

LMA
LOUISIANA PSYCHIATRIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Executive Council Meeting
Minutes
November 11, 2015

Participants: Rob Dahmes, MD, Treasurer, Kimberly Gordon, MD, Secretary, Veronique Haymon, MD, Tulane RF Representative, Ben Lowenburg, MD, Early Career Representative, Lee Michals, MD, LSU-S RF Representative, Dean Robinson, MD, President, Hannah Scott, MD, LSU-S RF Deputy Representative, Mark Townsend, MD, President-Elect & Cathy Thompson, Executive Director

The meeting began with a quorum at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes from the October 14, 2015 Council meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Meeting Update -

Mrs. Thompson reported that topics are firm. She also stated that all speakers are confirmed for all presentations with the exception of the treatment of bi-polar in children and adolescents. Mrs. Thompson asked Council members to let her know if they have a recommendation of who would be a good choice to cover the topic.

Based on numerous staff changes that have taken place at the Le Pavillon hotel, Mrs. Thompson said that she and Angela Ladner, Mississippi Psychiatric Association, Executive Director will tour the facility and meet with the sales manager on Monday, November 16 to finalize details. Dr. Robinson stated that he will plan to join Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Ladner for the meeting. Dr. Townsend said he may also be able to attend. Mrs. Thompson stated that she will send a reminder out about the meeting.

Dr. Scott reported that she and Dr. Michals are working on the resident-fellow social that will be held in conjunction with Spring meeting. She said that the event will likely take place from 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. on Friday night following the reception. Dr. Scott also said that they are considering the Roosevelt or the International House because they are located within walking distance from the hotel. She also mentioned that the American Professional Insurance Company is interested in sponsoring the event.

Group Member Dues Discount Program -

Dr. Robinson said that it is unlikely that the VA will be interested in a group discount program for psychiatrists within the system. He did mention however, that we should consider reaching out to the Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center with an offer. Dr. Robinson said that presenting at one of the medical staff meetings may provide the best opportunity to talk about member benefits. Dr. Townsend agreed and said that he would also be interested in presenting at one of their staff meetings. Mrs. Thompson said she will look into the number of available members at OLOL and report back her findings to determine the next steps.

NEW BUSINESS

APA Advocacy Meeting in Hollywood, FL -

Dr. Lee Michals said that the APA advocacy meeting went well and was a valuable use of his time and resources used to provide the program. He mentioned that there were several takeaways from the meeting of significance - 1) the scope of practice and parity discussions and 2) the suggestion of reaching out to legislators before any issues arise or they are in session to provide them with information about mental health, i.e. opium addiction. It was mentioned by Dr. Lowenburg that it is also helpful for members to provide their contact information to legislators and tell them he/she (the member) is there to help them if they have questions about mental health issues. Council members agreed this is a very good approach.

APA Assembly Report -

Dr. Townsend reported that he attended the November APA Assembly Meeting and that there were very few issues that resulted in controversy. He stated that there was a move to add a life (or senior) member to the APA Board. This item was sent to the Speaker for a nomination and vote at the APA Annual Spring Meeting. Dr. Townsend said he also attended the Area V meeting and a report was given that there was a very low turnout at their fall meeting.

Another item mentioned by Dr. Townsend that came up during the Assembly meeting was the struggle the APA is experiencing in recruiting and retaining members. The APA is interested in reducing intrastate dues to \$250 and National dues to \$500 to expand membership. He also said that Puerto Rico Psychiatric Association is struggling financially but is interested in providing meetings to promote their membership. Dr. Townsend asked if the Council would be interested in working with the Puerto Rico group to co-present a meeting with them in Puerto Rico. Council members discussed this and asked Dr. Townsend to gather additional information from the Puerto Rico association President to find out if there is interest and report back his findings.

Dr. Scott mentioned that during the annual meeting she attended North Carolina reported that they have successful events with large turnouts from residents and fellows. She said they reported having 33 residents at one of their events. Dr. Scott reported that she had discussions with the group and determined that a stipend is provided to the residents and there are no registration fees if they attend a meeting. She also said that she would recommend that LPMA consider reducing the travel grants from \$500 to \$250 to enable a larger number of grants be available. Mrs. Thompson reported that all of the grants available for 2015 have not been used. Dr. Dahmes said there is a Schexnayder Fund Committee Meeting scheduled this month and he will place travel grant funding on the agenda for discussion.

November E-Newsletter -

Mrs. Thompson said that she is planning to send the e-newsletter out the week of Thanksgiving.

Medicaid Medication Refusals and Increase in Prior Authorizations -

An email message was received from Dr. Kris Kaliebe regarding his difficulties with Medicaid medication refusals and increased prior authorizations. Dr. Kaliebe said child specialists have begun to receive an inordinate amount of refusals and increases of prior authorizations for medications (including increases in dosages) by Medicaid. He asked if Council members were having similar experiences and whether or not the issue should be brought to the attention of the state medical society for further investigation or action. Council members discussed this and agreed that they too have had this experience. Mrs. Thompson reported that we may be able to get the assistance of Marsi Thrash, APA Regional Field Director, to help gather information. Dr. Robinson requested a survey be sent to the membership asking if they are having the same problems and if so, to provide examples of issues they have experienced. Dr. Gordon said she will work on some questions to ask the membership and will send them to Mrs. Thompson to create a survey.

