

## The CRBA General Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2009

President Vicki Langen called the meeting to order at 19:05 @ the Biscay Community Room in Biscay, MN. 18 members were present.

Ziemer Plumbing and Heating sponsored this meeting.

A power point presentation was given by Vicki emphasizing the benefits offered to members of CRBA, BAM, and NHBA. These benefits include but are not limited to reduced insurance premiums, legal counseling, legal documents available, research information, and information regarding current issues within the building trade industry, especially bills pending within the local and national legislatures. One of the most beneficial, and powerful benefits is the ability to have lobbyists serving our industry and we as individual contractors through negotiations, and effective communications to all parties.

Another concept emphasized was the positive power of active membership and networking and their effect on the margin of profit.

The new format of the next year of membership meetings was introduced. It will be as follows:

- 5:30 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. = social hour
- 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. = credited education hour
- 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. = business meeting
- 8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. = individual networking

Information was given to the contractors re the change of renewal dates for MN Builder's license beginning in 2010. More info to follow as obtained. There may be a need to offer additional educational days throughout the year.

The budgets for 2007 and 2008 were reviewed briefly and compared to the budget for 2009 as it was introduced. Upcoming changes in expenditures were made known to the general membership, largely due to reductions in membership dues collected, the LAC fund assessments, and new taxation requirements for our EO now that we are officially conducting business as a not-for profit organization. With this in mind the need for additional fundraising efforts is significant. Also the need to spend less, ei the nightly meal for members will now become the responsibility of the individuals.

As an incentive to retain memberships, gain memberships, grow active members for CRBA a monetary "kitty" has been established. At each general meeting every member's name will be placed into the jar for a drawing for the contents of the kitty. The member must be present to win. If a member helps at extra CRBA functions, they will have one additional chance to win the next months drawing. We will start each kitty with \$100.00 and add \$25.00 to it each time the person who is drawn is not present to receive the money. The money for this kitty shall be provided for by the monthly sponsorship dollars. This incentive program can be reviewed, amended, discontinued by the executive board at any time.

A special election was held for the next BAM board delegate. Candidates' were Scott Schochenmaier, Vicki Langen, and Ryan Vos. The three year Bam delegate will be Ryan Vos. The two year alternate will be Vicki Langen. These terms will take effect for next year, but Bam wants this info by July 2009.

The TOH update was given by Lynn Schauer. Presently we have seven homes registered and fees paid for to be a part of the tour. Arrangements have been made for bussing for the contractor's night tour on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009. A list of judges has been

established and contacts being made by the TOH committee. Award winning signs will be purchased from Crow River Glass for \$13.00 each, and become the property of the winning contractors. To date we have received \$650.00 sponsorship dollars with canvassing not yet completely done. Sue Colden is still negotiating with Casey's for some arrangement of sponsorship dollars. Advertising has been arranged through a variety of means.

The LAC update was given by Lynn Schauer. There has been no action with the LAC since the last meeting. Lynn asked all members to contact her with their ideas of why it is important to have representation with this committee for the smaller organizations of greater MN. She will forward a letter of encouragement to all smaller organizations to band together to have our needs heard and met at the state level with regard to this LAC fund and it's spending and the assessment to our organization. There are at least six open positions on this committee.

Vicki announced she has a c.d. available for anyone re making it through tough economic times of crisis. Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 21:10.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynn Schauer, Sec.