

**ACADEMY OF PRIVATE PRACTICE
IN SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
Fall Board Meeting – Conference Call
December 6, 2008
Minutes**

Call to Order: Janet called to order at 12:05pm

Present: Officers: Janet Krebs, President, Denise Dougherty, Vice-President, Pat Gill, Treasurer, Charlene Westman, Secretary

Board Members: Laurie Botstein, Sue McLean, Renee Matlock, Allyson Weinstein, Charlene Westman, Pat Gill, Denise Dougherty

Committee Chairs and Members: Laura Reisler, Terri Rossman, Roberta Kornfield, Sharon Ratiner

Past Presidents: Beverly Gough, Barbara Samuels, and Mindy Newhouse

Introduction of Attendees: Janet reviewed who was present

Review of Proxies: None

Review of Minutes from May, 2008: Minutes were emailed at this time. Minutes were reviewed and the following correction was made:

Under committee reports- The membership committee's report read as follows:

We now have 220 members. (20 new members is the last 4 months) The "is" should be "in."

President's Report: Nothing additional to add.

Vice President's Report:

Denise asked if new members were being notified of what features were on the website including forms, articles, etc. Renee Matlock reports that an email describing the website features is sent to all new members.

Denise reports re: card scanner- She recommends that it is not worth investing in at the present time given the small amount of visitors to the AAPPSPA booth at ASHA.

AAPPSPA Conference '09- The costs are running slightly higher at this point- No request for honorariums at this point, but will need expenses covered for non-member speakers. Barbara Samuels mentions that it would be appropriate for AAPPSPA to help defray these costs so that tuition costs can remain low.

ASHA Report Healthcare Economic Committee

- We are continuing to use ICD9 codes – which includes 15,000 codes. ICD10 has over 150,000 codes and are much more specific. Physicians want to postpone the use of ICD10.

- Stuttering is still listed under mental disorders but there is discussion to break it into three different areas – mental disorder/psychogenic, voice, or brain injury with stroke.
- Reimbursement for MBS and bedside evaluations will take a 20% hit in reimbursement.
- Survey of speech codes for work was accepted by CMS. The first batch of codes included swallow eval, MBS, swallowing therapy and voice prosthesis. These don't have physician work values. We will be asked to review vignettes that are brief "typical patient" scenarios. These surveys should be done in Dec.
- The next set of codes to be looked at in the summer or fall of 09 include speech generating device evaluations and aphasia assessment.
- The third batch of codes to be evaluated will be 92506, 92507 and 92508 – the concern voiced by the committee is billing in either per 15 minutes or per ½ hr. There is concern that insurance companies will look at a 15 minute visit as a session and reduce the number of time we can spend with our clients. Another concern is the reimbursement might be reduced for the 15 min. charge.

Mindy voices concern that the HCEC meetings do not seem to represent the needs of those of us who serve outpatient pediatric patients. Janet suggests that AAPPSPA develop an interested subcommittee and go to ASHA with information to support the work of the HCEC.

Denise reports on AAPPSPA at Sea- There were 24 participants and expenses were covered. Michelle Garcia Winner was an excellent speaker and there is discussion as to a repeat cruise in September in 2009 from the same location. Janet expresses concerns that the cruise may interfere with ASHA and/or AAPPSPA Spring Conference in terms of some people needing to cut travel budgets due to the economy. Several issues were discussed. We will continue to pursue the feasibility of a Fall 2009 Cruise.

Denise is working on getting sponsors for 2009 Spring Conference along with Sue McLean.

Legal consultations- 10-12 people have consulted her services. AAPPSPA will need to pay her hotel room for this year's conference.

AAPPSPA Store up and running on the AAPPSPA website.

AAPPSPA Columns- Going well. Some columnists have a hard time keeping up with the demand. Janet suggests that we can change the frequency of certain columns in order to help columnists.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from Spring 2008 have been posted to the Yahoo Group "Files" section and have been sent to Sharon Ratiner, who will send them to Nadine for posting on the AAPPSPA website.

Treasurer's Report:

Pat reports that we have re-established our 501 (c) 3 with Beverly Gough as our Registered Agent.

We also had to re-apply for our Employee ID number.

The balance of the bank account is about \$30,000.00, and we are staying about the same as last year. The annual budget and profit and loss statement are submitted.

