.
- The College and University Student Aid Directors group (CUSAD – which is made up of directors from the 11 NDUS institutions) had discussed the conference format in their last meeting, and the majority of that group supports a virtual option for this year. Positives: more people attend, could spread out as half-days. Other states in region are also going virtual or canceling. RMASFAA Board meeting will be virtual this year. Bethany moved to have Virtual 2021 NDASFAA Annual conference; Judy seconded – motion carried.
- Discussed registration costs. Decided \$50 per institution fee to cover scholarships and other organizational expenses.
- Discussed technology platforms. The group is not sure what Tribal colleges' access is for technology. They did not attend the last Teams meeting. However, even if their campus does not use Teams, they should be able to access it. Teams does not allow for breakout rooms, which may not be an issue, but Minot had considered using them for some sessions. Zoom may provide more flexibility. Lindsey will ask whether Minot State Zoom license can be used.
- Dates: 4/15-4/16
 - Length: Depending on # of sessions – conference committee will draft out agenda to see timing
 - Federal trainer could do up to 3 sessions – ideas:
 - FAFSA completion and efforts
 - Topics for other sessions:
 - Loan acknowledgement requirement
 - Do board meeting on one end
 - Amanda: BND will be discussing new system – they could discuss at conference
- Vendor opportunities
 - RMASFAA charged vendors \$200
 - They introduced speakers and gave their own introduction
 - Some paid last year, but we didn't do anything, so we will not charge them again
 - Have 2 gold, 2 silver currently – allow them to attend for free this year
 - Allow Gold at least 15 minutes to discuss their corporate update – BND and Ascendium
 - 2 silver = Sallie Mae, College Ave – attend for no cost

- Change membership level opportunities for virtual
- Any other associate members, pay \$50 to attend

Unfinished Business:

2022 Conference - Members Choice

- (Information provided by Andrea Carver)
- WSC has some options, but limited
- Discuss at next meeting

Adjourn – Bethany moved, Judy seconded, meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm CST

Minutes submitted by Chelsea Larson, Secretary