

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

### ***July 20, 2016***

#### **Call to Order**

- ◆ President Maureen McFarland called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### **Attendance**

- ◆ Present: Maureen McFarland, Doug Collins, Cortney Dupont, Steve Ray, Mary Jane White, Sarah Fleury, Church Davis, Eric Steuernagle Excused: Doug Goudey, Barbara Demers Absent: Sandra Preston, Guests: Paula McLean, Barbara Osborne, Franz Forster, Debbie Dwyer Staff: Sandy Carroll, Sue O'Brien

#### **President's Report**

- ◆ President McFarland reminded everyone of the Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality and Anti-Trust Avoidance policies.

#### **Executive Session**

#### **End Executive Session**

#### **Corporate Review and Approval**

- ◆ **Motion** to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded and approved.
- ◆ **Motion** to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Seconded and approved unanimously.
- ◆ **Motion** to approve June Orientation attendees, as presented, as REALTOR® members. Seconded and approved unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

- ◆ : Staff advised board that our core standards submission has been approved for the year.
- ◆ **Other Old Business: Legislative Luncheon Wrap Up** – Consider moving to April, perhaps a breakfast and rebranding of name.

#### **New Business**

- ◆ **ROTY Committee Update:** Congratulations to Mary Jane White, named 2016 REALTOR® of the Year.
- ◆ **Proposed Changes to Awards Policy:** **Motion** to approve the policy changes, as presented and amended. Seconded and approved unanimously.



And Multiple Listing Service, Inc.

### Reports

- ◆ **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning:** Debbie Dwyer, Chair: Presentation of sponsorship form. **Consensus** to respond by email once pricing has been determined with regard to any subsidy of costs by the Board.
- ◆ **Government Affairs:** Franz Forster, Chair: **Motion** to approve Steve Ray to form a delegation to reach out to the Berkshire Eagle and local press to deliver our message about Energy Scoring Legislation as approved by MAR legal counsel. **Motion** to take no position of the Pittsfield Community Preservation Act as it is for Pittsfield voters to decide and to fulfill our role in educating the members on this ballot issue.
- ◆ **MLS Board of Directors:** Mary Jane White presented an update on the MLS voting issues, as well as provided an update on the progress of MLS Taskforces and Fargo Flexmls summit meeting.
- ◆ **Professional Standards:** Sherry Street, Chair: Cindy Poulin, Eric Steuernagle, Mary Jo Piretti Miller and Steve Ray have been trained to provide Ombudsmen processing.
- ◆ **REACT Update:** Paula McLean, Chair: Just under \$3000 raised by the American Dream Team at the Relay for Life. Book House is a smashing success. Chili Cook-off will be held at the Country Club of Pittsfield on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- ◆ June 26 – North County SOS, North Adams City Hall
- ◆ June 28 – Central County SOS, Board Office Conference Room
- ◆ June 29 – South County SOS, Great Barrington Fire Station
- ◆ August 17 – Legal Luncheon, Country Club of Pittsfield
- ◆ Adjourn at 10:55 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue O'Brien".

Submitted by: Sue O'Brien, Member Services Administrator



**SELECTION COMMITTEES APPOINTED IN FULL BY THE PRESIDENT:**

~~**Good Neighbor Selection Committee:** A five (5) Member selection committee, all Presidential Appointments, chaired by the immediate past Good Neighbor Award Recipient, if available, and comprised of past GN's or representatives throughout the county. Appointments subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.~~

~~**REALTOR® of the Year Selection Committee:** A five (5) Member committee, all Presidential Appointments, chaired by the immediate past REALTOR of the YEAR and comprised of past ROTY award winners. Appointments subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.~~

**Awards Selection Committee:** A five (5) member committee shall be appointed by the President and chaired by the most immediate past 'Berkshire REALTOR of the Year' able to serve. The President shall select past award winners for service on this selection committee and committee appointments shall be ratified by the Board of Directors. Once formed, the group will review nomination applications received and select one deserving candidate for each award. If no nominations are received, the committee may ask potential candidates to submit an application for consideration for any award or may forgo naming an award winner.

**Awards**

The Berkshire County Board of REALTORS® is proud to recognize many worthy members, organizations and citizens of Berkshire County for outstanding service to our association and our community. Some of the most important achievements are made through the efforts of normally unsung heroes and in this, we are honored to show recognition of good work.