Committee Reports:

- ASHA Liaison / HCEC Committee – Denise Dougherty presented this information in her Vice President’s report
- Booth – Ken Anderson- Ken is still interested in maintaining operation of the AAPPSPA booth at ASHA.
- Budget – Pat Gill- A proposed budget for 2009-2010 is submitted.
- By-laws – The by-laws committee will now be chaired by Terri Rossman
- CEU’s –Nicoletta Stagias-Coulianidis will take over responsibilities for CEU’s.
- Exhibit Staffing – Barbara Samuels reports that there was not adequate coverage since she had to man the booth several times. Our location was less than optimal, perhaps because of the lateness of our application.
- Fundraising/Marketing/Vendors – Vendors will attend during the cocktail party time at the Spring Conference. Sue McLean will now be in charge of Vendors for the conference. It was suggested that “Treat/Write” be contacted as a vendor for the conference.
- Honors – This committee will now be chaired by Mindy Newhouse- No report
- Nominations – Mindy Newhouse –

The Board of Directors who continue to serve for the Spring 2009 through Spring 2010 term include the following, including term ending in Spring of that year:

Cheryl Campbell	(2011 – 1 st term)
Roberta Kornfield	(2011 – 1 st term)
Sue McLean	(2010 – 2 nd term)
Laura Riesler	(2011 – 1 st term)
Terri Rossman	(2011 – 1 st term)
Allyson Weinstein	(2010 – 1 st term)

The following people are nominated to serve a second term, beginning Spring 2009 and to end Spring 2012

Laurie Botstein
Denise Dougherty

The following people have chosen to serve a single term to allow new board members to participate. We thank them for their wonderful support and service to AAPPSPA

Renee Matlock
Deb Swain
Charlene Westman

The following person will leave a vacancy on the Board of Directors as of the Spring Conference 2009, as she has completed her second consecutive term on the board. We thank her for her outstanding service and commitment.

Claudia Goswitz

This leaves 4 vacancies on the Board of Directors. The following people have agreed to be nominated for the 2009 – 2012 term:

Brendan O'Conner Webster
Jen Malone Priest
Landria Seals
Anita Werner

We thank the 2007-2008 Executive Board for their service, particularly Janet Krebs who steps down after 3 years of excellent service as President.

President: Janet Krebs
Vice President: Denise Dougherty
Secretary: Charlene Westman
Treasurer: Pat Gill

The following Slate of Executive Officers is offered for the 2009-2010 term

President: Denise Dougherty
Vice President: Laurie Botstein
Secretary: Anita Werner
Treasurer: TBA

Terri Rossman moved that the nominations report be tabled until it was complete. Ally Weinstein seconded, The motion passed.

Membership – Renee Matlock

Renee reports that the Membership is remaining constant- Most new members are member referrals or internet search products.

Parliamentarian – Barbara Samuels- No report

Program Chair 2009 – Denise Dougherty reported during her Vice President's report

- Program Logistics 2009 – Laurie Botstein will continue to be responsible for location arrangements and food for conference. Barbara Erskine will help since she will be in the local area.
- Publicity – Laura Reisler

An article was published in Advance magazine and at Speechpathology.com

SpeechPathology.com is also interested in highlighting specific members in an article on their website. Laura is open to suggestions as to other ways of publicizing AAPPSPA. Anita Werner may have written an article about AAPPSPA at Sea. Laura will check on this.

Website- Sharon Ratiner

Members have occasional problems with passwords, but webmaster Nadine Lord is very helpful with assistance in this area. The email list is going well utilizing Yahoogroups as its host.

New Business:

- Do we want student involvement?

Student Involvement- Board members agree that it would not be appropriate to have a student level of involvement, but that we could consider providing individual member's names for a possible mentor relationship or refer to ASHA's private practice guide for more information.

- Do we think economy will have a direct affect on us?

Do we think economy will have a direct affect on us- Membership does not seem to be affected at the present time.

Do we want to grow as an organization or stay the same- Barbara Samuels reminds us that for years we stayed fairly consistent around 120 members. Since that time, our membership has doubled and as such our finances have improved nicely. We gain more attention from organizations such as ASHA if our membership is larger.

Meeting adjourned 1:45pm by Janet Krebs