

September 7, 2019

Executive Council Meeting

Present:

W Alan Coulter

ValaRay Irvin

Rich Niolon Guests:

Gig Costelloe Courtland Chaney

Erin Reuther Randall Lemoine

Courtland Chaney

Lucinda DeGrange

Kim E VanGeffen

Chris Parkinson

Amanda Raines

Matthew Holcomb

Bridget Sonnier-Hillis (via phone)

**President’s Overview:**

The Quarterly Executive Council Meeting (QECM) was called to order by President W. Alan Coulter at 9:33am. The agenda for the meeting was presented by the President and reviewed by all. The agenda included the mission of LPA which is “to support and advance psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting health, education, and human welfare.”

**Introductions and Governance of Meetings:**

Introductions of all members were made including new members to the Executive Council. The President continued by reviewing LPA Executive Council Rules of Engagement, as well as Keesey’s Rules of Procedure in conducting meetings as adopted in our July meeting.

**Organizational Chart and Committee Charis Structure:**

A review of the Organizational chart with changes accepted in the July meeting was discussed by Dr. Coulter. He also encouraged EC members with relationships with State Government to advocate for approval of new appointments of LPA members to open committees. He specifically mentioned that the Bullying Awareness appointment he holds would end in December. Dr. Coulter made the following mentions; that the EC needed to approve Drs. Lambert and Zimmermann to sub-committees on Louisiana Health Care Commission, and Worker’s Compensation Advisory Council respectively. Dr. VanGeffen made the following motion: I move to appoint Marc Zimmerman, PhD as LPA’s representative to the Louisiana Worker’s Compensation Advisory Council and Jesse Lambert, Psy.D as LPA’s representative to the Louisiana Health Care Commission. *Motion passed without dissent.* Dr. Lacey Seymour would move under the Legislative and Government Affairs committee, and that Dr. Lucinda DeGrange “appointment” to APA CoR would continue.

Dr. Coulter stated the Bylaws need to be reflective of what’s on the website and thus, we must review and make needed corrections. Any corrected Bylaws must go back to the membership for review and approval. Dr. Coulter stated he had received an Operational Manuel from Dr. Gail Gillespie.

**Old Business:**

Review of minutes from the July meeting; the following motion was made; I Gig Costelloe move that we approve the minutes as read.  *Motion passed without dissent.*

*10:39 Break for 10 minutes; Reconvened at 10:50am*

**Relationships with Governmental Committees and Task Forces:**

HIV/HCV Commission- Dr. VanGeffen gave highlights of the committee. Dr. Coulter stated he had completed the form from the Governor’s Office to reserve this seat. EC members discussed whether the seat should be held by a LPA member? Dr. Reuther commented that it should. Dr. Sonnier-Hillis mentioned she might be interested. Drs. Coulter and DeGranger both shared the importance of participating on these Task Forces. Dr. Reuther suggested constructing a list of all known Task Forces and LPA’s members representing them. EC members continued to discuss and highlight differences between Task Force and Ad Hoc committees. The former are committees with specific tasks and where recommendations are made to a governing body, the latter are committees where individuals examine certain trends but do not make any official recommendations.

**Committee Reports (written and oral):**

Treasurer’s Report: Dr. Costelloe reported that as of Thursday September 5th we had $23,890.30 in checking and $23,567.26 in saving. Members discussed the $11,000 in Grant Dr. VanGeffen was applying for and how it could be used. There was a question and discussion about an expense to Dr. Susan Brown for $200-350 for services rendered.

