

**MSIA TELECONFERENCE
JANUARY 18, 2012**

Present: Chair & Treasurer, Jerry James; Secretary, Cheryl Meyers; Audrey Depelteau, Gary Marshall, Tim Blankenbecler, Diana Armstrong

The MSIA teleconference began at 10:00 a.m. lead by Chair, Jerry James.

Minutes: The correction of Audrey Depelteau's name was made to the minutes from December 14, 2011. A motion was made by Gary Marshall and seconded by Tim Blankenbecler to accept the minutes as amended. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: All accessed the Treasurer's report on the MSIA website. Jerry noted that \$120.70 has been paid to Host Monster and \$250.00 to PC Medics to prepay for the website updates. With six members having paid dues this leaves a balance of \$1059.46. A motion was made by Cheryl Meyers and seconded by Tim Blankenbecler to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Diana Armstrong requested that another invoice be sent to her from which to pay. Those who have already paid dues include: Bluefield State College, Smoky Mountain Development Corporation, East Tennessee State University, Mountain Empire Regional, Eastern Kentucky University and Watauga County.

Website: Jerry will be working to get the existing website converted to new software and plans to have this complete by end of February. He stated that if anyone had anymore lease or other sample documents, links, bio's or online tools to add, please send now as they are easier to add before the conversion.

Gary Marshall has suggested that the menu bar "flash" be removed and Jerry will do this.

New Business

Jerry noted that since the website has been updated, we need to move ahead with getting new members, looking into available grants and revitalizing the twinning agreement that MSIA used to have. Jerry explained this as an agreement between member incubators that if a tenant in one incubator wanted to expand to another state or needed temporary space at another incubator, space would be available at other member incubators, based on availability. (Also known as "Launch Pad")

Jerry agreed that he would contact Concord College and Tazwell College to see if they would be interested in membership. Cheryl will contact AB-Tech, who has not participated since our meeting in Boone and will also contact the following to determine interest in membership:

Appalachian State University Research Department
Ashe County Partnership for Children
BioNetwork BioBusiness Center at A-B Tech
Blue Ridge Business Development Center
County of Ashe, Economic Development Department
Jubilee Project Inc., Clinch Powell Community Kitchens
Kingsport Chamber Office of Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship
NC Rural Economic Development Center
North Carolina Biotechnology Center, Western Office
Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator
West Piedmont Business Development Center

The next teleconference will be March 21st at 10:00 a.m. As there was no other business, the meeting concluded at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Meyers, Secretary