11/21/15 – LPA EC notes

In attendance:

Cindy Bishop – Executive Director

Dr. Lacey Seymour – President

Dr. Lucinda DeGrange – President Elect, Legislative Chair / Public Education Chair

Dr. Joseph Tramontana - Past President

Dr. Gail Gillespie – Secretary and Continuing Education Chair

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth – APA Council of Representatives

Dr. Kim Van Geffen – Director / Professional Affairs

Dr. John Fanning – Director

Dr. Carolyn Weyand - Treasurer

Dr. Michele Larzelere – Publications / Federal Advocacy Coordinator

Dr. Michelle Moore, Director / Early Career Psychologist

Dr. Amy Henke, Director

Dr. Urmi Jani, Diversity Chair

Absent:

Dr. Bryan Gros – Director / Membership Chair

9:04 AM – Dr. Lacey Seymour, LPA president, called the meeting to order. The minutes of the September 2015 meeting with approved with the modification offered by Dr. Gros by email to Dr. Gillespie the previous night.

Lacey Seymour, Ph.D., President’s Report. Fall conference last weekend was well-received by those in attendance.

Carolyn Weyand, Ph.D. – Treasurer. Dr. Weyand and Ms. Bishop reviewed the current finances, which were distributed to the E.C. Ms. Bishop reported that LPA currently has two certificates of deposit. LPA had a budget deficit in 2014 and will have a budget surplus in 2015. Income in 2014 was $64,503, while income to date in 2015 is $74,795. LPA can apply for legislative and organizational development CAPP grants for 2016. Statements for 2016 LPA membership have been sent to current members.

Cindy Bishop, Executive Director – Current finances were reviewed. Kevin Hayes (lobbyist) fees went from 36,000 to 24,000 this fiscal year, and he is requesting a return to his former fees. Finance committee will meet and discuss. Checkmate Strategies gets 50% of all new member fees, Dr. Tramontana asked if this is so if he is responsible for getting a member, and Ms. Bishop said yes, because it’s too difficult to separate it out, but it could be discussed further. Regarding the fall conference, $4186 income, $1376 expenses. 25 attendees, many who were not members. There was discussion of not allowing nonmembers to come to our conferences, but the EC prefers to allow nonmembers. Cindy discussed Association Revenue Partners, in which companies are solicited to run ads on the LPA website, with LPA getting 40% of the commission from such ads. Dr. Weyand moved that LPA sign up with the organization, and this was approved.

Gail Gillespie, Ph.D. - Continuing Education – Dr. Gillespie will email the E.C. the results of the evaluations from the fall conference this coming weekend. There was discussion about creating a speakers bureau for LPA in which LPA members volunteer to do presentations for CE and for the community in association with LPA. Dr. Gillespie to send out inquiries for presenters to the listserv soon. Dr. Seymour suggested offering stress reduction services to legislators gratis during the time in which they are in session.

Convention Committee – May 20, 2015 will be the date for the spring conference. Ms. Bishop will execute a contract for a location by January. Reducing lunch fees was discussed. Dr. Nemeth discussed having Dr. Richard Ivins (EC and forensics) come speak, and Dr. Tramontana will speak to Katherine Nordal, Ph.D., - executive director of APAPO – about being a guest speaker. Dr. Nemeth also recommended Monica Curall, with APAPO also, all who would present for free. Dr. Tramontana will contact Dr. Nordal. Dr. Gillespie also reminded the E.C. about the intention to invite someone from each specialization to speak at the fall conference. Inviting assessment companies to speak about the new Woodcock Johnson and WISC-5 was discussed, with Dr. Nemeth having a contact in Atlanta who presents on the W.J. LSBEP has offered to present on the complaints process. Dr. Van Geffen suggested that LSBEP talks on how CE units are earned as well. APA’s legislative staff may also be willing to discuss how to legislate for psychology. Dr. Larzerlere will contact someone from APA to ask if they can come for that date and present. Dr. Van Geffen suggested contacting the APAIT on coming to talk at our conference about liability and technology.

