**Vermont Federal Executive Association**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

**May 29, 2013 @ 4:30 PM**

Meeting was called to order by Lisa Rees, President, @ 4:30 PM.

Participants:

* Lisa Rees, President VTFEA, USCIS
* James Rapley, , USCIS
* Bill Swaney, DOS
* Joe Payne, FAA
* Sean McVey, Member at large

**Treasurer Update**

Reviewed recent expenses – net cost of awards event (about $2500) implies it is sustainable with continued sponsorship

**Public Awards Ceremony de-brief**

Overall very positive – broad representation and participation from non-Federal participants

Idea was proposed to add some kind of “collaboration award” – supported by the Board

Need to engage the press more proactively was identified – possibly by inviting their participation at next ceremony at cost of VTFEA

Joe will reach out to Larry Crist who was a panelist and has suggestions on how to improve the nomination review process

**Summer Picnic/VTFEA Lake Monsters Events**

President Rees proposed a summer picnic at the Sandbar state park on Lake Champlain – the idea was generally supported and will be proposed during the July 8th Quarterly meeting. Jim is also checking to see if we can get tickets for the Lake Monsters for VTFEA night.

**Web Update**

The website and Facebook page are fully operational, though they are not widely utilized by Feds yet

Employee specials will be getting additional attention and the website team will meet over the summer to review the website and possible changes to improve availability of information

Photos from the award ceremony were recently posted on the Facebook page

**Elections**

The Board reviewed the bylaws and determined that it is our responsibility to nominate a slate of candidates to serve as members of the board

Additionally we will solicit nominations/volunteers from membership, and the Board must take nominations from the floor at the 3rd quarterly meeting when elections will occur

Individuals are elected for two year terms to the Board, NOT to specific roles as officers of the VTFEA

Each year the Board determines which Board members will serve as the officers

The Secretary will draft an email to the membership explaining the bylaws, proposing a slate of candidates for the Board, and inviting nominations

**Locality Pay**

Committee needs to identify and highlight the uniqueness of many federal jobs in VT and demonstrate that it is not an “apples to apples” comparison of wages

Other data on CPI, retention problems and so forth can be highlighted as well

Sean will reach out to Bruce and Jeff at TSA to move this initiative along. We need to have a completed package to OPM by the end of June for consideration by the Salary Council in the fall.

**Women’s Network**

Hoping to increase participation for upcoming training event

The cost may be cost prohibitive for some employees/agencies

Lisa will send out e-mail next week hoping to get more participation

**Miscellaneous**

* Jim Rapley agreed to suggestion he contact the American Red Cross to explore collaboration on a blood drive or other event
* Board will continue to solicit employee specials and get them to Bill for posting on the website and FB
* Board will gather informally at Presidents house June 16th at 4 pm