



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

January 21, 2019

For more information contact Jane Millar at 231.487.1771

Annual Meeting

On Thursday, January 17, Northern Community Mediation (NCM) held its annual meeting at noon at City Park Grill. Following the approval of the 2017 annual meeting minutes and acceptance of the treasurer's report, outgoing board members Mark Fralick, Mary Roberts, Christian Smith and The Honorable Valerie Snyder were recognized for their contributions to the organization.

Incoming board members Izabela Babinska and Nikki Devitt were then introduced. Babinska is the Foundation Relations Officer with McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital, and Devitt is the Events & Communications Director with the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce. This was followed by the approval of the officers for 2019: Bob Banner for president, Brian Kasiborski for vice-president, Bill Meengs for treasurer, and Stuart Fenton for secretary.

Executive Director Jane Millar then presented the annual report. Although monetary resources are essential for any organization, without outstanding human resources an agency cannot flourish. Consequently, Millar drew attention to the contributions of Case Managers Karen Cole and Caroline Smith, as well as the Board of Directors. Millar continued by stating, "At a rate of \$150 per hour, the value of the contribution of the volunteer mediators totals \$166,526.62. Without their dedication, NCM would cease to exist."

Millar also stressed that 2018 was a successful year for NCM. It disposed of 847 cases, served 2,667 individuals and impacted the lives of 406 children. It ended the year with a positive financial status. Of the 18 Citizen Dispute Resolution Program centers throughout the state of Michigan, NCM continues to be exemplary.

Millar ended the report by highlighting the fact that much of the year was focused upon the 25th anniversary of NCM. As examples, she emphasized the fact that NCM had a month-long, billboard ad, was featured on Lite 96.3 for a month, was a table designer for Women Can/Women Do in both Charlevoix and Petoskey, hosted an anniversary party at City Park Grill, personally recognized various individuals, companies and organizations that make a difference in our communities, and was featured on TV 7&4's Circles of Kindness.

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 new board members Izabela Babinska & Nikki Devitt.

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