

NORTHEAST HERS ALLIANCE
Board Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2010

Attendees for Meeting: Frank, Brian, Peter, Peggy, Glenn, Jim, Chris

- Approval of Minutes from November Meeting
 - Chris/Glenn/Approved

- Treasurer's Report
 - Total expenses to be approved: \$27,016.89
 - **Glenn/Brian/Approved**

 - Two pending expenses need further investigation before approval
 - Currently operating under negative cash flow due – new programs should reverse that trend

- Nominating Committee Report
 - Full Slate of Candidates
 - Meet the candidates call is tomorrow afternoon
 - Ballots for voting will go out on Thursday
 - Second endorsement email for RESNET board voting – for NEHERS members who are running – Peter will write quick email and send to providers

- Membership Committee Report
 - Membership held steady so far to date
 - 3 New trainer providers in region
 - 2011 Membership dues
 - 10% early bird discount offered
 - Eliminated tiers for rating provider members and went with base rate plus charge per rater with a cap
 - Added dual rating provider / training provider member category
 - Need to get final count from rater providers on total number of raters before issuing bill
 - Still working on sponsor member due structure
 - Approval of new due structure
 - **Chris/Peter/Approved**

 - Frank report on rater survey highlights: Summary pulled together for rater members. Note: cost of membership vs. value derived. 50% said "good", 50% said "fair or poor". Comment that this was a crappy year because no credits available most of the year. In general – moving in direction. 91% have copy of manual and often refer to it. 95% said interested in an annual chapter 4 update, at an average cost of 35%. 84% would attend our sessions that offered credits. 38% interested on Alliance committees.
 - Frank read a report on housing starts in our region, working with 1,400 builders, # ratings done in region. Telling statistics for our sponsor program.
 - Potential to expand NEHERS trainings to PA and MD, since they have the most housing starts there.

- Anything new on sponsor program? Frank will bring up during January meeting
- Training Committee Report
 - Ethan not here so no report
 - The training committee and 3 training providers met last week and agreed to collaboratively develop ESTAR v.3 class. Frank developed an MOU for this initiative and asked for feedback – will meet with Peter and Chris Tuesday at 8:30.
 - Infrared training. 8 different companies do level I training, two in our back yard in February and May. Fees \$1,400 - \$1,850. Once we have dollar numbers, we could do survey monkey to see where, when to give it.
 - Interest from survey in Green Rater training. Another thing to ask in survey. Wonder whether anyone in our region can teach it?
 - Peggy brought up Energy Raters of MA desire to become a training provider. Issue of ensuring we have quality curriculum. Frank suggested we come up with a ¾ day content follow up to make people “street smart” raters.
 - Eurihea Speciale commented on quality of NEHERS training and could he audit a class and give suggestions. Peter agreed that it’s hard to take a 6-day course and be ready to do ratings without a good mentoring. Some providers do a better job than others.
 - Peggy commented that there is now competition to be providers for independent raters!
- Professional Development Program
 - Should we hold a webinar in March, when it is busy with NESEA conference, right after RESNET conference, etc.? Peggy and executive committee recommends a break in March.
 - Frank is ready to announce our Bill Spohn course in January, and a Save the date for the advanced Rem/Rate class by AEC at RESNET.
 - Frank also mentioned an opportunity to give testing to a Bill Spohn class in Ohio.
 - Frank convinced NESEA to give us 2 comp tickets. Frank will get one ticket; Board voted to raffle NESEA ticket to members who register the class.
- QAD Committee
 - Peter recommends the committee meet again in the spring but waiting for feedback from Ben who will take issues to RESNET QA committee to get specific answers.
- Communications Committee
- Technical Committee
- Other Business
 - Proposed to create “time matrix” for new independent raters to allow raters to use as a reference in determining on what they charge
 - Chris brought up RESNET’s request for data. He will clarify with Clinton what data they need. This question was initiated with Chris Johnson, past NEHERS president. Chris recommended we look into it more and try to get a position on privacy of data and not violating. Chris J also concerned with time required; Peggy concerned with the justification for this by RESNET, who will require this next year.