



## **MOCPA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

*November 10, 2019*

*Meeting called to order at 2:05 pm*

*In attendance: Tamara Latawiec, Dolores Reilly, Robyn Koslowitz*

### *I. Welcome*

### *II. Meeting Minutes (Tamara Latawiec)*

Meeting minutes from the June 30<sup>th</sup> board meeting were reviewed and approved.

### *III. Treasurer Report (Dolores Reilly)*

Current Treasurer Report and Profit and Loss Statement were reviewed and approved.

### *IV. NJPA Meetings and Initiatives (Tamara Latawiec)*

Tamara continues to attend the Affiliate Caucus meetings, and the caucus is still in the process of writing a policies and procedures manual at the request of NJPA. The most recent meeting was canceled and rescheduled at a time when Tamara could not attend. Daniel Lee is the current Affiliate Member-at-Large, but now that he will be President-Elect of NJPA next year, a new Affiliate Member-at-Large is needed to replace him for next year. The relationship between NJPA and the Caucus remains an issue and area of discussion.

### *V. Membership Status (Tamara Latawiec)*

With the unfortunate passing of Sandra Prince-Embury, MOCPA is currently down to 56 members.

Tamara asked the MOCPA Board to reassess our membership fees. Currently, full members (NJPA members who either work or reside in Monmouth or Ocean) pay the highest dues (\$55), and associate members (non-NJPA members and also those who do not work or reside in Monmouth or Ocean) pay less (\$45). One could argue that it appears almost like a penalty to be an NJPA member or to live or work in Monmouth and Ocean. Discussion among the board ensued, and it was noted that although it might make sense to reverse the full and associate fee levels, the reduction in dues revenue might be imprudent. Given that there have been no complaints about the fee structure from members, the board decided to leave the fee structure as is.

## VI. MOCPA Directories (Tamara Latawiec)

MOCPA has received four requests from members to change their directory listings, which will likely be made closer to the end of the year when we request dues payments for 2020.

In keeping with revisiting the membership structure, Tamara asked the board to re-examine its policy on membership perks with respect to the directory. Full members are listed in our directory online, while members of other categories are not. Discussion among the board ensued, and it was noted that listing unlicensed members might be considered advertising and therefore a licensing board violation. Some membership categories include unlicensed professionals, but others do not. The board nonetheless decided to leave the directories as they are for now, especially given that members have not sought changes in the policies concerning the directories.

## VII. MOCPA Website (Tamara Latawiec)

Tamara proposed that the new Classified section on the website be made free for MOCPA members while maintaining the \$30 for three month advertisement fee for non-MOCPA members only. Several members have asked to announce on the listserv that they need office space, and when told that they can buy a \$30 ad to list it as a classified ad and have an email message note that they have done so, they have declined. It also has not felt very good to ask them to pay for it, especially since they already pay dues. Discussion among the board ensued, and it was determined that classified advertisements would become free for MOCPA members and remain \$30 for non-members going forward.

Shifting the classified structure necessarily results in re-examining what announcements may be made via email to members. Tamara would like more flexibility so that more member announcements can be made; however, she noted that announcements would have to be consistent with NJPA rules and would also have to abide by the 501(c)6 tax-exempt requirements, summarized here:

*To be exempt, a business league's activities must be devoted to improving business conditions of one or more lines of business as distinguished from performing particular services for individual persons. No part of a business league's net earnings may inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and it may not be organized for profit to engage in an activity ordinarily carried on for profit (even if the business is operated on a cooperative basis or produces only enough income to be self-sustaining).*

*An organization's performance of particular services for its members or others is not an exempt activity under Code section 501(c)(6). Although such activities do not alone preclude exemption, an organization engaged primarily in performing particular services is not exempt under section 501(c)(6).*

### **Examples:**

- *Advertising that carries the names of members may be performing particular services; but promoting the business of an industry by encouraging the use of its products is not.*
- *Furnishing particular information and specialized individual services to members through publishing and other means to effect economies in business operations may be performing particular services; but educating members on how to improve their business results is not.*

Discussion among the board ensued, and given that posts do not appear to jeopardize tax exemption if they are not the primary activity of the association, it was determined that very occasional posting of member announcements would be piloted and would be limited to seeking or offering office space, employment, or supervision. If requests for posts become excessive, then the association will return to a “no announcements” policy.

#### *VIII. MOCPA Bylaws (Tamara Latawiec)*

No bylaws changes are needed at this time.

#### *IX. Recent Events (Tamara Latawiec)*

The July 14<sup>th</sup> River Cruise was great. We were lucky to have spectacular weather, and the cruise and the captain’s narration along the way were entertaining. However, few people signed up for the event: just four MOCPA members, two of whom brought spouses.

The September 28<sup>th</sup> Opiate CE Workshop presented by Kevin Moore, PsyD was well-attended and highly engaging. We received good feedback despite being locked out of the building for 30 to 40 minutes. There were 33 participants, seven of whom were not MOCPA members. However, a number of people (perhaps four or five) did not show for the event.

The October 5<sup>th</sup> Mini Golf and Happy Hour did not occur, as no one signed up. It was moved ahead one week, and it also occurred one week after the continuing education workshop, so these factors may have affected turnout, but it is also possible that the activity was not appealing to members.

#### *X. Social Event Planning (Tamara Latawiec)*

The next social event will be for the winter season, perhaps another holiday brunch at the Carriage House Bed and Breakfast in Ocean Grove, or an alternative. The meager attendance at our recent social events is something to consider for future planning. The board decided to host another brunch at the Carriage House, given that it was a successful event last year, and then assess this year’s turnout.

#### *XI. Continuing Education Planning (Tamara Latawiec)*

The next continuing education workshop will occur next week on treatment of eating issues within an integrated psychodynamic framework. Only six participants registered, two of whom were not MOCPA members. Another non-member is considering late registration at this writing. To reduce expenses, the workshop will be moved to Tamara’s office instead of the original venue, which will save the association \$550.

Two MOCPA members have volunteered to present the next two continuing education workshops in 2020. Bonnie Gorscak will present on complicated grief, and Melissa Rivera Marano will present on an immigration related theme with respect to current events.

Increased use of dues money on continuing education events makes sense now that MOCPA garners roughly \$3000 each year in dues. The board agreed to subsidize a greater portion of the continuing

education events going forward, but also noted that it is difficult to predict the expenses for each event, given that the number of participants is unknown when registration fees are determined.

During the last MOCPA board meeting, the possibility of using a Zoom account to offer webinars remotely for home study was broached. Tamara followed up with Ana DeMeo at NJPA regarding this possibility, but it was made clear that it would not be an option for affiliates, at least not at this point in time. NJPA is reportedly using a platform called Beacon to offer home study, but they are still working out some kinks.

## *XII. Elections (Tamara Latawiec)*

Elections will occur at the end of this year for: (1) an affiliate representative to the NJPA Executive Board, (2) a replacement Secretary, with Robyn to step into that role if no one from the membership runs, and (3) a President-Elect who would join the board next year and then take over the role of President in 2021. Under this structure, Tamara would continue to be President for 2020 and then become Past-President in 2021. Tamara is willing to continue being President if no one from the membership runs. Lori will remain as Treasurer for another year and hopefully will stay on if no one from the membership runs. If the membership wishes to fill other positions outlined in the bylaws, they are welcome to do so as well.

*Meeting concluded at 2:50 pm*

*Next Meeting Date is Sunday, February 2, 2020*

*Submitted by Tamara Latawiec, PsyD*