MACD/SWCDM Proposed Merger

Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Gayla Wortman at 7:30 a.m. and Roll Call was taken. Those present included Bob Petterman, Stephanie Adams, Jim Simpson, Gene Evans, Jeff Wivholm, Gary Giem, Roger Hybner, Dave Martin, Chuck Cornillie, and Gayla Wortman.

We deviated from the agenda to accommodate open discussion regarding the questions and confusion surrounding the proposed merger.

The major thrust of the conversation was that there remain questions unanswered and that is causing frustration and a hesitancy to “buy-in” the idea. In trying to identify a best way forward in order to address the issues, it was decided that Jim Simpson and Gayla Wortman would write a memo to Districts, SWCDM, MACDEO, and MSCA to further explain and simplify the anticipated process.

Another issue is that most everyone felt that the process was moving too quickly. In response, Jim Simpson reassigned to target date to “sometime in 2021”. This will allow a thorough discussion of all points, a clear explanation of the process, and a considerate and careful strategy for the design of the internal structure of the new organization, including the mingling of staff, programs, finances etc. The MACD Board and the SWCDM Board and their respective staff will have a joint meeting to tackle some of the weightiest issues. Also, Gayla Wortman will prepare a table tracking all the questions received to date, along with answers and notes for those questions. (The table is included with these minutes but will also be sent out separately.) As more questions are received, they will be added to the table.

Once again, it was again pointed out that nothing has been done, or will be done, until and unless the Districts appear to be in favor. Chuck reported that about 30 Districts had replied to the survey and the results indicate District approval at this time. Districts have until the end of February to submit the surveys.

A by-laws ad hoc committee is being formed, and Jim Simpson will be making selections in the upcoming week; however, anyone can look at the by-laws and offer suggestions and comments. We are shooting to have a draft of the Draft by Spring Board Meeting in June.

CDs are urged to contact any member of the Committee or their Area Directors with their questions or concerns. Also, anyone and everyone is invited to participate on the Reorganization Committee conference calls usually held the 6th of each month. The next call will be March 6, 7:30 a.m. The call-in number is 1-888-575-2051.

/s/ Gayla Wortman, Chair