



MOCPA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2021

Meeting called to order at 11:07 am

In attendance: Tamara Latawiec, Deirdre Waters, Ben Steinberg, Robyn Koslowitz

I. Welcome

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

Meeting minutes from the December 13th board meeting in 2020 were reviewed and approved.

III. Treasurer Report (Ben Steinberg)

The Treasurer Report and Profit and Loss Statement were reviewed and approved. It also served as this year's Annual Report, as only one board meeting occurred this year due to the pandemic and the association's related reduced activity. The association's Annual Report from last year was recalculated and resubmitted by MOCPA's former treasurer, Lori Reilly. It was reviewed and approved as well.

IV. NJPA Meetings and Initiatives (Deirdre Waters)

Deirdre attended several NJPA Board Meetings as well as an Affiliate Caucus Meeting. Deirdre submitted the following report:

Specific to MOCPA: The winners of the May is Mental Health Awareness Month Agile Resilience were Monmouth County students again. Our county has won three years in a row. The students did a great job.

Affiliates: The affiliate representative will compile a list of speakers and workshops for distribution. Workshops are not required and affiliates do not have to experience pressure to offer them if it is not the affiliate's objective or mission. NJPA is available for consults and encouragement. Would MOCPA be interested in merging or discussing merging with the Middlesex affiliate?

Legislative efforts: Two year extension to investigate for the permanent expansion of telehealth to assess pay parity and allow for policy recommendations. Pay parity is valid until 2023. PsyPact was signed into law and NJPA has seminars for its members to learn more about this potential addition to practice. PSYPACT, an interstate compact, was created to facilitate telehealth and temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology across jurisdictional boundaries. The New Jersey Health

Care Transparency Act became effective on July 1, 2021. The Act requires health care professionals, including psychologists, to clearly inform patients of their training and qualifications when they are providing in-person care to patients and when advertising their practice.

Structural changes: Kaleigh White is newly hired as the NJPA Events and Association Project Manager and is in charge of continuing education credits. Keira Boertzel-Smith, JD will be leaving NJPA this month, and a new Executive Director will be announced very soon. Candidates have been interviewed, vetted, and presented to the Board.

Other good news: NJPA Past-President, Dr. Lucy Sant'Anna Takagi, is receiving the APA Division 31 Psychologist of the Year Award.

Deirdre also announced her intention to leave the MOCPA board, so a new MOCPA representative to the NJPA board will be sought immediately. Deirdre will advance within the NJPA board as an Affiliate Member-at-Large.

V. *Membership Status (Tamara Latawiec)*

One new member joined the association since our last board meeting, so MOCPA now has 56 members.

VI. *Directories (Tamara Latawiec)*

There is no new directory business for this meeting; directories will be updated at the end of the year and distributed to members.

VII. *Website and Email Account (Tamara Latawiec)*

The classified ad section was utilized by a couple members to advertise employment and office space.

We had some issues with our email account, which suddenly lost all its inbox mail and began receiving lots of political spam. Saved messages in folders thankfully remained intact. The password was changed, the spam ultimately stopped, and new emails are staying put, but an impersonator used Tamara's name and title to contact MOCPA members who had email addresses published in the MOCPA directory to deliver phishing emails. AOL support is unfortunately not available to customers with a free account during the pandemic.

VIII. *Bylaws (Tamara Latawiec)*

No new bylaws changes are requested at this time.

IX. *Social Events (Tamara Latawiec)*

A poll was conducted among the membership after the last board meeting to assess interest in events, as well as comfort level with meeting in-person vs. virtually. The responses were nearly unanimous in desiring only continuing education events (no social events) and meeting only virtually (no in-person events, even if outdoors and socially distanced). Given the state of the pandemic at present, the board agreed to maintain this stance for the time being.

X. Continuing Education (Tamara Latawiec)

A virtual continuing education event in June was held virtually, featuring David Yusko and his former patient on the topic of emetophobia. Just 16 people attended, so it was a smaller crowd than usual. Survey responses were generally positive, with some noting that the presentation did not end on time. A technology problem resulted in the inability to procure an attendance report from the video chat platform that was used, which momentarily jeopardized our participants from receiving credit. However, CoCEA permitted credit to be issued with submission of a makeshift attendance report after the event, with an admonition that MOCPA will not be able to provide continuing education events anymore if MOCPA makes another error. MOCPA will undertake manual paper-based attendance reporting, in addition to relying upon reports generated by technology, as a back-up measure in order to avoid a similar event in the future.

Our backup attendance system was used at our next continuing education event in November, featuring Milton Fuentes on implicit bias in clinical practice. Just 11 people attended, so it was an even smaller crowd than in June. Survey responses were generally positive, although perhaps the lowest received thus far. One participant was consistently critical in her responses.

Regarding future planning, Jeff Axelbank's proposed presentation on chronic pain including a movie would not count for CE credits, according to CoCEA. Ben recently reported via email that he can reach out to contacts he knows through his job at Hackensack Meridian, for a possible workshop in 2022.

XI. Technology (Ben Steinberg and Tamara Latawiec)

With Lori Reilly's departure as association treasurer, her personal copy of Quikbooks went with her. Ben Steinberg, MOCPA's current treasurer, felt that an online association subscription to Quikbooks made the most sense, so MOCPA is now paying a monthly fee for the service.

Discussion surrounding the possibility of an additional monthly subscription payment for a video chat/virtual meeting service ensued. Ben has access to his own meeting platform and could theoretically offer its use to MOCPA gratis for continuing education events and board meetings. However, doing so would require that Ben host and attend all events, which is not realistic. Ben will investigate a variety of video chat platforms for purchase.

Meeting concluded at 1:03 pm

Next meeting date is TBD via video chat.

Submitted by Tamara Latawiec, PhD on behalf of Robyn Koslowitz, PhD