



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

December 2007

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HARD AT WORK



Board members (from left to right) Bill Lovett (secretary), Keith Williams (treasurer), and Lisa Blanchard look over the proposed 2008 budget, which was approved at the board meeting on Monday, November 26.

Board members are often the unsung heroes of an organization. Their responsibilities include approving and overseeing the budget, hiring and firing of the Executive Director, and establishing and maintaining the policies and procedures of the organization. It sounds almost simplistic, but in reality requires dependability, conscientiousness and trustworthiness on the part of each and every member of the board because they are the ones who are ultimately accountable for the corporation.

So, accolades to the 2007 Board of Directors: President Jill Ryan, Vice-President Steve Tresidder, Bruce Herbert, Ray Kiogima, The Honorable Richard Pajtas, Connie Saltonstall, B.J. Shawn, Ted Teller, Julie Witthoeft.

Merry Christmas!
Happy New Year!

SAVE THESE DATES

- Holiday Party** – You will receive an invitation soon.
Northern Community Mediation
Tuesday, December 11
4:30 – 6:00
- Annual Meeting** – Coffee and pastries will be served.
Charlevoix Public Library
Thursday, January 10
9:00 – 10:30
- General Civil Training** – Lunch will be served.
NMH Educational Resource Center
Thursday, January 17
9:00 – 4:00
No charge for NCM mediators.
Be certain to register.
- Theatre Party** – Be certain to get your tickets.
Petoskey Cinema
Tuesday, March 11
5:30 - ?

SPEAKING OF UNSUNG HEROES

On a weekly basis, there is a corps of mediators who appear in small claims court. On Wednesdays—soon to be Fridays—we can depend upon Kirsten Cochran, Hugh Conklin, Adolph Cwik, and Ron Moore to cover Charlevoix small claims. On Thursdays, Gary Barfknecht, Bob Cardinal, Suzanne LaBeau, Keith Lapp, Josie MacLean, Deb Reed, and Nancy Sherman are doing the same for Emmet County. So, hats off to the Small Claims Champions.

COMPETENT COMMUNICATOR

Not only is Keith Lapp a competent mediator, he recently earned the designation of Competent Communicator from Toastmasters International. To earn this award, Keith had to complete a series of 10 prepared speeches. The question is “What did Keith talk about?”

Happy Hanukkah!
Happy New Year!