March 1, 2014 Executive Committee Minutes

Present via the internet: Deb Czarneski, chair; Brian Birgen, vice-chair; Amanda Matson, vice-chair elect; Ron Smith, secretary; Al Hibbard, governor; Russ Goodman, past-chair; Joy Becker, information director; Matt Rissler, Liaison Coordinator; Ruth Berger, competition coordinator.

The First Annual Google Hangout Spring Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by Brian Birgen at 2:35 p.m.

Brian Birgen reported on the Joint Meeting Section Officers meeting. There were several ideas on use of funds from the Rocky Mountain, Indiana, and Southeast sections. Ideas included grant programs, matching funds programs, math circles, a speakers program and using money to involve two year college faculty. The Indiana section report noted that there was not a huge demand for speakers from the smaller colleges. There were reminders to get financial reports and bylaw changes in on time. There was also a discussion of how to get emeriti faculty involved.

Brian Birgen led a discussion on section T-shirts. The front will have the MAA logo. The back can have anything. We will choose one color for the t-shirt and one color of ink. Brian volunteered to take the lead on this for the section. There will be a call for designs this spring. The target date for having the t-shirts is at the fall meeting.

Russell Goodman led a discussion on section funds. Ideas that have been submitted include the following: Support for Governor to go to national meetings; Support for section officers to go to national meetings; Establishing a grants program for projects that support the IA MAA mission; Funds for student presentations; Support for a section lecture circuit.

Deb Czarneski moved to give up to $250 per meeting to the governor and up to $250 to the section executive committee representative to attend each national meeting throughout Al Hibbard’s term as governor. After a second and some discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Other discussion items included the following:

- Brian Birgen noted that grant programs involve lots of tax issues. If we decide to have one, we need to go through national office to make sure that paperwork is filed correctly.
- Deb reminded us that the purpose of the executive committee is not to determine how to use the money, but rather to create a list of possibilities for the section to discuss at the Fall meeting. There seemed to be general consensus on this point.
- Brian Birgen suggested that we have an undergraduate poster session at fall meeting. Discussion raised the issue that it might keep the faculty away since
students don't like to go overnight. It was suggested that a grants program might help the situation. No formal action was taken.

- We have invited Illinois and Wisconsin to our next meeting.
- Should we have a sigma meeting at the section meeting? There was not a lot of response either way.
- Future discussion: Use of MAA funds to increase attendance at meetings. It was suggested that we issue a request for ideas before the fall meetings.

Al Hibbard moved to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Smith, Secretary