Darlyne Nemeth, Ph.D. - APA Council of Representative - Hoffman Report - Division 19- military psychology has issued a response. Hoffman report is being sent out around the world and is being translated into different languages. APA is addressing it at many levels. Discussed was how this was the doing of staff, and not the elected representatives. It’s in the process of being addressed. Dr. Tony Puente has been elected president. Dr. Nemeth is in touch with individuals who are working on trauma and crisis intervention for Paris. Dr. Nemeth mentioned doing a symposium at LPA in which she can invite either Dr. Tommy Davis (who has submitted a proposal to do a violence prevention workshop for APA) or skyping in Nicole Aknin from Sigmund Freud University in Paris, who is doing trauma intervention in Paris. She put a member of the Council of Representatives in touch with Dr. Aknin, who is a trauma expert from Canada who could possibly supply materials to her. Dr. Nemeth mentioned that she is putting on another Katrina 10 workshop today, along with Drs. Gillespie and Ho, in the lower 9th ward, in which there will be six two-hour follow-up sessions afterwards. $2000 was raised during the workshop, and the cost was $3500 and Dr. Nemeth will absorb the overage. Dr. Nemeth was asked to speak this spring at a conference for all public universities in Louisiana regarding being fearful versus resilient. Dr. Nemeth’s proposal got accepted by APA council for consideration in February 2016 to do away with GRE cutoff scores for graduate school.

Urmi Jani, Psy.D. – Diversity Chair. Applied for and got a diversity grant from APA for $800. She is going to APA conference will report back what she has learned.

Michelle Moore, Ph.D. - Early Career Psychologist. Dr. Moore has 11 mentors and 4 mentees for her mentoring program for ECPs. She continues to work on matching those up with the right psychologist. Discussed was finding an ECP who is social-media and tech-savvy to do a workshop for LPA on webinars and blogs. Considering programming about how to get more ECPS to the conference. Will send out to membership seeking what ECPs might be interested in, as LPA membership is lacking in younger professionals. Dr. Tramontana requested that Dr. Moore should take over the symposium for ECPs that he has been doing the past few years, and she agreed to do so. Dr. Henke mentioned improving workshop coordination so that the symposium is on the same day as the students’ poster presentations and doesn’t interfere with their having to set up. Dr. Henke said she’d be a part of the ECP symposium endeavor. Dr. Urmi Jani, professor at Xavier, said it will be mandatory that Xavier graduate students present at a conference. Discussed was creating an LPA operations manual, and Dr. Moore will send out a reminder to the E.C. about everyone writing down the details of their role on the E.C. Dr. Seymour discussed eventually considering doing a board training about E.C. expectations. Dr. Moore asked if what she was putting out to the listserv was ok, and the E.C. agreed it was useful information and for her to continue to forward such information to the listserv. Dr. Urmi Jani just got added to APA diversity listserv, and can also send info out on the listserv.

Joe Tramontana, Ph.D. - Elections Committee. Self-nominations should go out for the LPA board 30 days before the annual meeting. The past president is always the elections chair, per LPA bylaws. If there is ever a conflict of interest due to the past president running for an office, the elections chair can appoint someone to assist in counting ballots. This can be in the operations manual, not a change in bylaws. Discussed was whether the executive director can do the elections, and Dr. Fanning moved that the executive director should be on the elections committee, to which all agreed. Dr. Weyand indicated that the elections chair needs to remain active as chair, and said chair can appoint someone to do the elections.

Legal and Ethics Committee – Dr. Lee Mathews was not present. Dr. Seymour will contact all non-EC members in the future about whether they have any input for the E.C. meetings.

Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D. - Legislative Committee – A regulation or rule was promulgated which will allow psychologists to diagnose ADHD for 1508 classification of Other Health Impairments. Dr. DeGrange had communications with Drs. Alan Coulter (director of LASPIC) and Chavez Phelps (president of LSPA) to let them know about the language in the bill, to which they did not agree. Dr. Coulter said other states added a note saying that “for ADHD a doctor’s note is not needed”. All language was kept as is, and that note was added. BESE agreed to this language. Dept. of Education interpreted it incorrectly. The school psychologists were only going to agree if there was language not needing a physician’s evaluation. Dr. Coulter said original language would lead to further increase in OHI diagnoses. Dept. of Education wanted to allow nurse practitioners to diagnose. BESE didn’t want a lot of other groups trying to diagnose. Dr. Bishop checked online and said the proposal is not on the list published in October, and will find out where the bill is. It has to go through rule making process to become effective. The new president of LSPA told Dr. DeGrange she appreciates LPA reaching out to them. Dr. DeGrange spoke with AFCC president, Allen Taylor, Ph.D., psychologist of conciliatory courts – AFCC is the organization for licensed mental health professionals who do forensic work. He had contacted her about getting together a group of licensed professionals in N.O. who do forensic evaluations. Dr. DeGrange informed him about what LPA is doing, and their organization wants to work with LPA moving forward regarding legislative issues. Regarding custody evaluations, judges appoint evaluations, and they want people who can work on sliding scale. Dr. Van Geffen suggested putting on the listserv asking who is interested in doing forensic work. Many who do custody evaluations do not have a Ph.D. Discussed was having Dr. Nemeth’s contact with APA to come speak at our conference or possibly doing a full-day workshop on how to do custody evaluations.

