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MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Convention Planning Committee Meeting Minutes MCCA Offices in Augusta 10:00 am Friday, January 24, 2020

Welcome Meeting Attendees: Barbara Arseneau, Linda Corliss, Diana Messina, Abby Shanor, Owen Smith and Lauren Haven

The 2021 Venue

The group discussed past venues and locations of conventions. The Committee will get estimates and bring a recommendation to the MCCA Board of Directors for consideration. Venues such as the Village Inn in Belgrade Lakes, Atlantic Oceanside in Bar Harbor, Ramada Inn in Auburn, and multiple venues in York County were discussed. The topic will be revisited at the next meeting.

2020 Convention Brainstorming

The group discussed ideas for Sunday River including group activities and educational sessions based on attendance from this and prior years. Along with the outing to the local rock museum, we could provide a roadmap for an afternoon scenic drive to the Omni Hotel about an hour from Sunday River. There are plenty of on-site activities, and we need to provide options for different levels of physical capability. A bus tour might be fun as the leaves should be in peak color at the end of October so there should be some color at our conference at the end of September. Others may want to shop in nearby Bethel. There is a local fair in Bethel. We'll find out when it takes place.

Entertainment ideas include a soft jazz band which could play after dinner while attendees are visiting. Lauren will research some area bands. Other ideas were to have popcorn and a movie.

The committee came up with a great list of educational sessions to explore along with a couple of sessions from the last conference we might want to have again. The retirement planning forum was very successful last year, and "Unauthorized Practice of Law" by John Cunningham was standing room only. Potential sessions included such topics as: Important Documentation for Department Leaders, Modern Recruiting Practices, Succession Planning and Cross Training, Recruitment Retention and Workforce Initiatives (could be a round table), Morale and Employee Engagement, The Age and Gender Gap – Working with a Multi-generational Workforce, and Balancing Discipline with Union Rights.

The Committee set the next meeting for February 21st at 10:00 am at the MCCA offices.