

MSHA Board Meeting Minutes March 28, 2009

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by President Jennifer Pierce. In attendance were President Jennifer Pierce, Past President Valeria Schmauch, President Elect Mary Callahan, Treasurer Sharlene Schmidt, Secretary Diane Simpson, Visitors Dr. Yonovitz and SLP student Vice President Leslie D. Dominic. Those not present were Member at Large Marilyn Pearson and MAG representative Leah Jacobson.

2. Review minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the last board meeting were reviewed. Valeria moved to accept the minutes and Sharlene seconded. The motion passed.

3. Standing Committee Reports

a. Treasurer Report: (Sharlene Schmidt)

Sharlene reported that the current balance is \$12,518.40. The opening balance was \$9,617.97. Total expenses year to date are \$8,049.57. The total income year to date is \$10,950.00. We kept our lobbyist and paid his first installment. Valeria moved to continue to use the Billings organization to file our tax return and Mary seconded. The motion passed.

b. Star/Smac: (Carol Morse)

Carol Morse provided a report. Need more people to help Carol out.

c. Legislative: (Elaine Spino)

Jennifer reported that the main bill of interest to MSHA is Brandon's bill. The board needs to decide if we want to oppose or approve this bill. There has been a great deal of controversy over this bill. This bill has currently passed in the Senate and is going to the House. Jennifer expressed her concerns regarding this bill as written. One concern is that this bill is specifying treatments and that LOVOSS is not appropriate for children with Autism. There is no scientific evidence that there will be carryover with these treatments. Other concerns of Jennifer's is that this bill doesn't include CERTS and other relational treatments. ABA is not a therapy approach it is only a framework. Jennifer feels that there are broader implications with this bill that we as an organization should consider. Mary moved that MSHA oppose this bill as written because the bill does not address all the core deficits of autism and limits the intervention to a specific therapeutic approach and Valeria seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jennifer reported that Elaine and Ed have sat in these sessions but haven't received direction from MSHA. Elaine is concerned that we are taking on ABA. Jennifer asked Mary to give her comments in bullet format to Elaine and to provide examples of problems encountered.

d. Political Action (Elaine Spino)

The political action committee does not have a budget. Elaine does have to take time from work to sit in the legislature and does not get paid. Valeria moved for this 2009 legislative year we provide Elaine a stipend to cover costs not to exceed \$2000.00. Mary

amended the motion to include that Elaine send a bill for her expenses including lost wages so that the board can use the information to establish a reasonable budget for the future. Diane seconded the original motion. Valeria seconded the amended motion. Motion passed.

e. Honors: (Marilyn Pearson)

Marilyn did not send a report.

f. Public Realitions/Web Site: (Kitty Griffin)

Kitty has resigned from this committee for personal reasons. We have an opening for this committee. Kitty is willing to assist for product information.

g. Licensure: (Darrell Micken)

Darrell reported that the licensure board is creating a new online renewal system and Jennifer wants it linked to Website. Issues that the licensure board is looking at: only an SLP can be held accountable for supervision. They are currently changing this form to reflect this accountability. They are researching the viability of Webcams for supervising aides. Jennifer talked to the board about appointing someone from MSHA to attend the licensure meetings.

h. Ethical Practices: (Sharlene Schmidt)

Sharlene reported that no ethical practices issues were reported.

i. Membership: (Jennifer Pierce)

Jennifer reported that our membership is down to 116 paid members.

j. Continuing Ed:

No report was submitted.

k. Nominations:

No report was submitted.

3. Unfinished Business

A. By-Laws:

Jennifer asked if the proposed changes get sent out to members? Valeria noted that the bylaws did not get sent. Sharlene suggested that we send the by-laws and membership forms for renewal to members. We will ask Laura Jo to send Valeria the corrected copy of the by-laws and Valeria will send the corrected copy to the members. Valeria suggested during discussion that we look at establishing a finance committee that would once a year audit the treasurer's accounts. The committee could be the board minus the treasurer. Board was concerned about conflict of interest if we check the books. We will look at obtaining an auditor for annual review. Mary moved that the board members review, edit and revise the by-laws and come up with a finalized version to be presented for approval at the June meeting. Sharlene seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B: CVENT:

The board decided that we will not go with this company and we will do things on our own with event management.

C. UM/Student Involvement:

Dr. Yonovitch reported that the graduate program will begin the fall of 2009. They are currently looking to hire 2 additional faculty. They are scheduled for accreditation the last week in July. Dr. Yonovitch would like to hire a retired person who would be interested in a one year faculty position. In need of scholarships for students in Missoula. Looking at school systems to offer students scholarships if they would agree to provide services to the school upon completion of their degree. Jennifer suggested that we look at our community outreach committee to help provide financial support to students in Missoula. Jennifer discussed having the chair of the department of Missoula become a voting member of the MSHA board. Mary moved that the chair of the department of communicative sciences and disorders at UM become a voting member of the MSHA executive board. Valeria seconded the motion. Motion passed none opposed. The by-laws that we are updating currently has a proposal to include a student representative to the executive board. Discussion took place as to whether the student representative be a voting or a non-voting member of the executive board. The board agreed that the student representative should be a non-voting member. The board would reimburse them for mileage expenses. We would look at allowing them to vote at a later date.