Dr. Scott asked Council members if they have used *Cover My Meds*, an electronic prior authorization system that is working well in California. Council members stated that they are not familiar with this program and asked Dr. Scott if she would send information to Mrs. Thompson for dissemination. Dr. Scott agreed.

Other Business -

Dr. Scott asked if it would be possible to provide copies of slides or handouts from faculty who present at LPMA meetings. Mrs. Thompson said that presenters are encouraged to send their slides and/or handouts and she will continue to strongly recommend they do so.

Adjournment -

Having no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

LPMA
LOUISIANA PSYCHIATRIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Executive Council Meeting
Minutes
December 9, 2015

Participants: Marc Colon, MD, Past President, Rob Dahmes, MD, Treasurer, Kimberly Gordon, MD, Secretary, Veronique Haymon, MD, Tulane RF Representative, Dean Robinson, MD, President, Hannah Scott, MD, LSU-S RF Deputy Representative, Michelle Simon, MD, Past President & Cathy Thompson, Executive Director

The meeting began with a quorum at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes from the November 11, 2015 Council meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Meeting Update -

Mrs. Thompson provided an update on the 2016 Spring Meeting. She reported that the Regional Child Consortium will not be participating. She also stated that the CME application and preliminary materials have been submitted to the APA. Dr. Robinson told Council members that he joined Mrs. Ladner and Mrs. Thompson on the tour of Le Pavillon. He said the meeting rooms should work well with the event schedule.

Dr. Scott reported that she and Dr. Michals have confirmed International House bar as the location for the Resident-Fellow Social. She said it is located within walking distance from the hotel and easy to find. Mrs. Thompson stated that APA, Inc. is still expressing interest in sponsoring the activity.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report -

Dr. Dahmes stated that the Schexnayder Fund Committee met on December 3rd at the Southern Yacht Club. He reviewed the written report from the meeting with the Council. Dr. Dahmes said that Regatta's year-to-date yield is \$9,028.10 or 5.40% and Eagle Capital yielded \$3,694.47 or 3.40% bringing the total investments to-date to \$170,544.62 (16.61%) and \$174,859.09 (17.57%) increases respectively. He said the committee is very pleased with these outcomes especially given the current economy.

Dr. Dahmes said that the Fund Committee unanimously approved the recommended changes from the Resident-Fellow Representatives to increase the number of available travel grants by decreasing in-town travel grants to \$250 per meeting. Out-of-town travel grants will remain \$500 per meeting. He also noted that travel grants applied for in 2015 that are pending for 2016 meeting travel will remain at the current travel award of \$500.

Revisions to Resident-Fellow & Deputy Representative Application -

Dr. Scott reviewed the proposed changes to the application requirements for Resident-Fellow Representative and Deputy Representative positions. Proposed application updates are as follows: 1) Representatives and Deputy Representatives must participate in 50% of the Executive Council monthly conference calls; and 2) Must attend at least one LPMA meeting per year.

Dr. Scott made a recommendation to the Council to elect a Chair of the Resident-Fellow Representatives and Deputy Representatives to call meetings of the group, if needed, and to provide a point person for communication to residents and leaders.

Dr. Robinson asked for a motion to accept the revised RF application and to elect a Chair of the RF Representatives. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved as follows:

MOTION (PASSED)

The Resident-Fellow Representative and Deputy Representative application shall be amended stating representatives must participate in 50% of the monthly Executive Council meetings currently scheduled on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., and must attend at least one LPMA meeting annually.

MOTION (PASSED)

To elect a Chair for the Resident-Fellow Representatives with the election process to be determined at a later date.

Prior Authorization Survey for Approval -

Dr. Gordon presented the prior authorization survey to the Council for approval. The Council reviewed the survey questions and a motion was made to approve the survey. The motion was seconded.

MOTION (PASSED)

To send the prior authorization survey to the entire membership and report findings to the Council.

Dr. Dahmes made a recommendation to also send the survey to the members of the Louisiana Council for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The Council agreed and Mrs. Thompson stated that she will contact Dr. Kris Kaliebe, LCCAP President, to ask if he would like the survey sent to their membership.

Dr. O'Neill mentioned it may be useful to re-send the prior authorization survey in a few months to find out how authorizations are working after Medicaid patients transition from Magellan to Bayou Health. Dr. Robinson requested the survey be resent in 3 months so that a comparison of data can be made. Dr. Robinson asked Mrs. Thompson to provide a draft of a cover letter to send with the survey for his signature.

Other Business -

Dr. Robinson stated that he would like to host a resident social at his home prior to the Spring Meeting. He asked Mrs. Thompson to contact him regarding arrangements.

Adjournment -

Having no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.