Bryan Gros, Ph.D. – Membership. Dr. Gros was not present, and Ms. Bishop updated the E.C. on the membership numbers: 213 members. 800 licensed psychologists in the state. 107 full, 18 first year, 13 second year, 31 affiliate, 7 corporate, 1 associate. 7 free members (academicians). Dues statement have gone out. Ms. Bishop has only 100-200 emails of licensed psychologists who are not members. Discussed was all members of the EC giving emails to Cindy of those we have. Dr. Seymour will send out a google doc to the E.C. asking for input on what benefits LPA has to offer psychologists, and what problems we can solve for them. This information will eventually get sent to potential members.

Kim Van Geffen, Ph.D. – Professional Affairs: Drs. VanGeffen and Seymour attended the LSBEP long range planning meeting in November, 2015. LSBEP announced that Drs. Amy Henke and Leah Crouch have nominated themselves for the upcoming elections. The deadline for submission of nominations is currently closed. LSBEP has received three applications for the position of Complaints Coordinator – Drs. Jill Hayes, Erica Meyers, and Christopher Garner. LSBEP announced that there were 21 requests for investigations in the past year. Two hearings were held, and one complaint was dismissed and the other resulted in disciplinary action against a psychologist. LSBEP announced that they will be adopting the 2010 APA Code of Ethics rather than the ASPPB Code of Conduct. LPA had recommended the adoption of the APA Code of Ethics as it is more comprehensive. The LSBEP and others attending the meeting discussed possible revisions to the Rule for Continuing Professional Development. These revisions will clarify certain issues and eliminate discrepancies which are currently part of this rule. When revisions are completed, LSBEP will request input from Louisiana psychologists, after which the revisions will be published as a Rule. Psychologists will need to follow the requirements which are in the current rule until the rule change is enacted. There was discussion of the role of LSBEP in educating legislators regarding psychological practice issues versus lobbying such issues. While there are times when it is difficult to draw a distinction between education and lobbying, it is the role of the professional associations to lobby for issues, whereas the licensing board’s role is to educate legislators on these issues. Dr. Seymour asked if the Board had made a decision regarding LPA’s request to have a joint task force to discuss LSBEPs election procedures. This request had originally been made by Dr. John Fanning in a letter from LPA canceling the LPA/LSBEP memorandum of understanding regarding the election. Dr. Seymour sent an additional request to LSBEP in September, 2015. The board stated that no decision had been made; however, Dr. Phillip Griffin , the LSBEP liaison to Professional Organizations/Boards, agreed to meet with LPA representatives to address this issue.

Dr. Lucinda DeGrange – Public Affairs/Public Education. Dr. Seymour,Dr. DeGrange and Cindy Bishop met with Kathy Kilbert, DHH secretary this week regarding what happened with the LSBEP elections recently. A diverse board is in best interest of the public. The committee on psychology advocacy to have phone meeting Sunday after Thanksgiving about how to move forward in this area.

Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D. - Public Education. Dr. DeGrange will be going to the leadership conference. Public education wants continuity, and wants more than one person to get training in DC. Co-chair should be someone who knows about social media. Dr. Henke expressed an interest in being a co-chair, and this was agreed on by the E.C. Dr. DeGrange talked to Ms. Klibert about current insurance rates for Medicaid. She was finally able to get a list of the rates from DCFS, and rates are nearly 50% less than rates for BCBS and Medicare. Most of the five Bayou Health plans are very evasive about rates, and Ms. Klibert said individuals can negotiate rates before contracting. All health plans have to at least pay Medicaid rates, and have to have adequate networks. Discussed was publishing this reminder in the LPA newsletter so that psychologists know they can negotiate regarding rates.

Michele Larzelere, Ph.D. - Federal Advocacy. Dr. Larzelere hasn’t heard from any graduate programs or internships, whenever she asks for input for our newsletter. Dr. Weyand moved, and it was agreed by the E.C., that there should be a requirement for those to academicians to whom LPA gave free membership to send at least one article per year on their program, and to send two students to the LPA conference.

New Business:

Dr. Gillespie discussed the formation of a communications committee to keep the website and Facebook up-to-date and relevant for psychologists. Dr. Gillespie will write up a solicitation for such a committee and ask the E.C. for input and edits prior to sending it out to the listserv, and will also write up for the operations manual what this committee would entail.

Ms. Bishop discussed using the services of Wild Apricot – cloud-based association management software - at $240 a month, with no start up fees. Finance committee will review this.

Ms. Bishop discussed doing a membership survey to the listserv, but calling this something different, such as end-of-year wrap up, so that it does not conflict with what Dr. Nelson is doing regarding assessing LPA’s needs.

Dr. Fanning reported that he is still awaiting an opinion of the Attorney General about his previously-submitted questions.