

**NASW Oregon Chapter
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

September 13, 2009

Attendance: Larry Betcher, Aimee Coughlin, Raina Banu-Clayton, Sara Westerfeld, Valenka Langlois, Jo Ella Anglin, Victoria Bones, Lisa Bates, Amy Reynolds, Barbara Kollmar, Carolyn Mounts, Dawn Williamson

Staff: Stacey Skala Orr

Absent: Dave Olsen, Jonathan Dahl

The meeting was called to order at 11:37 am

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Minutes from the 07/2009 board meeting.
Sara & Raina were appointed to the executive committee; Victoria will serve as a backup if Raina is unable to serve.
- 2) Edits to 07/09 minutes:
Add MSW student representative to page 1
Under SWPAC Review Taskforce #5: 'this issue was not determined'

Action: Sara moved to pass the amended consent agenda, Lisa seconded. Motioned passed.

President's Report:

- 1) PSU Orientation Gift

At the PSU SSW orientation, the alumni association awards a \$500 scholarship for books; we would like to give something at the upcoming orientation that Stacey is attending. One proposal is for a raffle for the Social Work Encyclopedia (estimated cost of \$100). Another option is to give two student memberships away (also estimated cost of \$100). The overall board consensus is to give away the encyclopedia via raffle rather than memberships. If there is an invitation from other schools, then we will consider a similar gift as this will set precedence. Stacey will contact other schools and offer for NASW to attend their orientations.

- 2) There are two conflicts in upcoming meeting dates. We need to reschedule February & May dates to be more inclusive of everyone's availability.

FY 09-10 Meeting Dates:
Saturday November 7th at 10:00am
Saturday February 27 2010 at 10:00am
Saturday May 15, 2010 at 10:00am
Saturday July 10, 2010 (10:00am Board orientation followed by Noon meeting)
Saturday-Sunday September 25 & 26 (2010 Board Retreat)

- 3) Regence Blue Cross Issue

Due to numerous calls from NASW members to our chapter office earlier this summer, we have taken action regarding recent cuts in reimbursement rates to LCSWs by Regence Blue Cross. This issue was discussed briefly at the July board meeting. Larry explained that there is a lot of background and complexity to this insurance issue as it relates to our former lobbyist Mark Nelson and our relationship with the Oregon Society of Clinical Social Workers.

Stacey has been working with other associations/partner organizations & our lobbyist. We engaged in a series of teleconference meetings as a coalition. Each association wrote letters to Regence and the Insurance Commissioner, the Oregon Society of Social Workers hired an attorney (Paul Cooney); we contacted national NASW Legal Counsel and sought advice. NASW legal counsel reviewed our letter and Carolyn Polowy drafted and approved a memo (attachments provided). We also enlisted the support of key legislators.

Teresa Miller, Administrator of the Oregon Insurance Division, and their legal counsel resolved that there has been no violation by Regence and chose not to intervene.

One option is to address this issue legislatively. Another option is to pursue legal action against Regence Blue Cross, and a third option is to not pursue any further measures. The board discussed what actions to consider and determined not to provide financial support to the Oregon Society of Social Workers or to engage in this issue further legally.

There is consensus from the board to send out a letter to all LCSW's providing an update on this issue, highlight other Chapter accomplishments, and solicit support for our legislative and political action efforts. The board also agreed to utilize a legislative approach to this issue.

Action: Amy moved to pass approval for above noted letter and to defer to the Legislative Committee for legislative action on this issue. Dawn seconded. Motioned passed.

There is a legislative meeting on September 24th, 2009 at 5:45pm at the NASW office, if you are interested you can email Jessica Ritter with questions. Stacey will present the Board's position and recommendation on the issue, Larry will attend if able.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:34pm for a brief break for lunch.

Meeting was called to order at 12:43 pm.

Finance Report:

1) June 30th 2009 Financial Statements

The board was provided with handouts of the year-end financial statements for review. We ended the year with a surplus of \$14,053.00 despite a projected deficit of \$1200.00. Our actual cash on hand has increased, however our investment portfolio value did drop. We were very successful in our events this year, including the Claudia Black keynote event and the Dr. Reamer DVD sales which brought in more than \$13,000 in revenue. We had a slight increase in membership last year. Our advertising sales and other areas have contributed to the revenue gain, including our private practice handbook which resulted in \$1,300.00. Donations have been down, likely reflecting the economy.

Stacey was thanked for her great work on leading us to a year end surplus. We hope to take what we have learned from our revenue this year and take it forward, for example the DVD version of Claudia Black's presentation will be available this fall/winter.

2) Inactive Designated Funds*

The board was referred to page 6 of the year-end financial statements, which details Board Designated District Funds. This money is currently restricted and if unrestricted, these funds would be released into the general fund and available for operations. Stacey recommended to release all inactive district funds according to policy, and to keep designated funds for active districts and the district seed funds.

Action: Victoria moved to release the inactive district funds into the general fund. Raina seconded. Motioned passed.

3) July 31st 2009 Financial Statements

The board reviewed the financial statements ending July 31st, 2009. No action was taken; there weren't any concerns or questions.

Executive Director's Report:

1) 2010 Retreat Site

Stacey presented a variety of options for the 2010 retreat, including cost. It was agreed that we should hire a facilitator. Stacey asked those serving on the board to vote on the retreat sites. Menucha Conference and Retreat Center in the Columbia Gorge was selected. Stacey will confirm our reservation next week and make the deposit.

Board meeting adjourned at 1:22pm.

The next board meeting will be held on November 7, 2009 at Emanuel Hospital in Portland.

*Respectfully submitted by Aimee Coughlin, Board Secretary.
Edited by Stacey Skala Orr, Staff.*