**REALTOR OF THE YEAR:**

The REALTOR of the YEAR award is given to the REALTOR® that best exemplifies professionalism and service to the industry. The recipient is someone who has contributed outstanding time and energy to the betterment of the REALTOR® organization, the real estate industry and our Berkshire community. The award criteria upon which nominees are judged include service to the REALTOR® organization on the local, state and national levels. Other factors for consideration are contributions to the community and business accomplishments. Award winners shall be submitted to the state association to be considered for the Massachusetts REALTOR of the Year.

The REALTOR of the YEAR from Berkshire County shall receive overnight accommodations at the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS Awards Banquet along with 2 seats at the dinner, a plaque in honor of their service, and a ROTY pin.

**GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD WINNER:**

The Berkshire Good Neighbor Award is given to the REALTOR who has played an instrumental volunteer role in the success of any local civic, charitable, cultural, youth or school group project or program. The recipient is someone who has shown an extraordinary commitment to volunteer service that has helped make



our community a better place to live. Award winners shall be submitted to the state and national associations to be considered for the Massachusetts and National Good Neighbor awards.

The Good Neighbor Award winner from Berkshire County will receive funds for 2 seats at the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS Awards Banquet, a plaque in honor of their service, a commendation from our State Representatives, and a one hundred (\$100) donation to the charity for which they earned the award.

### **REALTOR SPIRIT AWARD:**

The REALTOR Spirit award is given to the REALTOR that consistently demonstrates the ideals that embody the very meaning of the term “REALTOR®”. The ideal nominee is an unsung hero within the real estate profession who supports other industry practitioners through actions, words and cooperation. Recipients are known for their strong professional ethics and willingness to go above and beyond in support of the association and the members. Honorees are known and respected for their optimism and enthusiasm, integrity and work ethic, and civic involvement, charitable contributions, and leadership in the local business community.

The REALTOR Spirit winner from Berkshire County will receive a plaque in honor of their service, a commendation from our State Representatives, and a one hundred (\$100) donation to the charity of their choice.

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.**

The Distinguished Service award is the ultimate recognition for ongoing, dedicated service of that very special REALTOR® who has always set themselves apart as a leader. They are individuals who have held membership in the board for 15 years or more, and are recognized as a local leader whose performance of service and involvement on the Board, the local real estate industry, and civic organizations is extraordinary. They are the member who is always called to serve on special task forces and work groups to resolve matters of a critical nature. They are respected by those in the industry and community, and are a source of knowledge and experience to business colleagues and within the community.

### **AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Affiliate Member of the Year Award acknowledges the involvement of industry professionals who are not REALTORS but actively participate in the Berkshire REALTOR’s programs and activities, and support the association, its mission and the REALTOR® membership. Nominees will be judged on volunteer service and personal contributions made in support of association’s strategic objectives and programming, which may include charitable and community service activities, public policy advocacy, committee service, sponsorships, and support of the REALTORS® Political Action Committee.

### **LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION:**

The Board of Directors of the Board of REALTORS, the MLS, committee chairs and staff will receive a small thank you gift at the end of each year, in recognition of the hours of service provided to the Board. Each shall also be provided with a certificate of thanks for a job well done and may be recognized by the President at the Holiday Appreciation Luncheon or at the Installation of Officers Awards Ceremony.



**PRESIDENT RECOGNITION:**

The Board of REALTORS President shall receive a thank you gift and plaque at the installation of officers meeting following their term of service. This impressive gavel plaque shall be presented along with a gift of thanks (dinner gift certificate, for example) for their dedication and contributions of the betterment of the Board.

**MLS PRESIDENT RECOGNITION:**

The Multiple Listing Service President shall receive a thank you gift and plaque at the installation of officers meeting following their term of service. This impressive gavel plaque shall be presented along with a gift of thanks (dinner gift certificate, for example) for their dedication and contributions of the betterment of the Board.

**BEAUTIFICATION AWARD:**

The Real Estate Agent's Charitable Taskforce [REACT] may grant a Beautification Award to any Berkshire property owner who has been involved in significantly restoring a home or building to contribute to the betterment of the neighborhood. This certificate can be presented by the REACT Committee, provided the CEO and President are notified and the President is invited and asked to participate in the process, if desired.

**MAR HOMELESS AND HOUSING GRANT**

Members will be asked bi-annually to recommend Homeless / Housing Assistance providers for consideration of the MAR Homeless and Housing Grant. One organization by the CEO in concert with the REACT committee, and the CEO will draft grant application for MAR's consideration, if received. MAR typically avoids awarding money to the same organization more than once, so we will limit nominations to those non-profit service providers that have never been considered before.