

MIDDLE TENNESSEE PUBLIC PURCHASING ASSOCIATION



October, 2007



CURRY'S CORNER:

Thanks to everyone who attended September's meeting. Our guest speaker Metro Council Lady-at-Large, Megan Berry was very insightful as she shared with us on the topic of *Business Ethics*.

I would also like to thank all of our MTPPA Officers for meeting me on September 27, 2007 to tie down some important chapter activities for the rest of the year. We had a very meaningful meeting and were able to synchronize our strategies and plans. One key issue discussed was the non payment of the \$15 membership dues by several people. If you are in this category, your officers would appreciate every effort on your part to become current.

Additionally, I extend my thanks, To Helen Crowley and Paula Cole for agreeing to plan and direct our traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday functions.

Finally, my appreciation goes out to Angie McDonald for heading up the Nominating Committee to recruit and recommend 2008 Officers. Angie and her committee came up with a super slate of nominees in record time. That certainly speaks well for the good health of our chapter. The list of nominees may be found on page three of this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you at our October 18th meeting.

Curry

Curry Corder, Chapter President □

Introduction to Public Procurement

A three day NIGP LEAP Seminar will be held November 12 -14. Details on page six.



OCTOBER MEETING

Who is the Speaker? Unconfirmed on 10/15

What is the program? A presentation on some of the activities of the Downtown Nashville Partnership

Where is the meeting? Nashville Electric Service, 13th Avenue (D.B. Todd) & Church Street & Interstate 40

When will it be? 11:30 a.m. Thursday Oct. 18th Finished before 1 p.m.

Why are we meeting? To hear a good speaker, network with others, and professional development

How can I make a reservation? Email Chapter Secretary **Jay Thompson**
jethompson@nespower.com



Minutes of the Middle Tennessee Public Purchasing Association 9/20, 2007

President Curry Corder called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. At this time he turned the meeting over to VP of Programs, Amanda Cochran. At this time Amanda introduced the guest speaker, the newly elected Metro Council Lady-at-Large, Megan Barry. Megan spoke on the topic of Business Ethics – Doing the Right Thing. Following Megan Barry's presentation, Amanda offered her a gift of appreciation which Megan politely refused due to her newly elected position.

Curry Corder welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Curry asked if we had any guests attending. At this time Charlotte Blain, Jay Lansky, and Beth Dooley were introduced to the membership. Curry then asked if everyone had received the minutes from the August 2007 meeting, and if there were additions or changes that needed to be made. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Ken Hackett, Treasurer, was absent. There was no treasurer report.

Stan Melton, who is acting in the role of VP of Professional Development, reminded everyone about the LEAP course scheduled for November 12-14, 2007 at NES. Stan announced that Kim Marable would assist him with a mail-out announcing the LEAP course. Stan told the membership that the four new CPPBs (Michelle Lane, David Friedlander, Stan Melton and Leslie Mitchell) would be honored at a later date. Stan informed everyone that beginning January 1, 2008, the CPPB Exam will change and the fees will increase.

Robin Deiterich, VP of Membership said that several people have not paid their membership dues for 2007.

Curry asked the membership if there was any old or new business that needed to be discussed. There was no old business. New business, Curry announced that Angie McDonald would be heading up the 2008 Nominating Committee. Nominees for the

2008 officers will be presented at the October 2007 meeting. Curry also announced that Helen Crowley and Paula Cole would be planning the chapter's Thanksgiving and Christmas luncheons. Bob Watkins complimented VP of Programs, Amanda Cochran for the speakers she had selected throughout the year. Robin Dieterich reminded everyone about the TAPP Fall Conference, November 7-9, 2007 in Pigeon Forge, TN. Brian Wilcox complimented Stan and his wife Donna's work on the MTPPA Newsletter. Curry announced that a Webmaster and Newsletter person was needed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Thompson

Jay Thompson, Secretary

TAP, TAP, TAP - ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

A number of our chapter members often attend the annual TAPP (Tennessee Association of Public Purchasing) meeting in beautiful Pigeon Forge Tennessee. This year it will be held at the Music Road Inn Wednesday November 7th through Friday November 9th. For additional information or registration, contact our own chapter member and a past MTPPA president, Sheila Douglas at 615 747-3881.

Call for Nominations for 2008 Chapter Officers

As called for in the Chapter Bi-laws, President **Curry Corder** recently appointed **Angie McDonald** to chair the nominating committee to select a slate of officers for next year:

Angie did not waste a minute in starting to work on this. At a recent MTPPA officers meeting, it was reported that Angie will submit the following nominating committee report and recommendation:

Name:	Office	Jurisdiction
Brian Wilcox	President	City of Franklin, Tennessee
Kim Marable	VP Programs	Metro Govt. of Nashville & Davidson County
Leslie Mitchell	1 st VP Prof. Development	Williamson County
Stephen Yates	2 nd VP Membership	State of Tennessee
Ken Hackett	Secretary	Metro Govt. of Nashville & Davidson County
Sondra Howe	Treasurer	Metro Govt. of Nashville & Davidson County

The above slate will be presented to the Chapter at the October meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the November meeting when the election will be held. If you or someone you know is interested in running for an office, you/they can be nominated from the floor. As all us purchasing pros know, competition is good! Whether or not you become an officer for 2008, there is always opportunity to serve as a committee chair or committee member. Just step up to the plate!

An installation of officer's ceremony will be held at the December meeting. The new officers officially take over January 1, 2008.



