

Rob will be discussing the budget, but I wanted to bring up two ideas for potential savings for everyone to think about before our meeting.

The first issue is the printing of the Newsletter. I know we have had this discussion more than once, but I am bringing it forth once more because of budgetary reasons. What I am proposing is we only offer the newsletter in electronic format for at least the following year. It has the potential of saving \$7,000. Another suggestion, that was offered, is printing only the conference newsletter. The newsletter would be sent out to the individuals and organizations that had requested the newsletter in print. Therefore, cutting back on the printing costs – not as much in savings; nonetheless, it would still be a couple thousands in savings.

Another suggestion, which I do not like to offer up, is we do not meet in Denver in the upcoming year. It would save the organization a potential of \$6,500. There are two options to follow through on this:

- 1) In the past, the board has met at the beginning of the conference - this would include all the outgoing board members, and then the board would meet after the conference – it would include all the incoming board members. The board members would already be present for the conference, so we would not have to charge against MPLA budget for the travel expense. (a substantial savings)
- 2) The summer meeting would be another phone meeting. I am looking into several other options for this other than the traditional phone meeting – PC Conferencing offers some web based capabilities, and I should have some information on this by the time of the board meeting.

This board meeting would not be cancelled indefinitely because I think it is important for the board to see each other more than once a year. However, with the Leadership Institute taking place this year, it is creating a deficit in our budget. (We are still working on vendor support for the Institute, and we have had some good response to this.) I would like to not take as much money from the other “savings” account to make our budget balanced.

So, two issues to think about, and when we meet on the phone next week, be ready for a discussion on the topics.

I have been working with Dan Stanton, Judy and the Leadership committee getting details flushed out for this year's Leadership Institute. Dan, Judy and the committee members have been working diligently on the details, and I thank them for their hard work.

Upcoming board meetings:
Sun., April 18, 2010 3pm at OLA\MPLA conference