

Executive Council Meeting

December 7, 2019

Present:

W Alan Coulter, Ph.D.

William Costelloe, Ph.D.

Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D.

Matthew Holcomb, Ph.D.

Christopher Parkinson, Ph.D.

Amanda Raines, Ph.D.

Erin Tarcza Reuther, Ph.D., ABPP

Kim VanGeffen, Ph.D.

Guests:

Courtland Chaney, Ph.D.

Denise Newman, Ph.D.

**Introductions and Governance of Meetings:**

Dr. Coulter called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M. Those present introduced themselves to the group. Dr. Raines read the purpose of the Louisiana Psychological Association which is to support and advance psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting, health, education, and human welfare.

**Organizational Chart:**

Those present reviewed the LPA Organizational Chart. Dr. VanGeffen noted that there was a misspelling of her name. She also suggested the removal of the LSBEP Complaints Review Committee as this committee is not currently in operation. It was recommended that the position APA Advocacy (Lacey Seymour, Ph.D.) be placed under Legislative and Governmental Affairs. It was also noted that Dr. Randy Lemoine has taken a leave of absence as Chair of Membership and Member Services. Dr. Matthew Holcomb has agreed to Chair this Committee in Dr. Lemoine’s absence. Dr. Michael Cunningham has also resigned as the chair of the Diversity Committee and his name should be removed from the Organizational Chart.

**Committee Reports :**

Written reports were previously distributed to the members of the Board via the list serve. The following oral reports were presented:

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Treasurer’s Report:

Dr. Costelloe reported that there is currently $35,034.19 in LPA’s checking account and $21,567.80 in LPA’s savings account. LPA’s total bank balance is $56,601.99. Dr. Costelloe noted that LPA has placed

the funds from its certificates of deposit into its savings account. This was recommended due to the fact that the bank fees which LPA was incurring were larger than the return on the CD’s. Dr. Costelloe also reported that LPA has begun to receive funds from 2020 membership renewals.

Dr. Costelloe presented the current LPA budget of income and expenditures. There was discussion of a budget for 2020. Dr. Reuther presented a proposed contract for Keli Ourso Williams, LPA’s Legislative Consultant. This contract included expanded services such as legislative monitoring as well as legislative representation. Dr. Reuther noted the importance of having Ms. Williams represent LPA at the legislature. Dr. Reuther made a motion to approve Ms. Williams’ contract for $12,000. The motion passed without dissent. Dr. VanGeffen made a motion to approve the proposed 2020 budget. The motion was passed without dissent.

Communications Committee Report:

Dr. Parkinson reported that he has five members of his committee. He provided an update on the new LPA website. It will include a history of LPA as well as public and member sections. Dr. Parkinson discussed the “Find a Psychologist” section which will include different filters to assist the public in finding an appropriate psychologist. This section will also include several disclaimers. It is anticipated that the website will be available on 02/01/20.

Membership and Membership Services Report**:**

Dr. Coulter reported that 2020 membership renewals have been sent to members via email. Several members have renewed and more renewals are anticipated before the end of the year. LPA was not able to plan a social event in conjunction with the Fall Conference although there is interest in planning one or more member social events for 2020.

Convention & Education:

The Fall Conference was recently held on November 1, 2019 with an attendance of approximately 55 individuals. These included other professionals such as dieticians. The Committee is currently planning the Spring Convention will which be May 8-9, 2020 at the Sheraton Galleria Hotel in Metairie. The theme will be Psychological Interventions: Scientific Design and Applications. The Committee is currently arranging for speakers.

Professional Affairs Report:

Dr. VanGeffen noted that the first draft of the 2020 Small State Organizational Grant has been submitted to APA. LPA is awaiting feedback on this draft. The final grant application will be submitted by 12/16/19. LPA has applied for $13,500 which is the same amount as previous years. LPA has received a grant of $11,000 the past few years. The grant money is to be used for LPA’s Legislative

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Consultant and Administrative Staff. Dr. VanGeffen made a motion for acceptance of the grant proposal. The motion passed without dissent.

Dr. VanGeffen reported that APA is requesting the submission of a list of individuals in certain state association positions. APA will be inviting these individuals to attend its annual Practice Leadership

Conference (PLC) which will be held in Washington, D.C. in March, 2020. The list is due 12/16/19. APA will send invitations on 01/02/20. At that time, APA will also provide information on which positions they will be funding. Dr. Raines expressed interest in attending the PLC on behalf of LPA. She noted that she attended the conference last year as the Early Career representative. Dr. DeGrange also proposed that LPA determine if Stephanie Grant, Ph.D. would be interested in serving as the Diversity Committee Chair and having her name submitted. LPA will discuss the funding of those attending the PLC at its next board meeting.

Dr. VanGeffen made a motion that the following names/positions be submitted to LPA. The motion passed without dissent:

Federal Advocacy Coordinator Lacey Seymour, Ph.D.

Public Education Campaign Coordinator Bridget Sonnier-Hills, Ph.D.

President W. Alan Coulter, Ph.D.

President-Elect Erin Tarcza Reuther, Ph.D., ABPP

APA Council Representative Lucinda DeGrange, Ph.D.

Legislative Chair Matthew Holcomb, Ph.D.

Lobbyist Keli Ourso Williams

Rural Health Coordinator Tiffany Jennings, Psy.D.

Prescriptive Authority Chair Marc Zimmerman, Ph.D.

Early Career Psychologist Amanda Raines, Ph.D.

Diversity Chair Stephanie Raines, Ph.D. (pending acceptance)

Legislative & Governmental Affairs:

Dr. Reuther discussed Keli Ourso Williams’ service to LPA. She reported that Ms. Williams has already done work in the area of legislative representation in spite of the fact that her 2019 contract was only for legislative monitoring. Dr. Reuther reported that she and Ms. Williams attended the Behavioral Health Workgroup which was created as a result of Senate Resolution 260. The purpose of the workgroup is to make recommendations to the legislatiure regarding a behavioral health carve out for Medicaid. Dr. Reuther attended the Mental Health Rehabilitation Stakeholders meeting. Dr. also Reuther recently attended meetings of the Crescent City Association of Psychologists and the Baton Rouge Association of Psychologists on behalf of LPA. Dr. Reuther provided information at those meeting about the important work of LPA’s Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee. Dr. Reuther reported that the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee will meet after the new year to begin planning for the 2020 Louisiana legislative session.

Public Affairs & Services:

Dr. Chaney discussed the possibility of LPA partnering with community organizations to provide public education about behavioral health issues. For example, Women’s Hospital at Our Lady of the Lake in

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Baton Rouge might be a possible partner. Dr. Chaney noted that his Committee did outreach to promote LPA’s Fall Conference.

APA Representative:

Dr. DeGrange reported that the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) will be holding its annual meeting in New Orleans from 05/27/20 through 05/30/20. Dr. DeGrange discussed some of the issues which the APA Council is discussing. These include Master’s level certification and allowing graduate students to be voting members of APA.

New Business:

The next meetings of the LPA Board will be on 02/08/20 and 04/04/20. These meetings will begin at 9:30 AM and will be held at the home of Dr. VanGeffen.

Dr. DeGrange made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 P.M. The motion passed without dissent.

Submitted by

Kim E. VanGeffen, Ph.D.