



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

January 22, 2018

For more information contact Jane Millar at 231.487.1771

## Annual Meeting

On Thursday, January 18, Northern Community Mediation (NCM) held its annual meeting at noon at city Park Grill in Petoskey. Approximately 25 people attended to hear about NCM's performance in 2017.

Following the approval of the minutes from the previous annual meeting, the new board members were recognized. The nominations of Hugh Conklin, The Honorable Joe Hayes, Kirstyn Horan and Liisa Morley were approved. The nominations for officers were then approved. Bob Banner is the new president and Brian Kasiborski the new vice-president. Bill Meengs and Stuart Fenton will remain on the Executive Committee as treasurer and secretary respectively.

Executive Director Jane Millar then thanked the outgoing board members. Julie Kuchnicki, The Honorable Fred Mulhauser, Kirk Raymond and Kate Scollin. Each received a gift certificate from a restaurant in their communities as a token of thanks for their years of service to NCM.

It was then time for the presentation of the annual awards. The Veteran Mediator of the Year Award is presented to a mediator who has been mediating for more than two years and exhibits dedication and willingness to go out of his/her way. Although Dick Hendrian had received this award in the past, it was again presented to him. Dick has been mediating for NCM for over 15 years, and has always been considered an excellent mediator. With his "retirement" from mediation, it was only appropriate that he again receive Veteran Mediator of the Year.

The Rookie Mediator of the Year Award goes to a mediator who has been trained within the past two years and goes above and beyond "the call of duty." The choice of Ed Cole for this recognition was obvious. As a result of a pilot project and grant, Ed has been serving as the Restorative Practices Coordinator at Pellston High School since January 2017. He has drawn upon his experience in education to become an exemplary mediator and facilitator.

The Advocate of the Year Award is bestowed upon an individual who supports and promotes mediation. Over the years, Jim Raber has more than met those qualifications. When he was with the Charlevoix court system, he promoted the use of mediation in resolving parenting time cases. He has also served as a mediator for NCM and is presently the Restorative Practices Coordinator at Boyne City High School.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of the annual report. The year 2017 was an exceptionally successful year for NCM. Financially, NCM ended the year in the black. Highlights of the year include having closed 1,061 cases, impacted 3,261 individuals and 493 children, implemented the Restorative Practices Project and the American Veterans Program, and begun celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which will be in October 2018.

Northern Community Mediation is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative means of resolving conflict. Trained mediators, who meet with the parties involved in a dispute, facilitate so that the individuals themselves can resolve the conflict

Anyone interested in learning more about Northern Community Mediation should contact Dr. Jane Millar at 231.487.1771.

Pictured from left to right are Hugh Conklin, Kirstyn Horan, The Honorable Joe Hayes, Liisa Morley, Dick Hendrian, Jim Raber, Ed Cole

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