

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

2009 MSEA Delegate Assembly

In October and November, Core Trainings entitled “Multiple Hats” were held in Shakopee and Bemidji. The trainings were well attended and evaluations were positive. These training sessions were something new and replaced the fall regional meetings that had been held in previous years. The committee will be reviewing whether to continue fall training sessions, returning to fall regional meetings, or offering both.

Also last fall, the committee was presented with a housing benefit program for MSEA members to assist them with real estate agent referrals, lender information and credit review. The committee discussed the potential benefits for MSEA members, recommended that MSEA participate in the program for one year, and the Board approved the committee’s recommendation. The committee will review the housing benefit program after one year and determine if continued participation would be beneficial to the membership.

The program committee reviewed the governing documents (bylaws and policies) of MSEA and recommended to the Board that four resolutions be brought for consideration at the Delegate Assembly. After reviewing the policies, the committee recommended that a new policy be adopted by the Board. The new policy entitled “Staff Involvement in Internal Politics” was adopted at the January Board meeting.

In preparation for the Delegate Assembly, the Program Committee set the agenda for the Spring Regionals that were held in six locations around the state during February and March. At the regional meetings the attendees, which included delegates and alternates to the 2009 Delegate Assembly, were provided with copies of the pending resolutions and information regarding the open Board positions.

The Program Committee also worked on the planning of the 2009 Delegate Assembly. The Committee recommended, and the Board approved, that the 2009 Delegate Assembly be held at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls, MN. The planning process entailed:

- reviewing the survey results from the 2008 Delegate Assembly;
- meeting with St. Cloud unit members who volunteered to help plan of the banquet;
 - The St. Cloud unit requested two additional members and one retiree be allowed to attend the Assembly to help with the banquet and entertainment. In keeping with past practice, the committee approved this request as a way of encouraging more membership and retiree involvement.
- reviewing, selecting and approving the promotional items for the DA. The committee researched American made and union made items and selected a MSEA sweatshirt, key chain and tote bag for each attendee;
- reviewing, selecting and approving the 2009 Delegate Assembly breakout training sessions
 - PELRA
 - Negotiations I (for beginners)
 - Negotiations II (advanced)

- reviewing and setting the Delegate Assembly Rules for 2009;
- establishing the 2009 Delegate Assembly Agenda;
- assigning Board assignments for the banquet program; and
- recommending for Board approval that the 30th Annual Delegate Assembly be held on April 23-24, 2010 at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls, MN.

The Program Committee will continue to review forming a retiree chapter for MSEA, research training ideas for the fall core training/fall regionals, and modifying the new membership packet.

Respectfully Submitted,

MSEA Program Committee

Kim Lennartson, Chair, St. Paul

Sue Ames, LaCrescent

Cindy Antonson, Moorhead

Mary Schaufenbuel, Windom