



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2019

City Park Grill in Petoskey

*The mission of Northern Community Mediation is to help people resolve conflicts in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties*

Board Members Present: Izabela Babinska, Bob Banner, Hugh Conklin, Ed Engstrom, Brian Kasiborski, Liisa Morley, Kirstyn Horan

Staff Present: Karen Cole, Caroline Smith

Guests Present; Amy Stikovich

Board Members Absent: Nikki Devitt, Sturt Fenton, Bill Meengs

President Bob Banner called the meeting to order at 12:01pm and welcomed everyone. Everyone then went round the table and introduced himself/herself.

In the absence of Secretary Stuart Fenton, who had to be in court, and Treasurer Bill Meengs, who had a conflict with another annual meeting, Executive Director Jane Millar presented the minutes and gave the financial report. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented and passed unanimously. It was moved and seconded to accept the treasurer's report, which was also approved unanimously.

Bob Banner then introduced the new board members, Izabela Babinska and Nikki Devitt. It was moved and seconded to approve their nominations. Passed unanimously. Bob Banner then presented the slate of officers: Bob Banner for president, Brian Kasiborski for vice-president, Bill Meengs for treasurer, and Stuart Fenton for secretary. Moved, seconded and approved unanimously. The outgoing board members were then thanked for their service: Mark Fralick, Mary Roberts, Christian Smith and the Honorable Valerie Snyder.

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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

Following the annual report, there was a discussion about changing the date of the annual meeting in 2020 from the third Thursday in January to the fourth Thursday in January. This would give the Executive Director more time to prepare the annual report and would not conflict with the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting. It was moved and seconded to make this change and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Millar".

Jane Millar, Executive Director  
In the absence of Secretary Stuart Fenton