5/16/15 - LPA Executive Council Meeting

In attendance:

Cindy Bishop – Executive Director

Dr. Joseph Tramontana – President

Dr. Lacey Seymour – President Elect

Dr. Lucinda DeGrange – Director, Diversity Chair, Legislative Chair

Dr. John Fanning - Past President

Dr. Gail Gillespie – Continuing Education Chair

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth – APA Council of Representatives

Dr. Kim Van Geffen – Director / Professional Affairs

Dr. Carolyn Weyand - Treasurer

Dr. Michele Larzelere – Publications / Federal Advocacy Coordinator

Dr. Michelle Moore, Director / Early Career Psychologist

Dr. Bryan Gros – Director / Membership Chair

9:00 AM Dr. Joseph Tramontana called the meeting to order. Minutes from last meeting were approved.

Dr. Joseph Tramontana - President’s report – LSBEP board selection process was discussed. The Board has contacted Dr. Tramontana to ask if they can meet and agree to an agenda. Per LPA’s letter that was previously sent to the board, state associations should not be involved in board elections. LSBEP wants to meet with LPA to work on an agreement. Ms. Bishop indicated that Dr. Tramontana can’t be held to agree to a bill he hasn’t seen. Their bill takes LPA out of the elections process completely. Kelley Parker and Debra Hawkins were lobbying after Option II was voted on. Kevin Hayes (LPA lobbyist) intervened and said this couldn’t happen. Mr. Hayes has assurance from Rick Gallo – who authored the bill - that a contract is a contract, they will honor that, and Mr. Gallo does not want contention between the two factions. Drs. Darla Burnett and Rita Culross and Miss Kelley Parker (executive director for LSBEP) were present with LAMP lobbyists Courson and Nickel. The bill was presented in committee to change the election. Danny Martini asked Debra Hawkins which way to go and Ms. Hawkins said “no deal”. Mr. Gallo indicated that unless there is a deal he will not move the bill forward. Mr. Hayes went to the table with the letter April 27, and May 5 was the deal date. An amendment was adopted to take out anything in the bill dealing with elections. Drs. Burnett and Zimmerman (LSBEP) are asking for Drs. Tramontana and Gros to come up with an amendment that is workable. Ms. Parker said that the reason they are doing this is they used to be one organization, and now there are three (LPA, LSBEP, and LAMP). Dr. Nemeth indicated that LPA still wants to report election results to the governor.

Financials: Ms. Bishop reviewed the financial status of LPA (see attached)

Convention Committee: The E.C. discussed details of the upcoming spring convention. Dr. Fanning said he had sent out ballots out for the LPA election of board members, and the nomination deadline has passed. A motion was made that one must be on the LPA board for two consecutive years in order to run for the position of president. Dr. Nemeth moved for this to be approved, the motion was approved and carried. Dr. Tramontana elected Dr. Kim VanGeffen for the award of Distinguished Psychologist for the upcoming convention, and this was unanimously approved. It was discussed that the request for proposals (RFP) goes out to the membership for psychologists who want to present at the fall workshop.

Ms. Bishop reviewed SB 56, which enlarges the chiropractor’s scope of practice to include treatment of mental conditions, and how LPA should support this bill not passing.

Dr. Michelle Moore discussed students doing paper presentation at next year’s convention. Invite (experienced versus tx four times a year). Dr. Moore discussed establishing a mentor program inside LPA for early career psychologists. Discussion was had about the New Orleans and Birmingham Psychanalytic Center to be brought in (Drs Kathy Nathan – kathrynnathan3@gmailcom - and Gisclaire Boulanger – NYC).

Ms. Bishop discussed having talked with LSBEP about setting up a table at the LSBEP oral examinations welcoming individuals who just finished their oral exams to join LPA. There was no further discussion from LSBEP about this. She also discussed the idea of having those newly licensed to be announced at our LPA convention so that there is some pomp and circumstance surrounding a psychologist receiving their license, versus their license just being given once they pass their oral exam with LSBEP. Dr. Nemeth reported that Dr. John Bolter used to give newly licensed psychologists a packet of LPA information when licensed.

Kim VanGeffen – Dr. VanGeffen has been participating in LSBEP’s Professionalism Task Force. The Task Force members discussed a recent survey which the Board had conducted with psychologists on the issue of professionalism. The Task Force members discussed the difficulty inherent in defining the concept of “professionalism.” It is not certain whether the Board will develop any standards of professional conduct at this point.

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth – APA is reorganizing into a more top-down organizational structure. Dr. Nemeth went to a caucus meeting. Dr. Nemeth is secretary of a small state caucus. Dr. Nemeth discussed doing a workshop in August regarding the ten-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. LPA will sponsor these Katrina Workshops. She is currently coming up with a letter asking for donated space, a $250 donation, or food for the workshop. She is talking to people in-the-know in the community to garner support for the workshop. Teresa Jacobson at Children’s Hospital might have space. Dr. Mark Skellie could be involved and talk about ethics (a workshop he’s done in the past). Dr. Gillespie offered to speak to the New Orleans Healing Center near the 9th ward to see if they might have space to donate. Ms. Bishop said she’d send out the date of the workshop on the listserv to see if she could get some volunteers. There was a motion made to support this LPA-sponsored workshop and Dr. Van Geffen moved to support and all approved.

Dr. Michele Larzelere: APA wants to identify key constituents in the districts of US Congress members.  LPA also wants to do this at the state level.  Dr. Larzelere will be sending out emails asking who knows who in the legislature, and how to go about contacting them on important issues.  Discussed was whether or not the newsletter should continue.  Some EC members preferred to have a single document archiving the status and efforts of the organization several times each year to a blog or ongoing website postings.

12:00 – the EC meeting came to a close. Next meeting July 11, 2015 at Dr. VanGeffen’s home.