

AGA Chapter Executive committee Meeting August 28, 2014

Submitted by Janet Stewart, Secretary

The chapter Executive Committee for the Nashville chapter met on Thursday, August 28, 2014, in the 21st floor conference room A of the William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower.

Attendees

Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) members present: Michelle Earhart, President; Rusty Lacy Immediate Past-President; Janet Stewart, Secretary; Sandra K. Brown, Treasurer; Pamela Marks, John Dunne, Charlotte Gentry, Cindy Hobbs, Hellens Cruz-Sanchez, Gerry Boaz, Drew Sadler, Karen Hale.

Calling In- Kandi Thomas, Michael Edwards, Alicia Reynolds.

Committee members present: Michael Winston, Alexander Warns, Nathan Abbot. **Calling In-** Scarlet Sneed, Bridget Carver.

Call to Order

Michelle called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

Agenda

Michelle Earhart passed out an agenda to those who did not have one. Attendees introduced themselves and stated their chapter position as well as their day job.

Reports from Officers and Committees

Immediate Past President

Rusty Lacy will manage the scrolling announcements for the Chapter Luncheon Meetings. Please email announcements to him.

President-Elect

Penny Austin was not present.

Secretary

Janet Stewart had nothing to report

Treasurer

Sandra K. Brown introduced herself and yielded to Michelle Earhart to give the budget for 2015. See the President's report.

Accountability Outreach

Gerry Boaz stated that through their efforts with Jim Thomas, MTAS Executive Director, Julie High (Goodlettsville) is making good progress on the Goodlettsville CCR (Citizen Centric Report) draft and expects that work on it will be completed soon. Jim will follow up with her in a couple weeks.

Mike Garland is no longer at CTAS. He was possibly working with Rutherford County on its CCR. Jim had no communications with Mike about it so he was unsure of the status of that project.

He also believed there were several good city government candidates to collaborate with the universities on developing a CCR (Chapter CCR case challenge), but he was hesitant to specifically recommend anybody to talk to without a little better understanding of what the goals of the work might be. When Jim returns from vacation, the AOC plans to meet with him the week of September 8 to discuss the case challenge details, CCR status reports, and a potential local government candidate for the case challenge.

Gerry has contacted Evie Barry, AGA Director of Performance Reporting, who is the CCR Coordinator. He informed her that our Chapter through the AOC was planning a CCR Case Challenge based on the National model. Gerry asked Evie to email him the National CCR Case Challenge packet of information in order to get started.

The CEC members discussed having whoever wins to present at a AGA meeting.

Awards

Jeffery Hughes was not present but he did submit that the only thing right now is for folks to be thinking of possible fall National AGA award nominations. The CEC members discussed that the nominees did not have to be AGA members, they could be any government official.

CGFM

Drew Sadler discussed the CGFM preparation course offered through national AGA. The cost of the six (6) day program for 30 participants is \$18,000. The course covers a review of all three exams, study guides for each participant (\$255 value), 48 hours of CPE for each participant and a voucher for one free exam (\$109 value) to each participant.

Drew has a survey out this week and currently there are 11 members that have said they would be interested in participating in this course. The course was listed at a cost of \$750 per person.

Suggestions were made to contact the TN Society of CPAs for participation and colleges and universities. Drew requested members to let him know if their office provides study material assistance to their employees in obtaining a certification. The Comptroller's office provides assistance and employees that have not used that benefit and would obtain a salary increase will be contacted about participation.

The subsidy drawing was discussed. It will be conducted in October and results will be announced during the following luncheon, chapter wide email and through the newsletter.

Community Service

Pamela Marks stated that at September's luncheon Principal Dexter Adams from Alex Green School will speak. Alex Green school is our partner school with the Pencil Foundation, a Community Service project chaired by Melvin Jones. The Community Service Team plans on volunteering throughout the year. They plan on donations of supplies, for students, monetary donations and volunteerism in the schools.

Metro employees were given the opportunity to volunteer at schools with pay. They were given up to two hours of administration leave time to serve in the schools. They're hoping that incentive will make an impact on our Pencil Partner Program at Alex Green.

The Community Service Team's first event takes place on September 20, with the Hands On Nashville project, chaired by Emily Gray. They have a team of volunteers scheduled to assist with landscaping and painting projects in Metro Nashville Public Schools. They're hoping to come out with a bang, Hands On Nashville will provide lunch and an after part for all volunteers.

In October, the committee is looking forward to Mr. Phil Barnette coming to introduce the project of the Fisher House. The Fisher house is a temporary resident to military families while they receive medical care at military and VA medical centers. Also, in October we will begin to collect cans and goods and money, emphasis on money, to share with the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Early Careers

Alicia Reynolds had nothing to report.

Education

Michael Winston reported that they had confirmed dates for training events. The Fall Breakfast will be Thursday, October 23rd, 7:30 – 9:45 am, at the Nashville Hard Rock Café. Two speakers (Mark Crocker and Dean Kinsman) were confirmed for this event. The CEC members discussed the cost for this event and it was suggested to consider \$20 for AGA members and \$30 for nonmembers.

The Winter Seminar will be Tuesday-Wednesday, January 13th and 14th, 8-4, at Nashville State Community College. One speaker (Billy Moorehead) is confirmed. Monday, the 12th is the annual CFE (Fraud Examiners) Free Training Day. It will also be at Nashville State, however, the CFE's have announced that there will be a charge this year to non-CFE members (\$25 to nonmembers).

