

Aug 26, 2025 MNTIC Board Meeting

1. Called to order at 4:09.
2. Present:—Andres, Ethalow, Jenny, Maria, Marj, Sally. Quorum established. Motion by Maria, seconded by Ethalow to approve Agenda. Motion carried.
3. Financial Update
 - i. May \$33,822.95. This includes \$7,500 extra from an advance payment for Emerging Farmers' Conference.
 - ii. June \$28,344.75
 - iii. July \$26,720.00
 - iv. Although we are less profitable this year, we have added having Mary as an employee and obtained a higher level of QuickBooks. We are still profitable.
 - v. Jenny has been putting in a few billable hours per week.
4. Old business
 - a. Retreat with Margaret—board members reported that they found it helpful.
 - b. Workshops—Best practices for USCIS interviews. Jenny worked with an attorney who explained the process really well for her client and would do a great job for interpreters as well. Suggestion that it also cover the various types of interviews.
 - c. Website—work on it paused for awhile but will restart.
 - d. Sally reported about the work Soyome is doing. She does a “word of the day” on Instagram. She has been working as a manager at Dollar Tree this summer, so has had limited time to work on our social media. A goal she has is to create an agenda for frequency of posting on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram with instructions for how to post. Perhaps going forward we can have her post periodically, as she has a lot of followers and is gifted in this.
 - e. Question was raised: do we want to seek grants to enable our members to do pro bono work? Jenny will reach out to someone at another organization that was providing pro bono services to find out how they funded it.
 - f. Maria reported about the Elevate Hennepin workshop that she attended. She said it was a very large amount of information. The woman-owned business and minority-owned business certifications were of greatest interest. The presenter offers a service to help with the application process, which might be worth our while.
 - g. Jenny reported that we have had two “Hack the Gap” workshops and have developed a work plan with Trello process. This will automate some of the tasks required to run the coop.
5. New Business
 - a. Application – Mohamed Abdiqadir Huble
 - i. He doesn't show experience in court and does not appear on the roster, raising question of him not having knowledge, skills and experience we expect. Board recommendation is to consider him for non-member work paired with Osman or Abdul Aziz for evaluation and require that he get on the roster before we would even consider him for membership.
 - b. Maria reported about a new client—Midtown Phillips: They work with urban farms, bike to farm, bike to tamales...They are working to reach out to the community and have been a cool organization for which to work, doing good work. They look like they may be an organization, that similar to Pastor Heraldo, will connect us to their extensive network.

- c. Andres and Jenny reported on another client--Farm Aid: It is a show, but there will be pre-events for which they will need interpreters. They have to find out their touring schedule for their acts and put everything together at the last minute. They haven't replied yet, but this week their registration process ends. Perhaps they are waiting to see what their numbers suggest for interpretation needs.
 - d. The issue of recording simultaneous zoom interpretation: differentiate between use in—house to share with team members who were not able to attend, versus posting publicly. How to define the parameters and keep control over the use of any recording produced becomes quite murky. Marcela and Andres, both ATA members, will look for guidelines that the ATA may have established.
 - e. Equipment pick-up—there was a difficulty recently with a new-to-us interpreter who reneged on picking up equipment. Marianne wound up having to pick it up last minute. Jenny had a constructive conversation with Marianne afterwards. We may want to include the requirement to pick up equipment in a hand book and in job descriptions. All board members agreed that the expectation to pick up equipment is reasonable.
6. September meeting date: September 16 at 4:30 and August 29 will be the social gathering at El Cubano.
7. Meeting adjourned at 6:17.