

AMTA RI CHAPTER BOD MEETING
Wednesday, October 30, 2019
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Meeting Location: Unique Fitness
263 Quaker Lane, West Warwick, RI
MINUTES

Members present: Michael Colizza, Kim Cook, Alda Cordeiro, Dale DeCelles (phone), Larry Gallagher, Debbie Kilty, Joanne Lozy, Kim Medeiros, Kenji Omori (phone), Cassie Rawcliffe (phone), Michelle Souza, Jennifer Wilkiki

Members absent: Pat Bachus, Claudia Botthof, Victoria Moutahir, Angela Perry-Place, Stephanie Welsh, Suzanne Wilcox

Meeting scribe: Kimberly Gregorzek-Medeiros

Call for new business

Joanne: Availability in the future

Kim M: Actions

Approval of minutes from 9/4/2019. Kenji motions to approve. Deb 2nds. Approved.

President's report:

- a. Facebook pages. New regulations from National. We are going to shut down the "group" page and only keep the "business" page. Deb will put a notice on the group page referring people to the other page. No selling or jobs should be posted on the page. Also, no non-chapter sponsored AMTA education or events can be posted. Jobs can be posted in our newsletter, and education/events can be on our website.

Transparency: As applied to a business means that it can be known who makes the decision and how. It does not mean that all the details and information that lead to that decision can be known as well.

- b. Security protocol for scam texts and emails. Will National be taking steps to protect? They cannot fully protect but are looking into better cyber security. ACTION: Kim Cook to remove cell phone numbers from websites. ACTION: Michelle to contact board and chairs to discuss preference of having or not having cell phone numbers on welcome packet.

Additional notes from the President:

Starting Nov 1, 2019, CVENT will be our new event software instead of RegOnline. Deb asks that any emails to the members be sent to her first.

Community Service Massage Team need to sign a code of conduct. National is working on it.

Chapter Advancement Initiative will come back to RI in 2020.

Action follow up regarding Small Business Administration: Deb will work with our contact, Lana, on a business growth class.

ACTION: Deb to contact Lana from SBA for another newsletter article.

Deb emailed committees and chairs the policies and procedures asking for updates/changes.

ACTION: Committee chairs please get updates/changes to Deb by Nov 15.

2022 National Convention will be in Cleveland. 2021 is Tampa.

Financial Administrator's report:

Massage Envy subsidizes their employees' memberships. We have not noticed a difference in what we receive for funds.

March meeting:

Michelle called and booked (to hold) the Special Olympics space for March 22nd 8:00-4:00. It has a refrigerator. We would have to bring in food. Alda contacted Radisson. Room is available for \$500. Food cost is approximately \$1500. Deb and Kim M tried to meet with a Cranston venue but the contact did not follow thru. Discussion regarding the two venues. Deb makes a motion that the board members take a vote of whether to use the Radisson or the Special Olympics building. Deb and Kenji vote Radisson. Kim C and Kim M vote S.O.

ACTION: Deb will need to follow up with Victoria.

Alda contacted John Balletto, he is not available the weekend of our meeting. She will contact Scott Raymond to see if he is available for an ethics class. Alda contacted the Radisson for the October meeting and it is available for Oct 18, 2020 so we will book that. Education topics: Kim C suggests having someone who will be coming for a longer education session come and do an intro. Michaele suggests taping, maybe with John Balletto. Michaele suggests talking to Greg Hurd about what he and other teachers he knows are offering.

New business:

Kim M regarding "Actions". How would these be best received by those who need to see them? Answer: Add to agenda under committee reports. Remind in email.

Joanne, regarding availability: Will be less available over the next year but able to be reached if needed. Still willing to be recognition chair and will still write the recommendations. She will not be able to organize the Advance. Dale is interested in taking this on with guidance from Joanne and Michaele.

Membership:

Michelle will look at P&P. Michelle said there are out of state members who had received our emails after attending one of our education events but are no longer receiving them and would like to. Kim M suggests inviting them to our Facebook page for information on upcoming events.

Networking night had 6 attendees. New member, Bill, attended, as did a member who hadn't participated in a networking night in the past. Positive feedback regarding the casual nature of the evening. Michelle spoke with Lynn Garvey about the ME meet and greet. At clinic or off-site, how to promote, how much time, need rsvp, what time of day? We need further discussion on how to make this work.

ACTION: Deb to ask National about how many ME employees are members. Still worthwhile to go either way.

Education:

Reiki workshop went well. 11 attendees. Profitable. Orthobionomy has 26 registrants. David Lobenstein will come March 28-30. Reached out to Kelly Lott for 3 day pregnancy massage certification. Lee Stang can do something in June (sports related). Alda suggests contacting Stephan Matte for a stretching class. Deb will follow up with Doug Nelson. **ACTION:** Alda to contact Bill Simas regarding CPR cards.

Community Service Massage Team:

No more events for the rest of the year. Has been looking at and revising P&P. Asked about promoting the Boston Marathon to our members.

ACTION: Deb will check with National.

Will definitely participate in Special Olympics and Operation Stand Down again. Larry is wondering about student availability from CCRI. The understanding is that they will not have a spring/summer class. Will look into JWU event again, and other events. Larry would be interested in creating a more official "team" with a commitment to at least 2 events, and they would earn a t-shirt.

Government Relations:

Attended massage therapy board meeting 10/10/19; summary of FSMTB annual meeting:

1. National data base of licensed massage therapists – this data base will be extremely helpful for state boards when reviewing license applications by endorsement. The data base will allow being able to check for people trying to get licensed in multiple states at the same time – this is a red flag for the sex trade and/or human trafficking. The data base will also hold information on disciplinary actions against license applicants.
2. The main sticking point for some states is that the SSN are needed for positive identification of individuals, but some states data bases do not allow the uploading of SSN – The RIDOH will have to check to see if our data base is compatible with the FSMTB for uploading, the RI computer system is outdated. The question was brought up that if RI does participate in this national data base will licensees need to be notified that their information will be uploaded and if so, how will that notification be done.
3. Second large data base project is for CE providers. This data base would contain information about providers such as: Who they are; What they teach; Who attended each class. Providers will be able to upload attendee lists; attendees will be able to list and track their own CE's.
4. FSMTB is taking over the workings of MBLEX in house; they have been farming it out to tech companies but now have the facilities to handle all aspects of testing in house.
5. Mississippi reported at the annual meeting that the number of therapists in their state is declining. Possibly due to most of the schools have closed, because of the lack of schools there are no new therapists graduating; also there is a lack of CE's available locally, this may attribute

to LMT's not renewing their licenses. There was a short discussion of the state of RI massage education since CCRI program is currently differed to 2020.

1091 licensed therapists in Rhode Island. RI chapter as of October has 578 AMTA members – 53% of the total number of RI LMTs

Attended meeting with lobbyist Bill Fischer on 10/28/19 with DOH representatives, Dr. McDonald, and the governor's task force to discuss development of legislature to further educate the public of non-pharmacological options to manage their pain in the form of an electronic and physical brochure. DOH rules and regulations for licensed prescribers are in place for this conversation between dr.'s and patients to occur, but who is enforcing this. * please refer to Florida's bill #451.

DOH was in support of developing legislature and encouraged moving forward with this effort. Referral of another proactive advocate was made by Dr. McDonald; introductions by email were made.

Deb makes motion to adjourn. Kim C 2nds. Meeting adjourned at 9:41