Communication Report: Dr. Parkinson reported that on September 11th he held a teleconference with his committee members to brainstorm needs for our new website. A “mock-up” was sent out to EC members for review and discussion. Included were examples of MS, FL, and NY webpages. Brainstorming by the EC included whether the webpage should be public or members’ only, and should a suggestion box be included on the page; members ended up with 21 additional items that possibly could be placed on the webpage. It was decided that Dr. Parkinson should take the additional information, including requested ‘add-ons,’ and also question the dollar amount this could cost to the web-master for clarification. Dr. Coulter called for a motion regarding the dollar amount to update the webpage. Dr. Raines made the following motion; I Amanda Raines move to spend $6061.00 less the money we have already spent to update the website and authorize Dr. Chris Parkinson to move forward with these updates. *Motion passed without dissent.*

**BREAK 12:37PM Reconvened at 1:09pm**

Before continuing with Committee Reports the President asked to share some information from the conference survey. The following questions were asked;

Question Answer %

\*why members identify with LPA identify w/psychology as a profession/field 89.8

 to connect w/colleagues 63.27

 to participate in convention&training 65.31

 to support LPA Legislative efforts 48.98

Membership and Membership Services Report**:** Dr. Lemoine handed out a very detailed written report to the EC. Members also discussed the Colleague Assistance Program and Help-Line and it was agreed that program needs to be articulated better and resubmitted to the chairperson. Dr. Lemoine then discussed the 2019-2020 LPA Membership Campaign and asked for approval to proceed with materials presented. Dr. Coulter called for a motion; Dr. Holcomb made the following motion; I Matt Holcomb move that LPA provide a cash incentive of $25 which can be either denoted to LPA or given as a cash rebate towards yearly membership dues. The twenty-five dollars can be earned up to the total amount of an individual’s yearly dues. This motion is in effect until January 31, 2020. New members receive the remainder of 2019 for free. *Motion passed without dissent.*

Dr. Raines asked that under membership services the following change be made; the Interest Groups areas be inclusive of Academic/Scientific/*Research.* Dr. Lemoine will initiate a conversation with Dr. Scott Smith, chair of this Interest Groups and report back at the December 7th meeting. EC members then discussed current dues and all agreed that dues would be due on January 1st and if not paid by the 14th members would be removed. Dr. Lemoine proceeded to share his ideas on different socials LPA could sponsor. The idea of a social the evening before our Fall Conference brought up questions because it would be Halloween, a holiday some members celebrate. Dr. Coulter asked that Dr. Lemoine present additional ideas for socials at the December meeting.

Convention & Education:

The Fall Conference will be May, 8-9, 2020 at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans. Dr. Coulter also mentioned that for the November 1st. Conference in Baton Rouge, “cold calls” for attendance/participation will be done prior to the Conference.

Professional Affairs Report:

A written report was shared with EC members. Orally highlighted were concerns about record maintenance, i.e., what physical address do we use? Discussion regarding APA’s support of LPA, rules and guidelines that governs us as an organization, ethic concerns and opinions of these from LSBEP.

Legislative & Governmental Affairs:

Dr. Reuther began the discussion by sharing her opinions of Lobbyist Kelli Williams and the work she has completed thus far. They are reviewing the contract and responsibilities of Ms. Williams in hopes of increasing the visibility of LPA in our Legislature. Dr. Coulter will present a proposed budget increase for Ms. Williams at the December meeting in order to meet the above effort; the ball park amount was $12k. The final comment in this report was to continue the discussion around updating job descriptions of committees.

Public Affairs & Services:

We have not identified an individual for the Diversity Committee. EC members discussed the advantages of collaborating with community agencies like OLOL to do outreach to the greater community in various health related areas.

**Report from APA Representative:**

Dr. DeGranger reported that during the APA Representative meeting, APA made a statement on the status of immigration and the effects on families. She believes that psychologists are becoming more relevant in the conversation. A different conversation occurred regarding whether graduate students could vote in APA Elections? An EC member shared that once you have been an Associate member for five years, one can cast a vote. Dr. Coulter reminded everyone that the December meeting was set for the 7th at Dr. VanGeffen’s home. Dr. Coulter called for a motion to adjourn, the following motion was made; I Dr. Erin Reuther motion to adjourn. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.