



MOCPA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2020

Meeting called to order at 10:30 am

In attendance: Tamara Latawiec, Deirdre Waters, Dolores Reilly, Robyn Koslowitz

I. Welcome

II. Meeting Minutes (Tamara Latawiec on behalf of Robyn Koslowitz)

Meeting minutes from the February 2nd board meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Treasurer Report (Dolores Reilly)

Last meeting's Treasurer Report and Profit and Loss Statement were tabled for additional review at this meeting. The revised versions were reviewed and approved. The Current Treasurer Report and Profit and Loss Statement were also reviewed and approved.

IV. NJPA Meetings and Initiatives (Deirdre Waters)

Deirdre and Tamara both attended the NJPA New Year Association Orientation in February. Deirdre also attended the April NJPA Board meeting via Zoom. Deirdre reported the following:

- NJPA membership has been trending towards a reduction in membership. This is a nationwide trend.
- The NJPA Spring Conference was reconfigured to live stream via Beacon 360.
- MOCPA did well in the May Is Mental Health Month initiative, finishing in second and third places. Videos are available on NJPA's You Tube channel.
- NJPA has been working with Governor Murphy about telehealth regulations and how to help psychologists successfully meet the pandemic crisis.
- NJPA began a podcast, "The Power of the Spoken Word," interviewing experts and local psychologists.
- The Town Hall about prescription privileges will be altered for a virtual experience and rescheduled.
- NJPA invites members to pre-record webinars for virtual CE trainings.
- NJPA's partnership with the black and Latinx psychology groups that form IMPAC is offering an online workshop worth 4CEs on June 5th on trauma and undocumented immigrants.

V. *Membership Status (Tamara Latawiec)*

No new members joined the association since our February board meeting, so membership remains at 53 members.

VI. *MOCPA Directories (Tamara Latawiec)*

There is no new directory business for this meeting.

VII. *MOCPA Website (Tamara Latawiec)*

So far, no one has placed any classified ads, even though they are now free. No listserv classified announcements either; member announcements have remained related to the pandemic.

VIII. *MOCPA Bylaws (Tamara Latawiec)*

No new bylaws changes are requested at this time.

IX. *Recent Events (Tamara Latawiec)*

The February 23rd CE Workshop on Complicated Grief presented by MOCPA member, Bonnie Gorscak was a hit. Thirty-three people attended, seven of whom were not MOCPA members. The presentation was great, and everything went smoothly at the venue, which was a big change from when we presented there last and much appreciated.

X. *Social Event Planning (Tamara Latawiec)*

At our last meeting, the board had selected the Keyport Garden Walk on Sunday, June 7th, as its next social event. Due to the pandemic, the garden walk has been made virtual. Garden talks will be live-streamed in the mornings across both days of the tour, but it is unclear how the virtual tours of the gardens will work. Specifically, it is unclear if one can virtually tour with a group or only individually. It is possible that it may merely be a series of photographs through which one scrolls and not even a virtual tour. The format has implications for our ability to keep this as a group social event. The board discussed this matter and decided to cancel the event. A decision was made to survey membership to see if there is interest in a virtual social event or socially distant outdoor function.

XI. *Continuing Education Planning (Tamara Latawiec)*

Presently, we have no speakers lined up for future continuing education workshops.

Tamara had been intermittently in touch with a Priyanka Unadhyaya, former classmate of hers from GSAPP who sounded agreeable to presenting on trauma during the fall, but contact with her was quite irregular due to technical problems with Priyanaka's email accounts, and then the pandemic hit, so nothing was ever finalized. Tamara also communicated with Mark Lewandowski, a Monmouth

University professor who studies relationships, but he declined to present a workshop for us, explaining that his talks are often only an hour long and not clinical in nature, but rather for lay people.

Robyn reached out to the ethics committee, which expressed interest in presenting for MOCPA prior to COVID-19. Robyn will reach out to them again later on, as the committee is now offering a workshop to all of NJPA. Robyn offered to do a CE presentation on Attachment Informed Behavior Modification, provided NJPA does not have any rights to the content.

Deirdre reached out to two colleagues just prior to the pandemic. Deirdre has not heard back from Julia Owens about presenting a domestic violence workshop, and Maryanne Layden expressed interest, but may need to pause until the university term is over.

Due to the pandemic, future presentations will likely have to be online; however, when Tamara last spoke with Ana DeMeo at NJPA regarding the possibility of conducting online presentations, she was told that this was not an option. However, now that NJPA has successfully live-streamed their Spring Conference using Beacon 360, and in light of the pandemic, it appears that NJPA has changed its stance on this matter. Tamara referred the board to a very new determination made by Mark Lowenthal, Chair of the Council on Continuing Education Affairs at NJPA, which now permits live streamed workshops, but not home study programs. Tamara emailed Ana DeMeo yesterday to clarify if affiliates must find and finance their own virtual platform or if NJPA's Beacon 360 would be an option, either gratis or for a fee. The board discussed whether we needed all the functions of the expensive livestream webinar applications, many of which run about \$500 per webinar or require a monthly subscription, or can make do with a less sophisticated platform (for example, taking attendance manually by everyone responding to a roll call instead of using a platform generated report.)

XII. Functioning during the Pandemic (Tamara Latawiec)

In light of the pandemic and the need for social distancing, MOCPA's ability to offer future social events and continuing education workshops is affected. The board discussed how MOCPA may function in the future and whether its main functions or roles may be altered or not. Discussion concerned offering more community based support, information technology help for members struggling with telehealth, and a good news registry for members.

Meeting concluded at 12:00 pm.

Next Meeting Date was initially scheduled via video chat for Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 10:30 am, and then was rescheduled for Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 11:00 am.

Submitted by Robyn Koslowitz, PhD