



STATE OF MAINE CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS

Executive Board Meeting
February 19 - 10:00 a.m.
South Portland

MINUTES

Members Present: President Joseph St. Peter; Vice-President Lauren Asselin (remote); Secretary Don Ferrara; Treasurer Clinton Swett; Past President Darryl McKenney(remote); and Directors Barbara Brewer (remote); Theresa Duff (remote); Kerry Leichtman (remote); Brent Martin; and Amber Poulin (remote). Bonnie Baker was also present.

Members Absent: Director Natalie Andrews

President Joseph St. Peter called the meeting to order at **10:03 a.m.**

Secretary's Report

- The December meeting minutes were reviewed. Corrections are as follows:
 - Remove "and up to 2 additional members" from the Education Reports.
 - Correct training dates to May and November.
- Brent moved to approve the minutes with conditional changes. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

- Clint sent his Treasurer's Report via email. The current checking account balance is \$8,910.55. Barbara moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Kerry seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.
- Clint reported that he paid the Chapter's website hosting subscription on April 18th, 2026, in the amount of \$560.83.

Standing Committee Reports

Education

- The Education Committee met for the first time. Members include: Natalie Andrews, Amber Poulin, Theresa Duff, Matthew Caton, Nicholas Desjardins, Ashley Kelley, Brooks Taber-Grotton, and Brandon Velasquez.
- Upcoming suggested topics for training may include:
 - Short Term Rentals
 - Exempt Properties (Benevolent & Charitable)
 - Cost Schedule Adjustments
 - GIS Review
- A location has not yet been finalized. Locations discussed include Martindale Club in Auburn, Green Ladle in Lewiston, Keeley's in Portland. Amber will confirm the location by the next meeting.

Legislative

- New Legislative bulletin to come out is **LD2212** which includes the following:
 - Potential consolidation of the Homestead and Veterans Exemptions.
 - Discussion of sunseting BETR.
 - Proposed changes to the Veterans Exemption expanding eligibility to a broader range of disabilities and potentially removing the age restriction, with varying exemption amounts.
- The Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force has now released its report.

Membership

- Don will send an updated membership list to Joe to put online.
- Current membership totals include **134 paid, 11 new Free CMA members, and 7 lifetime members. For a total of 152 Members.**

Audit

- The Audit is scheduled for October. Quang Minh Le has said he is willing to be on the Audit Committee.

Nominations

- Nothing new to report.

Communications

- Joe has drafted a newsletter, which is not yet ready for editing.
- Barbara has a newsletter dedicated to women in assessing already drafted and emailed to the Board that she asked to circulate through Don on March 1st, 2026, because March is Women's History Month. The Board offered no objection.

IAAO

- The IAAO has distributed emails regarding scholarship opportunities.
- Joe updated the list of board members on the IAAO website.

History

- Joe has a copy of the Sun Journal article showing Karen using the “new” handheld inspection software from the Auburn 2004 revaluation.

Old Business

- The IAAO has asked the Chapter to co-sponsor the Presidential Reception at the Gala. The Chapter has committed to fundraising toward the typical \$2,000 donation. Board members will reach out to potential donors. The IAAO requested that we refrain from soliciting vendors which already sponsor the IAAO. A 50/50 raffle will be held at the spring training. Clint indicated he is willing to donate half of his board stipend toward this effort.
- The Board discussed raising the membership fee from \$35. After discussion, increasing the fee to \$50 was considered too high relative to currently benefits offered to our members, while increasing it to \$40 could necessitate another increase in the near future. Consensus was reached

to increase the fee to \$45. Brent moved to approve the increase to \$45. Amber seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

- When discussing what it is that the ME Chapter of the IAAO offers its members it was noted that the various assessor organizations have reached a balance in services:
 - MAAO provides the ListServ (now CommUnity) and Fall Conference.
 - CMAAO provides Zoom meetings and online training.
 - The ME Chapter of the IAAO provides live meetings and training for Maine assessors.

New Business

- No new business to report.

Secretary Don Ferrara moved to adjourn the meeting at **10:53 a.m.** Brent seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Ferrara, Secretary