NES to sponsor 15th Annual Supplier Diversity Program

Chapter member **Almetta Bonds**, Nashville Electric Service Diversity Coordinator recently announced that she will hold a "Vendor Awareness Day" on Thursday November 1, 2007. The highlight of the day will be a supplier diversity program held at NES in rooms 311-315 (where the chapter regularly meets) from 4 to 6 p.m. Contact Almetta at NES for additional information.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE PUBLIC PURCHASING NEWS

A monthly publication of the Middle Tennessee Public Purchasing Association
Please send chapter news items and articles of interest to Stan.melton@nashville.gov



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Stephen Yates from the Division of General Services with the State of Tennessee.

Stephen Yates has been in the procurement profession for eight years and a member of our MTPPA chapter for about three years. He regularly can be seen at MTPPA meetings networking with his fellow state employees and others. He is being recommended by the nominating committee to serve as Vice President of Membership for 2008.

In the purchasing division, Stephen started out as an inspector visiting agencies throughout the state. He inspected kitchens, commissaries and warehouses along with overseeing agencies proper purchasing procedures. Traveling throughout the State was put on hold temporarily, and Stephen became responsible for handling over 300 janitorial contracts on the buying team. Within the last year, Stephen moved from being a buyer to being a starting member of the Compliance Group within the Purchasing Division. His responsibilities include a more intense over view of agency purchases throughout the State and vendor compliance to contract specifications.

Along with Purchasing, in April, 2007, Stephen was innovative in the development and production of the Relationship Awareness Training & Team Building Day offered to the employees of the Purchasing Division. This off-site workshop provided building blocks for a positive employee relationship and team building skills.

Before coming to the State, Stephen owned and operated two convenience markets located in Dickson, TN. Stephen advises anyone not to be that crazy, one is enough! Stephen says; "this was his first time of being a business owner and one of his biggest accomplishments was building his businesses from nothing to a profitable venture before leaving, because of land being sold.

Stephen is retired from the Tennessee National Guard of over 20 years and was in the Finance Section before leaving when he was responsible for paying the troops. He is currently called upon to work with TEMA (Tennessee Emergency Management Agency) by helping purchase items for disasters when they occur.

Stephen grew up in Dickson County and now lives in Madison, TN. He has two children and three grandchildren. His hobbies include walking as well as two-stepping/line dancing. You can network with Stephen by email at Stephen.Yates@state.tn.us or reach him by phone at 615-741-3856.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Fire Prevention Month.

Tuesday October 16th National Boss Day

Thursday October 18th MTPPA Lunch Meeting at NES

Wednesday October 31st Halloween-be safe. You are never too old to dress up (or down) and have fun!

Thursday November 1st 4 to 6 p.m. NES Vendor Awareness Day program on supplier diversity

Sunday November 4th Daylight Savings Time ends – Fall Back at 2 a.m.

Wed.-Fri. Nov. 7th-9th TAPP Fall Conference in Pigeon Forge

Mon.-Wed. Nov. 12-14, 2007 LEAP Course at NES
“Introduction to Public Procurement”

November 15, 2007 Annual Thanksgiving MTPPA Meeting at the Tennessee Tower

December 2007 Annual Christmas holiday meal,
member recognition, and installation of officers
(date and place to be announced)

The 2008 NIGP Annual Forum will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina July 26-30, 2008

MTPPA 2007 Chapter Officers

President-----**Curry Corder:** 271-1743 curry.corder@mnps.org
Vice President-Programs-----**Amanda Cochran:** 747-3759 acochran@nespower.com
Acting 1st VP Prof. Dev. & Immediate Past Pres.---- **Stan Melton:** 862-6669 stan.meltonr@nashville.gov
2nd Vice President – Membership -----**Robin Dieterich:** 741-1010 robin.dieterich@state.tn.us
Secretary-----**Jay Thompson:** 747-3758 jethompson@nespower.com
Treasurer-----**Ken Hackett:** 862-6648 ken.hackett@nashville.gov



The chapter web site www.mtppa.net has recently been updated. It was not current the last few months because of the hard drive crash of our old computer and compatibility issues between our new computer with “Vista” and the version we have of “Front Page”.

Please email me if you have any comments or suggestions about our web site at donnajmelton@comcast.net

Donna



Donna Melton
MTPPA Webmaster

**INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
LEAP Course Scheduled Nov. 12-14 at NES**

Your chapter professional development committee for this seminar, Kim Marable, Stan Melton, Leslie Mitchell & Jay Thompson, have been working together to plan an outstanding seminar and invite others working in governmental purchasing in middle Tennessee to join us. Complete details are in a brochure which may be found on our web site.

ARE YOU CERTIFIED?

As we have said before, procrastinate no longer! If you or a fellow staff member have been thinking about taking the CPPB exam, time is running out to make up your mind. Four chapter members who took the chapter sponsored review course this year sat for the exam for their first time in August and passed it. Believe your me, it ain't that bad if you study (sic). One thing for sure, it will not get any easier. In January, 2008 the exam fees increase and a completely new and more comprehensive exam will be given beginning mid 2008. Plans are now being made for another review course in January and February, 2008 with an exam here in Nashville in March.

The chapter is also considering offering some financial aid to limited number of chapter members who can not receive reimbursement from their employer.

It won't get any easier and plans are now being finalized for a review course and examination site this summer. The exam will change next year. You will have an opportunity to study with others who will be taking the exam between now and this summer in study group meetings. In addition, we are planning a review course right before the exam this summer.

So here is what you need to do:

- 1) Make up your mind now to "Just do it"
- 2) Register for the exam with UPPCC as it takes at least several weeks to process application
- 3) Let Stan Melton or Leslie Mitchell if you're are considering sitting for the March 2008 exam and/or taking the January/February review course.

Below is a link to the UPPCC web site which provides the criteria for eligibility and the benefits of being certified among other things. Please review this information and let us know if you are interested.

http://www.uppcc.org/become_certified/become_certified.aspx

