Board meeting of Aug. 16, 2020.

The organization is in good financial standing in terms of operating expenses and financial aid funds.

The board accepted a report from the Maintaining a Respectful Environment committee on its work drafting policies and procedures, including a process for adding additional members.

The board heard from Oak Apple and General Hardware about the 2021 ale. The teams said the main point being discussed was the refund provision for the deposit in the contract with Camp St. Croix. Board members voted to support the teams' work to get a refund provision inserted in the contract, and if that was not possible, the teams should not pay the deposit and look elsewhere for an Ale site.

In new business, the president reported that officers had written a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement based in part on recent discussions on Facebook concerning other Morris teams and organizations doing similar work, as well as discussions on efforts in the UK by white supremacy groups to recruit through Morris dance organizations. Board members discussed the draft presented and whether it should include specific language on "blacking up," as has been practiced by Border Morris groups. Members agreed that including language on costumes would cover this issue without specifically singling it out. The statement of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will appear on the MWMA website.

The president created two new committees.

The first, a Social Media Committee, consists of the people who compiled a social media policy for the organization. The policy says that posts will abide by the rules and policies of the particular social media platform being used and that the organization's Code of Conduct applies to community members posting on social media.

The second committee is a Virtual Events Committee which is responsible for helping to plan and carry out virtual events, such as workshop weekends and the VirtuAle.

For more information on the meeting, talk to your team's board representative or email secretary@midwestmorrisale.org.