

MIIN - Midwest Indigenous Immersion Network

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 9, 2021

[Zoom Link](#)

I. Call to order

Board-Chair Miigis Gonzalez called to order the regular meeting of the MIIN Board of Directors at 5:46 on August 9th, 2021 via ZOOM meeting.

II. Roll call

Naawakwe conducted a roll call.

The following persons were present: Dustin Burnette, Tim Slekar, Michael Sullivan, Miigis Gonzalez, Melissa Boyd, William Howes III

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

This is the initial meeting. There are no minutes to be approved.

IV. Ongoing Topics

- a) Ongoing topic/summary of discussion
- b) Ongoing topic/summary of discussion
- c) Ongoing topic/summary of discussion

V. New Topics

- a) Introductions: completed 1-by-1
- b) Articles of Incorporation (intention is for approval of): Director Burnette led an initial review to ensure all members have a common understanding. Question by member Boyd on whether the MIIN Director has a vote on the board. Discussion was had on this topic. It was decided that there will be 5 board members, where the Director is not a member of the Board of Directors. After discussion on the Removal Section, changes were made to the necessary votes for removal of a board member. Discussion was had on the Dissolution Section. A list of possible places (Programs, 501(c)(3)s, Colleges, etc) will be shared for a decision on the entity to be named. Discussion was had on the Article VII-Objective section.

- c) Formal Vote for Officers: Motion by member Boyd, seconded by member Slekar, for a vote to approve the Officers as is. Motion passes unanimously.
- d) By-laws (planning/prep): Discussion was had on the future development of By-laws by the board. Chair Gonzalez will review and share some links. Comments were made on the effort to make our By-laws uniquely Ojibwe-Anishinaabe. Member Sullivan will reach out to some folks for examples of how this might be done. The goal is to work on the By-laws over the next 3 months and have something to review at the next Board Meeting.
- e) Board Training update: Chair Gonzalez provided an overview. Many details were shared. 3 Big Take-aways: 1. Importance of Communication and Time-management (financial reports, action items, etc.) 2. We Have Legal Business Responsibilities as a Board 3. The Big Picture of our Goal
- f) Scheduling next meeting: Suggestion was made to have Board Meetings the 2nd Monday every 3 months at 5:30p.m. - Monday, November 8th, 2021
- g) Question from member Boyd on when sharing of resources will commence. Discussion was had on the topic. Discussion was had on how participants became participants and how others can in the future. Current participant list was shared that showed 12 current participants. MOAs and other information on participants will be shared with the board via a Shared Folder in GoogleDrive.

VI. Action Items

- a) Listed action to be taken/decided: **MOU/MOA review at next meeting**
- b) Listed action to be taken/decided: **Articles will be shared by Director Burnette by Wednesday (8.11.21) for approval on Friday (8.13.21)**

VII. Adjournment

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 6:56p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Naawakwe aka William Howes III

Minutes approved by: Miigis Gonzalez



MIIN - Midwest Indigenous Immersion Network Meeting Agenda

Date: November 8, 2021

[Zoom Link](#)

I. Call to order

Board-Chair Miigis Gonzalez called to order the regular meeting of the MIIN Board of Directors at 5:39 on November 8th, 2021 via ZOOM meeting.

II. Roll call

Naawakwe conducted a roll call.

The following persons were present: Dustin Burnette, Michael Sullivan, Miigis Gonzalez, Melissa Boyd, William Howes III

Absent: Tim Slekar

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Link to August 9, 2021 meeting minutes: [Minutes to Approve](#)

Motion to approve - Baabiitaw

2nd by Naawakwe

Discussion - none

Approved

IV. Ongoing Topics

- a) Scheduling Next Meeting: February 21st, 2022 5:30-7pm

V. New Topics

- a) MIIN Website - Gimiwan showed the MIIN website that will be live in the next 2 weeks (verify on November 15th). Various pages were shared. Question by Baabiitaw - Are we keeping the dates of going live with the website? Will there be someone managing the website? (removing old posts etc.)
Is there a way to document that the Board of Directors is not responsible for reimbursing Exec Director Gimiwan for personal funds being spent to have the website built? Exec Director indicates he will claim this as a tax right-off.

- b) Employee Contracts - Motion to table this item by Baabiitaw; 2nd by Naawakwe; Discussion - None; Motion passes
- c) Fundraising - Discussion about the need for Policies, Human Resources, etc in regards to taking in money from entities that have indicated a desire to support MIIN. There is a need to figure out benefits offers, fringe rates, etc.. H&R Block will be utilized to determine taxes and deductions from Employee checks.
Baabiitaw has a strategy call tomorrow with major funders to bring funds into MIIN.
Migizi is requesting Policies from Menominee College to see if they have policies we can use.
Baabiitaw asks for an Agenda item to review Governance on a schedule as part of our Board meetings. Could this be part of an Annual Review?
Naawakwe recommends looking into Employer Insurance (general business insurance) to cover litigation, etc.
- d) By-laws Review and Approval - Miigis is facilitating the review. Baabiitaw points out the use of the word "Corporation"; Gimiwan and Baabiitaw will look into Article IV "Membership"; Miigis asked about Terms for the Board of Directors and how can we get a staggered time for different members since we are all starting now; Gimiwan will check Article IX with legal; Gimiwan will work with Chair Miigis and Naawakwe on governance issues in relation to updates for the By-Laws. ***The By-laws were not put up for approval.**
- e) Vision/Goals of MIIN - tabled
- f) Human Resources Concerns - covered enough in previous conversation on c) *Fundraising*
- g) Policies to gain 501c3 status - Migizi is reaching out and others are encouraged to do the same.
- h) Short-term Goals - Recruitment - Miigis asks about consideration of salary amounts offered; Gimiwan will provide Directors Report for all upcoming meetings; 7 of 11 Partners showed up to last month's meeting; Discussion was had at the MIIN Partners Meeting on recruitment of people who speak Ojibwe at Colleges and Universities - the Subcommittee made a list of all the different college programs, Migizi recommends including the member schools and organizations that are Partners in recruitment efforts, Miigis asks about how we can employ

college students in some way to help Partners and also to identify past graduates.

Conference Presentations (FDLTCC Language Symposium) - Gimiwan is presenting at the MIAC Indigenous Language Symposium and would like to have active Partners co-present

VI. Action Items

a) Listed action to be taken/decided:

b) Listed action to be taken/decided:

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Baabiitaw, 2nd by Migizi, Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 7:27p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Naawakwe aka William Howes III

Minutes approved by: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'WJ', is written over a horizontal line.