

NYSFAAA Region III Holiday Brunch / Meeting

December 3, 2021

Venue: Sherwood Inn

Attendees: Maximo Flint Morgan, Kelly Kelly, Robin Zinger, Tammy Gilbeaux, Tammy Eikler, Darren Rooker, LaSonya Griggs, Cynthia Roach, Patti Donahue, Peg Stearns

Max, Region III chair, called the meeting to order at 10:35 am.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION to accept October 2021 minutes made by Max and Cynthia seconded, minutes approved with all in favor.

Treasurer Report (Cynthia) \$5,731 carry over balance which was \$6,531 last month but used \$800 for Sherwood Inn Holiday Brunch and Meeting for 12/3/21; no revenue sharing received yet; 8 scholarship recipients named.

Open Forum

FSA discussion on: 2nd federal update, FAFSA changes – child support received is now an asset, small business exclusion/businesses with < 100 employees do not need to have the value of the business reported; traditional age independent students status provisionally independent; homelessness question will auto fill after the first year of completion/only needs to provide documentation once not annually; Novice training; Number in College doesn't split EFC; Simplified Needs test 275% above poverty line/92,500 AGI for a family of 4 - Pell eligible; Divorced parents-regardless of who is the custodial parent, parent who provides most support should be added; DRT may start to include household information; Darren's commentary-see it more like TAP, that institutions won't decide, the IRS information will decide; DoE and IRS will be able to share data easier; Sibling in college data is no longer required on FAFSA; Exit loan counseling session must include CFB type about debt and warn against "predators" -lender institutions; ASLA for parent loans too; 2021-2022-waived federal verification; cash flow improvement; NASFAA advocacy for 2022/2023; Servicers that no longer will be servicing loans once repayment starts up again; My FedLoan extending their participation for PSLF; LaSonya proposed resuming guidance counselor workshop for financial aid in Region III-will present topic to Exec Council for in-person high schools in November and virtual high school counselors workshop in January; HESC still not traveling for workshops; too early for planning of 24-25 year but can start planning and send out survey; statewide event; HESC assistant; HESC improvements include technical upgrades; Dept. of Ed and HESC IT upgrades; software/platforms changing (no COBOL programmers); IT changes coming from state and federal level; Institutions of higher learning need to advocate for IT resources to support upcoming changes; FAFSA Simplification doesn't mean more aid; Reconciliations-different forms of aid (TEACH, DL, Pell). Chair-Max noted a need for increase in volunteerism: a regional membership representative, attendance at statewide membership meetings and some outreach; Sean Sherwood is part of NYSFAAA's team to update state website; Kimberly Willis

is new chair of DEI committee; Darrin read minutes on behalf of Janet; March 12 Zoom meeting with speakers Herb Alexander; Vote on Novice scholarship for Region III and sponsor up to 10 people (\$1250 to be increased to \$1450; Max made a motion to accept that increase in scholarship amount and Danielle seconded, approved with all in favor. Per LaSonya, great virtual participation by Region III for FAFSA filing event.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Max and seconded by Peg, with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Stearns (Executive Councilperson on behalf of Janet Lafata / Secretary)