



Washington State Society for
Clinical Social Work
Identity • Integrity • Diversity

February 17, 2021 Board Meeting

Present (via Zoom): Nitara Dandapani, Ross Artwohl, Salomé Valencia-Bohné, Noah Starer, Nathaniel Amos, Betsy Strewler

Absent: Julie Hemminger, Chris Garrido-Philip, Brenda Bible, Aimee Roos (ex-officio)

Introductions & Welcome:

- Intention: getting clear and consistent with roles on Board
- Land acknowledgments:
 - <https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>
 - <https://land.codeforanchorage.org/>
 - <https://native-land.ca/>

Updates from each Board Member:

- Nathaniel, President:
 - Past year:
 - Work on Mission Statement; work on role definition of Board positions
 - Future goals/projects:
 - (1) Consider monthly donation to Real Rent Duwamish. I'd like to review that and have a board vote in six months. I need to work with Aimee and Brenda to sort out the specifics of that.
 - (2) Continuing to hold the vision of the organization. Allies: The board.
- Nitara, Professional Development Chair:
 - Work accomplished so far:
 - Done 4 events so far (50 attendees at January event!)
 - Working to create PD committee
 - Dove in the deep end since joining the Board in November! Way to go, Nitara!!
 - Future goals/projects:
 - #1: launch survey for membership about PD topics for upcoming year. Deadline: mid-March. People I'd like to get help from: Noah.
 - #2: plan, design and execute the remainder of 2020/2021 PD event season and the upcoming 2021/2022 season. Work with Salomé, Betsy, Noah, Ross, Aimee
- Noah, Communications Chair:
 - Past year:
 - Came onto Board in December, worked with Aimee to switch communications over to Google groups from Yahoo - *big thank you to Noah and Aimee!*
 - Worked with Aimee and Nathaniel on rewriting website components

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- Worked with Aimee and Nathaniel on rewriting the Welcome letter we send to new members
- Future goals/projects:
 - Rebrand the website and the content on it,
 - Update the guidelines for the google group,
 - Create policies and procedure for my position to support a new person taking the role in the future,
 - To support the membership knowing what our society does, and to
 - Support bringing a more active engagement in anti-racism practice and professional development trainings.
- Ross, Ethics Chair:
 - Past year:
 - 7-8 Ethics consultations in past year
 - Worked with Katie to bring Eric Stromm for Ethics conference last year
 - Organizing this year's conference with Nitara and Betsy: Telehealth for Client-Centered Therapy
 - Helps coordinate Frances's legal consultations
 - Future goals/projects:
 - Teletherapy Ethics CEU Event (March 19th): Nitara to cohost with me, Betsy to review/approve CEU application, Salome to create and distribute marketing material and Brenda to cut a check for Roy (our presenter).
- Salomé, Outreach Chair (our first!):
 - Past year:
 - Working on Communications materials with many other Board members, to distribute information about events to the SW community
 - Future goals/projects:
 - Events: Advertising the WSSCSW events and Associate events.
 - Allies: Nitara, Chris, Ross
 - Timeline: TBD by chairs
 - CEM: request for the process and application to present made available to membership.
 - Allies: Nitara and Nathaniel
 - Timeline: Request has been submitted. Further action is determined by Nitara and Nathaniel.
 - Membership: request for members to be able to have mini coffee groups to practice skills and present to one another.
- Betsy, Secretary
 - Past year:
 - Running CEU program
 - 97 applications approved in 2020
 - Updating CEU program/raising fees
 - Helping orgs. transition to online trainings due to Covid-19



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- Future goals/projects:
 - (1) Continue running full CEU approval program (reviewing applications, file-keeping, answering questions) - ongoing
 - So far, 37 applications approved for 2021, 10 in progress
 - Allies: Aimee, Nitara
 - Timeline: responding to people in a timely way but no deadline here
 - (2) Creating fund to support BIPOC membership in WSSCSW, with additional revenue created from CEU program changes (?!)
 - Allies: Nathaniel, Brenda, Aimee, whole Board
 - Deadline: by end of FY 2021
 - (3) Finding replacement for Secretary role
 - Allies: Noah, Aimee
 - Deadline: August/September 2022

Discussion: Communication on Board & with Membership

- Noah sent out Communications survey and got zero responses from membership (and Board)
- Where is capacity for Board members?
 - Some have some capacity; some feel very full-up with their existing responsibilities
- How to boost Membership engagement with Board activities?
- Can we norm asking for support among the Board?
- What have folks tried, to work on increasing capacity for Board and Board activities?
 - What people have tried before with outreach for committees:
 - Reached out to UW groups
 - Reached out to Membership directly
 - Past Board members
- Reality of social work as a profession: Covid, burnout, job insecurity, supporting clients, high work volume, lower wages
- Current use of profession is mainly: referral network, CEU events, lobbyist
- If we can make Committee and Committee Chair positions more sustainable (doable alongside a job, all the rest), we are less likely to lose Board members/committee members
 - Recognizing that the Board has this year lost several members this year, specifically women of color, due to bandwidth, burnout, and feeling unsupported by Board
- If we can figure out the true commitment for each Board position and each Committee position is, and put that out there when we are picking up new Board members, we are more likely to keep them, and not have them sign up for something that is unsustainable



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- How receptive do board members think membership will respond to the opportunity of discounted membership for volunteering their time to support the board? Or perhaps having a volunteer component as a requirement of membership?
 - Another option: giving free CEU attendance to Committee members
 - Will be brought up at next Board Meeting
- Are we using technology to the fullest capacity in our work?
- Future intention: Creating a multi-tier plan for rolling out a new vision for org.
- **Plan:** Nathaniel will write a message to the Board, to call Membership into greater action with Board activities and org. engagement
 - Nathaniel will request Board member input before sending to Membership

Icebreaker Closeout

- What was the last thing you did that scared you?

Next full board meeting: March 17, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Strewler