MSCF Legislative Steering Committee

Conference Call

November 3rd, 2016

Members Present:

Paul McDonald

Mark Grant

Ben Kiely

Jamie Kleinendorst

Andrea Buettner

Rick Nelson – Chair

John Ward – Staff

Meeting call-to-order at 2:30 pm.

**2017 legislative goals and value statement.**

* Discussion on where to place the MSCF higher education legislative goals of the membership during the 2017 session and beyond. By consensus it was agreed to make it as a separate document and forward to the Executive Committee for their use and that they adopt this as part of political and membership engagement strategy for spring 2017 and beyond.
* Legislative value statement as is was agreed to by consensus.
* Legislative goals were discussed further. It was agreed that we’d have another conference call in November before forwarding to the MSCF Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Goal #1 investment – discussion on the 5-year moratorium on new building projects and shift focus exclusively to the HEAPR back log – Discussion that members were not certain that their own faculty would support this long-term if their college was up for a project in their area and/or their college. Further discussion and definition will be asked of either the officer and/or executive committee. As to the intent of the letter sent to Minn State regarding the Minn State legislative ask?

* It was agreed to add the following item-

eliminate the debt service for colleges and to have all debt service for projects into the future paid by MN State.

* All other goals were supportive at this time but members want another chance to review before making a recommendation
* Members were encouraged to review goal 2,3,4 and 5 before our next meeting and e-mail all members of the committee if they have any additional thoughts and ideas.

**Campaign Update 2016:**

* “Road Warriors” has had some good success in areas this year. Rochester, Grand Rapids, Brooklyn Center, White Bear Lake, and Willmar
* MSCF had good numbers of participation at various campuses around the state being engaged in campaigns
* Matt, Chip, Mark and Rick will work on extending some training opportunities in the future for “Road Warriors” and local legislative liaisons around campaigns

**Adopt a Legislator Program discussed**

* Willing partners in governmental relations members on the call all agreed a good idea
* Extend to Elected officers(which officers to be determined) to be included in the Adopt A Legislator program

Note: Mark, Rick and Matt will work on putting together a template or overview guideline to be used for the Adopt a Legislator program.

Some of basic ideas shared were as follows

* Start with a face-to-face meeting in early January during Steering Committee/Executive Committee lobby day early in session
* Every other week contact via e-mail, phone or in person if the legislator lived in your district to check-in on higher education issues
* March/April face-to-face meeting during lobby day
* Lobbyist (Matt, Mark and/or Rick) of MSCF would be contacted our member to reach out an additional time –if individual legislators need to be aware or updated on a topic or specific issue
* A thank you opportunity at the end of session if we feel one is needed –such as a personal visit and lunch or coffee with them.
* Look for more details later
* It was agreed the go-to meeting dating for legislative liaisons and chapter presidents to encourage member engagement this spring will be set up by John Ward and Rick Nelson
* Welcome to Mark Grant to the GR position
* Discussion regarding upcoming election
* Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Nelson