D. Corporate Sponsorships:

The board spent a few minutes brainstorming a list of possible corporate sponsors. Jennifer will work on this list.

E. Web-Site:

Valeria moved that we update our web-site to include the development of a new brand/logo. The new brand to be determined by a competition with a deadline ending May 31, 2009. Diane seconded the motion. Motion passed unopposed. Jennifer will contact Cindy Peck and let her know what we are looking at. It will cost between \$300 and \$400 for the overall. Will put on MSHA talks what members would like to see added to the web-site. Jennifer will be the contact person for the competition. She will put together a proposal for a monetary award to the winner. Valeria suggested that a printing company pay for the monetary award of \$250 in exchange for bringing them the business for printing items. Valeria moved that we allocate up to \$250 for the prize winner of our competition. We would additionally publish in our communicator and their local paper the winner and runners up. Sharlene seconded the motion. Motion passed unopposed.

F. Brochure:

Jennifer would like to do a welcome brochure with information about our organization. Sharlene suggested that a letter accompany the brochure telling who our current board members are, dues, ect for new speech pathologists and audiologists in the state.

G . Mission and Vision Statements:

Jennifer will collate mission/vision statements that are currently used in other organizations. She will send us the information and share with our members for them to vote on at a later date.

H. Business focus at Convention:

Jennifer will take care of this later.

4. New Business

a. Seal Position:

Laura Jo McKamey and Jennifer Vail expressed interest in this position in writing. Valeria moved that Laura Jo McKamey be appointed MSHA's new SEAL. Valeria made an amendment to have the SEAL be a three year appointment. Mary seconded both the original and amended motions. The amended motion passed unopposed. The original motion passed unopposed.

b. Membership:

We only have 126 paid members down from over 200 members last year. We will send out a new letter with a membership form to all previous members to encourage them to renew. Valeria moved that to encourage people to renew membership we will waive the late fee due to the out of state convention location and our usual format of accepting membership onsite. The deadline for renewal is May 31, 2009. The late fee will be reinstated after this date. Sharlene seconded the motion. Motion passed unopposed.

c. Web-site/Job Board:

Jennifer asked the board what we want to charge for posting job openings on our Web-Site. Discussion ensued. Diane moved that we charge a fee of \$25 per month to post job openings on the Web-Site. Mary seconded the motion. Motion passed unopposed.

d. Mileage Reimbursement for Board Members attending IMASH:

The board decided that we would not reimburse. We need to decide ahead of time in the future.

e. CE Coordinator:

We need a new continuing education coordinator since Pearl Hamano resigned the position. It is a two person position. One must be an ASHA member. Valeria announced that she would be interested in being the CE coordinator. Mary moved that the executive board accept Valeria as the CE coordinator. Sharlene seconded the motion. Sharlene made a motion to place a three year term limit for CE coordinator. Mary seconded this motion. Motion passed for original motion unopposed. Valeria abstained from this vote. Motion passed for second motion unopposed.

f. Summer Institute Coordinator:

Laura Jo is our temporary summer institute coordinator. We need to let the membership know on MSHA talks about the openings that are available including this and let them

know when positions are filled. Jennifer will send letters to Laura Jo informing her that she is now the SEAL. She will also send a letter to Jennifer Vail thanking her for her interest in the SEAL position. Jennifer discussed her desire to expand summer institute to have CEU opportunities for professional development for private practice and hospital based SLP and Audiologists. She feels that this might encourage the private and hospital based professionals to become members of MSHA.

g. Luncheon or Dinner for all Committee Chairs during SI or FC:

Jennifer would like us to recognize our committee chair persons at either a luncheon or dinner during summer institute or fall convention.

h. Other:

Jennifer is looking at ways of transferring information digitally that would include board position responsibilities, historical information, board meeting minutes. Each board member would have a thumbdrive to add this information and then pass it on to the next member.

Next Meeting:

The board members discussed possible dates and decided on June 5 & 6 at Benefis Healthcare in Great Falls. Diane will check on the availability of a room for the morning of the 6th 8:30-12:00. Jennifer will check on hotel availability.

Adjourn Meeting:

Diane made a motion to adjourn. Mary seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Notes on Friday evening brainstorming session

Spent Friday evening brainstorming ideas to improve communication within MSHA . How do we collaborate with SLP students in Missoula?

Dr. Yonovitch discussed the

Insufficient number of doctorally trained to be faculty for master/doctoral programs at the University level .Idea that is being considered Offering a clinical person with six or seven years experience who has lived in Montana for five or six years a teaching position in Missoula with the opportunity to enter a doctoral program. Need a statement from MSHA indicating that we would sponsor this program. See it as a scholarship opportunity for Montanans. Jennifer suggested that we look at our community outreach committee to look at financially help out students in Missoula.

Considering web cam for meetings especially for committee chairpersons or if great distance for a board member. Do like face to face personal interactions.

Look at returning to MSDB in Great Falls for Summer Institute. Would it be available, what would the cost be. MSHA doesn't have a 1-800 number.