**MCOG Board of Director’s Meeting**

 **August 22, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.**

**165 Main Street, Damariscotta, ME**

**Remote participation via Zoom**

**Minutes**

Directors in attendance: Marc Meyers, Andy Dorr, Jonathon Duke, Mark Waltz, Jeffrey Jordan

Staff in attendance: Mat Eddy, Brian Dancause, Reed Silvers

1. **Call to order:** Marc Meyers called the meeting to order.
2. **Approval of minutes (May)**: Because there is no quorum, approval of May minutes will be pushed to September
3. **Introductions:** New staff member Reed Silvers was introduced.
4. **Financial Report:** Mat Eddy presented the financial report:

Mat believes, overall, MCOG is about where it needs to be financially and should break even. However, he explained that the organization is working to improve on billing to certain contracts and creating a better system for checks and balances on financial reporting.

1. **Director’s Report:** Mat Eddy presented the director’s report (refer to report provided in advance of meeting)

Mat believes this is an exciting year with a lot of financial resources available. The items he summarized were:

1. The theme for the November general assembly: “Challenge of Change.” Topics might include population movement, DEI, new Americans, and MCOG’s work on the HUB program. Marc is looking into potential speakers. Likely date: Thursday, November 21
2. Mat is working with other planning agencies to strategize on how to best align with the Maine Office of Community Affairs. RPCs will operate under one dome like the Maine State Planning Office used to.
3. NOAA grant received by GOPIFF results in MCOG getting the equivalency of a resiliency staff person for five years. May look to capitalize on this in the second half of the year.
4. MCOG will be part of a statewide digital literacy application in coordination with GPCOG. It is focused on helping our region’s communities with their tech equipment and digital communications processes.
5. MCOG is focusing on getting a consistent funding resource from the state general fund for RPCs. The current $22,000 is not sufficient for all the state is asking to be done. Preferably, RPCs would be put into the Governor’s annal budget.
6. **Committee Updates** (steering committee presented by Mat, loan committee presented by Brian)
7. MCEDC Steering Committee. Met yesterday (Aug 21). The committee intends to convene the larger advisory committee with a draft of input for the five-year plan sometime in late October or early November in preparation for discussion at the General Assembly.
8. MCEDC Loan Committee (Brian’s summary). July and August meetings were cancelled. But Brian has been finalizing a policies and procedures manual. Because Charlie Grover is leaving, there is a vacancy on the committee.
9. **Subregional housing projects** (presented by Mat)
10. WCAP is gaining momentum to build a housing trust via an application to the EPA’s Community Change Grant program. Monthly meetings with a working group are going well.
11. Working on improving the Midcoast Regional Housing Trust
12. Outside of the Brunswick area, MCOG is assuming the role of housing resource for Knox and Waldo counties
13. Adjourn.