**Minutes of the September 13, 2016 MCDR Board Meeting**

The MCDR Board met on April 29, 2015 at the home of President Harold Cohen.

Present were: Maile-Beers Arthur, Harold Cohen, Edith Guidice, Shelley Korch, Thom McCloud, Tim Stranges, and Barbara Williams

The Board discussed the following topics

**2016/17 Slate for Elections**

 President will be handled by two individuals as Co-Presidents:

 Tim Stranges and Maile Beers-Arthur

 Past President: Harold Cohen

 Vice President: Thom McCloud

 Treasurer: Barry Weissman

 Secretary: Shelley Korch

 Assistant Secretary: open

 Certification Committee Chairs: Ellen Kandell and Ruth Zanoni

 Membership: Barry Weissman

 Marketing Committee: Open

 Program Committee: Open

 At Large Board Member: David Zoll (also Bar Bench Liaison)

 At Large Board Member: Ann Halb

 At Large Board Member: Rob Ketcham

 At Large Board Member: Stirling Phillips

**Details regarding the Approval of the Slate of Officers:**

Since Harold will not be at the meeting, Barry will open the proceedings on his behalf, Ed and Edie will take over to introduce our speaker. Barry will send out the slate prior to the meeting, and print ballots.

 Because there are still openings, Board members will continue to recruit for open slots at the meeting. We will make an effort also to encourage members to become more active in the organization and recruit new members to join. There was also discussion of following up with a call from Board members to those who join at the meeting to welcome them, and provide information about the organization.

Harold asked the undersigned to immediately share information with the Treasurer, who manages the announcements because we need to circulate information about officers for next year to the membership before the next membership meeting on Sept. 27.  Technically it should go out 4 weeks in advance, but the Board approved a modification as long as it could be circulated at least 2 weeks in advance.

**The Board approved spending $500 to co-sponsor the Colloquium on Unconscious Bias.**

 Tim is working with Maile to organize the Montgomery College Colloquium on Unconscious Bias on October 28. The speakers are very well known for their expertise in this area. MCDR sponsored a fall program at Montgomery College for mediation last year as well. This year it will cost $500, As a sponsor, MCDR’s name and logo will be branded on the conference materials and there will be a table reserved specifically to display MCDR information.  MCDR will receive two complimentary registrations to the colloquium. The attendance fee will go to compensate speakers. Featured presenters are Debby Irving, nationally known author of “Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race” who will present the morning workshop on “Levelling the Playing Field: Interrupting Patterns of Power and Privilege.” The other presenter is Marvin Johnson, mediator, arbitrator, attorney and educator, who will lead a workshop on “Adjusting Our Lenses to See the Baggage We Carry. An audience of over 100 mediators, community members, educators and students are expected.

Maile will bring flyers for the program to the quarterly meeting, Tim will work with Barry to get payment and will ask Barry to send out announcement of the program to the membership via email.

**Discussion of the Mediator’s convention tentatively planned for Dec. 9 at the Maritime Institute.**

Tim is on the planning committee for this conference as well. There was a discussion about having a table again this year. MCDR has done so in the past. Because of Tim’s involvement there will be no cost for a MCDR table at the conference this year. The conference committee will issue a general call for presentations. A number of MCDR members will be presenting at this conference, including Lorig Charkoudian, Louise Phipps Sent, Karl Schneider, Audrey Schnau, Ellen Kandell and Maile.

**Additional Topics of General Discussion**

At the meeting the Board discussed efforts to expand membership and offer opportunities for new mediators to observe or be mentored by senior mediator members. We will continue to look for assistance with the membership committee.

There were also several formal proposals from the Certification Committee regarding proposed expenditures, one for additional equipment to create DVD’s from the video cameras and another to sponsor/conduct training for candidates who are interested in the certification process.  Because both involve money and

the Treasurer was unable to attend the Board meeting the Board decided to leave that decision to next year’s Board and direct the decision be made by

Nov. 1, to ensure that the issues are addressed promptly.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Korch

Secretary