**MCDA Town Hall Meeting Minutes-July 10, 2020**

Meeting called to order: 1:00 pm

Attendees:

Julien Neill, Natasha OrtizFortier, Maria Schaeffer, Pam McHugh, Rachel Loock, Karol Taylor, Natalie Kauffman, Karen Chopra, Paul Martin, Karen Santiano-Francis, Heather Foudos, Adam Albanese, Jennifer Bangour, Marc St,Hilaire

Julie began the Town Hall with introductions of new Board Members and then focused the meeting on “What we’re seeing”

New Board Member Introductions:

President: Julie Neill

President Elect: Natasha OrtizFortier

Immediate Past President: Carolyn Owens

Secretary: Pam McHugh

Treasurer: Maria Schaeffer

Newsletter: Rachel Loock

Legislative: Natalie Kauffmann

Roundtable

Comments about cuts in higher education

Paul Martin-14% cut at Howard Community College, COVID-19 is a blessing- mentioned that there is a lot of free webinars, info., stuff; NACE Connect—Career counseling best practices.

Paul added that the Department of Labor is funding $40 million dollars in grants to Community Colleges.

Also added that International Students were having even more difficulties in the current environment. ESL students indicated that with language issues and not understanding the job search process, they were taking lower level positions than what they are qualified for.

Julie indicated that there are budget cuts and furloughs and the University of Maryland

Websites:

 Potential interest to retirees or those transitioning to retirement:

Flexjobs.com

Sidehusl.com

Encore.org-primarily volunteer opportunities

We can add value-Virtual interview prep

Encouraged to fill out survey--- training on Job Search in the new COVID-19 environment

Newsletter

Do we need changes?

Membership Building/Networking/Programming

Outreach, grass roots to non-profit sector

How to build networks

Karen Chopra—free consortia--indicated that she wants the MCDA Conference to continue—would like more information on thoughts?

Julie—Membership survey result-Suggested virtual conference; webinars; support private users; develop Mastermind Groups, create/update member directory; need to promote organization and get more involvement. Reach back out to presenters/volunteers lined up for Annual Conference that was cancelled in April for webinars—Karen Chopra suggested the topics of Anti-Racism and Tech Competency

Julie suggested a virtual panel presentation on career transition—Karen recommended inviting clients to the workshops

Natalie Kaufman asked--Should we have/continue affiliate membership? Gave a shout out to members who kept MCDA going during the transition/chaos—Carolyn, Maria and Pam

Natalie added that MCDA has a group account with The Myers-Briggs Company

Mentioned growth of Asia Pacific Career Development Association (APCDA)

Create NCDA-like private practitioner groups

Julie added that she would like to establish a Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Adam asked that we weave coaching into career development. How to respond to career transition questions in the new environment and how to process

Karen Chopra suggested coaching on virtual job fairs, as these are tough for interviewees. To prep interviewees, Karol recommended write/pre-type career story narrative, then have it available to copy and paste.

Julie reiterated that the organization needs to generate revenue/income to stay viable and recover from prior losses. Need to determine price point for events, keeping some free; need to add pay???. Possibly host a Diversity and Inclusion training (non CEUs) and open it up.

Maria indicated that MCDA needs to maintain a $10,000.00 balance per year at a minimum to stay viable and meet NCDA requirements for chapters. Maria’s records indicate 105 paid members.

Karen S. added that CEUs were hard to find-added we have CEUs; are these the right ones?

Karol added that MCDA can’t under charge for events in order to build bank account back up. Should we have a retiree rate?

MCDA to get lower price on\_\_\_\_\_? (can’t recall lower price on what?)

Discussion around pricing: Karen C. recommended we have varying fees for various kinds of content. Heather asked if we could use a sliding scale? Affiliate memberships do we still have? Julie to follow up with Marilyn Maze for guidance.

Karol indicated that we should leverage/use various existing MCDA social media platforms for outreach: MCDA Facebook group, LinkedIn group.

Listing of prior MCDA Officers:

President: Lucinda M. Nobles

President Elect: N. Shavon Kelly

Immediate Past President: Sabira Vohra

Secretary: Jenn Lard

Treasurer: Maria Schaeffer

Newsletter: Indira Jackson

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30pm