For FY14-15, the Education Committee Budget contained an increase to training event fees. This was due in part to an increase in costs associated with the Fall Breakfast. While the costs for the Winter Seminar are not definitively known to increase, it was discussed that the fees could be raised if additional funds are needed to support the fiscal needs of the chapter.

Michael stated that the audio conference schedule from Nationals is delayed, however the first audio conference for the year is coming in September. There was discussion around the cost of the audio conferences and it was stated that it was less expensive to purchase a package. The goal is to provide 9 or 10. As soon as the full schedule has been released, the Education Committee will confer with the Comptroller's Office to select the audio conferences that will be sponsored.

Finance

Alexander Warns reported that the history report is due September 30th, and the finance committee will have this completed by then. The tax return is due November 15th. Alex will be at the September luncheon to collect money.

Meetings and Attendance

John Dunne stated that for the September 8th chapter luncheon, they sent out the first meeting announcement email on August 26; they'll be sending out two more announcements, including a final one on September 3rd or 4th.

As of the CEC meeting, there were 55 folks registered for the September 8th meeting. There are currently 9 members on the standing reservations list. We are committed to the DoubleTree for 65 people. It would be helpful if CEC members would sign up for the standing reservation list or register for the membership luncheon meetings early. (Also, as a side note: the nonmember cost for lunches this year, due to an increase in the amounts that we are paying to the Doubletree, is an "even" \$32.)

For the upcoming CEC lunches, Donna Nicely has already sent out calendar invites for the coming months' meetings, but they are still hoping for a response from everyone when Donna sends out her email with the lunch order form: Yes, with a lunch order; No with no lunch order; Attending by Conference Call; or Not Attending. Participating by phone is an option for CEC meetings this year, so co-chairs can listen and participate in meetings if desired.

Membership

Charlotte Gentry reported that the committee's goal was to have 400 members by January 1, 2015. Current membership is 354, so we need 46 to meet the goal. The committee would like to see the members being more social at the luncheon meetings and committees inviting new members to help, resulting in "involvement and inspiration." Charlotte stated that they would like to have a little space (corner) at the registration table for membership materials. They request that the AGA/CGFM video be played before lunch begins.

They have received the membership recruitment scholarship of \$354 to be used by January 1st. The committee will be focusing on recruitment and retention.

Minutes

This was the first meeting of the year. No minutes to address.

Newsletter

Deadlines for submissions. See attached. Karen stated that Nationals gives an award each year and last year the Nashville chapter received an honorable mention. We would like to win this year and the newsletters are as good as you submit. The CEC members discussed encouraging the AGA membership to submit items for the newsletters.

Program

Cindy Hobbs made the report as follows

Presenters: confirmed:

September – Derek Young

October – Sese Bennett (F&A Office for Information Resources)

November – Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder (Veterans Affairs)

Presenters: tentative speakers

December – Toastmasters (Dr. Bill Howell)

January - Director Mark Gwynn (TBI)

February – Bill Miller, AGA National President

March – Steve Anderson, Chief of Police, Metro Nashville Police Department (Joint)

April - Greg Adams, Chief Operating Officer

Gerry recommended the Program Committee talk with the Regional Vice President, who is in the Central KY Chapter, to speak.

Cindy stated that the committee was considering a possible October Networking Event with initiative to bring a non-member to help increase membership. They discussed a change in charitable contribution from \$25 to \$50 for the speakers. There was discussion to look into this because it may violate the per diem for Federal speakers. Cindy stated that they were considering a potential survey of membership to narrow down Spring Social with 3 or 4 options. A suggestion was made to consider a Sounds game as one of the options since they will be in a new stadium.

There was discussion about the joint meeting that normally occurs in February with the Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE), however this year, since the AGA National President is coming in February the joint meeting is set for March. There was a concern that the CFE may not be able to accommodate the change. It was suggested to look at other organizations for a joint meeting.

Scarlet requested meeting information for the flyer as soon as it is known, so that the Meetings and Attendance committee can get it out.

Website

Nathan Abbott had nothing to report.

President

Michelle Earhart requested the ratification of one year Program Director Margaret Walker (not able to serve) to be replaced by Hellens Cruz-Sanchez. The motion was made by Cindy Hobbs, seconded by Sandra K. Brown and passed by the voting members.

The budget for FY15 was presented by Michelle Earhart. After questions, discussions and adjustments, a motion was made by Cindy Hobbs, seconded by Charlotte Gentry and passed by the voting members to accept the budget as adjusted.

Michelle requested that Scarlet Sneed serve as back-up to Sandra K. Brown for the cash fund. A motion was made by Hellens Cruz-Sanchez, seconded by Pamela Marks and passed by the voting members.

The Chapter Luncheon Meeting will have announcements from the Education, Community Service, CGFM and Membership Committees. Those at the Head Table will be Commissioner Rebecca Hunter (introducing the speaker), Derek Young (speaker), Michelle Earhart, Melvin Jones (invocation and introduction of Alex Green principal), Principal Dexter Adams and Michael Winston.

Adjourn

The next CEC meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014, and Michelle Earhart adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Deadlines for Newsletter Submissions 2014-2015

AGA Luncheon Meetings

Deadline for Newsletter Submissions

09/08/14

09/12/14

10/14/14

10/17/14

11/03/14

11/07/14

12/01/14

12/05/14

01/05/15

01/09/15

02/02/15

02/06/15

03/09/15

03/13/15

04/06/15

04/10/15

05/04/15

TBD