



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

### **05/31/2018 Board Meeting**

**Present:** Nathaniel Amos, Ross Artwohl, Melissa Wood Brewster, Marti Hickey, Denise Malm, Sue Moreland, Lara Okoloko, Theresa Rogers, Aimee Roos (ex-officio), Aliyah Vinikoor

**Absent:** Emily Fell, Julia Kocian

#### **Introductions:**

- Go-arounds with roles, level of energy, etc.
- Welcome Nathaniel Amos, our new Membership/Diversity Co-Chair!
- And congratulations to Emily in absentia who welcomed a baby girl at the beginning of the month!

#### **Amendments/Approval of February Minutes:**

Lara moved to approve the April minutes as submitted by Aliyah, pending Julia's feedback regarding the Legislative Report included there. Marti seconded. All in favor. No abstentions/oppositions. Unanimously approved.

#### **President's Report, Melissa:**

- Executive: The executive nominations are in and we received many nominations for Secretary (Nidhi Berry), Treasurer (Sue Moreland), and President-Elect (Aliyah Vinikoor and Kim Richan). We look forward to bringing Nidhi on board.
- Diversity: Carol Jakus has proposed to pilot – and volunteered to facilitate – a monthly “Waking up to Whiteness: White Awareness and Racism Study Program” based on a program she participated in at Spirit Rock. This would be fee-based, would offer 10 CEUs, and we're hoping to get 8 participants per group – with the opportunity to do at least two groups.
- Aimee and Melissa have also been creating a directory of clinicians of color to post to the website. Please feel free to send an email to Melissa and Aimee if you have any feedback/additions/etc.
- Annual Dinner: Melissa distributed a task list for the annual dinner and asked that we arrive by 5:30 or 6 to help set up.
  - She announced the winners of our two member awards (service award and social justice award).
  - We also have two student papers in and both are great – Theresa will send them along to the committee to read, review and award 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place.
  - The space will not be accessible – it will be one flight of stairs up from the elevator. This has already been mentioned in the Evite and Lara can work with the other tenants to see if we can use their space in case there is a wheelchair/walker.
  - Ross asked for a decision regarding the wine. Everyone was in support of going with the wine keg and maybe order a couple extra bottles.



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

**Financial Report, Sue:**

- Last month Sue thought we might need to refile with the IRS because we received tax receipts from the IRS for 2014-2017, totaling \$1536.51. However, because of our tax-exempt status this was only if we had contributed to PACs. It seems like we didn't, so we may not need to pay this. Taylene Watson of the NASW has suggested that we create a separate account and budget that's managed by a different committee – not the board – that we can make donations to PACs through. Any money funneled through this committee from the WSSCSW would need to move to the PAC within 5 days. This would need to be managed by someone other than the board treasurer.
- Discussion: Do we have the interest in our membership to create a separate PAC committee? The board could ratify their decisions but it would not influence the decision. Is this an essential part of our purpose as part of our organization to be working to give to PACs and to candidates, in particular. At the NASW the lobbyists serve on the PAC committee to advise on who to give or not give money to. Is this a traditional part of who we are, and connected to our mandate, or do we want to focus on lobbying and advocacy? The minute we pay toward a candidate, we're influencing elections and our IRS status changes. The WSSCSW has been paying between \$1500-\$3000 a year in these donations. Political donations toward the WSSCSW have been comingled with the rest of the budget, which cannot continue. The board felt that with the NASW already doing this work on behalf of social workers in Washington, that we're deepening our connection with their work, that this is an all-volunteer board, this might not be a good use of our time and money. Maybe we could instead direct this money toward our lobbyist – we've learned that we're underpaying her. We could also formalize some way to encourage members to donate money to the NASW PAC committee toward this purpose.
  - Sue put to a vote whether we do not donate to PACs this year. All in favor.
  - Aliyah motioned to refocus our lobbying efforts this next fiscal year on advocacy only and not solicit directly for PACs. Denise seconded. All in favor.
- Sue is working to set up QuickBooks online and move away from using our bookkeeper. Once we sign up, we have access to free support and on-line webinars. The cost would be 200.00/year or \$25/month during the first year and it would go up to \$50/month or \$500/year after that. Both amounts are less than what we pay our book keeper currently.
  - Sue put to a vote that we move to buy QuickBooks online for \$25/month the first year and see how it goes. All in favor.
- Sue distributed the Profit and Loss report through April and a worksheet for the 2018-2019 budget. One thing Jenny suggested was not to use cash reserves for our operating costs – we've been drawing on investments and we'd like not to do so any longer. Sue is adding her name to the TIAA investment account. She's also thinking about creating a new savings account so we have more of a cushion. We discussed other line items to prepare for the next year's budget. Sue will distribute an updated budget to be voted on at the next board meeting.

**Membership/Diversity Report, Denise and Nathaniel:**

Washington State Society for Clinical Social Work  
PO Box 252 • Everett, WA 98206 • wsscsw.org



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

Nathaniel is working with Aimee on the membership renewal process. He's working toward a more paperless process according to the following timeline:

- o June 18: email reminder
- o July: email reminder
- o August: post card (\$)
- o September 25th: e-mail stating drop on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

Denise is working on the diversity survey, which is finalized. She'd like to pay for a SurveyMonkey membership to send it out – this can be covered by the Membership budget. Brian will send it out to the board for us to approve before it's sent out.

**Legislative Report, Melissa:**

Laura Groshong has been our legislative chair and a lobbyist for the WSSCSW for decades. There was role confusion and some personality conflicts with our other lobbyist, Melanie Smith. Laura is now retiring so we need to decide who our lobbyist is going to be moving forward. Melissa and Julia met with three lobbyists and decided that Melanie Smith, our current lobbyist, is the most qualified. She also has the most relevant content expertise (regarding mental health and social services) and a good personality fit for the role. Julia and Melissa are moving forward to contract with Melanie for the next year, with specific expectations around communication and crisis management. Melissa will send the research she did to the board and will present the renewed contact for a vote at the next board meeting.

**Professional Development Report, Lara:**

Lara shared postcards for our fall conference on Transforming Powerlessness into Power – she asked the board to distribute widely. She also spoke about bringing a trainer in from Ackerman Institute in NYC next spring, which will be the second conference in a row we'd be paying travel for. Our clinical evenings next year would be on family therapy across the lifespan.

**Associate's Report, Theresa:**

Theresa is looking for a co-chair for the Associates Committee. She's come up with a list of things she'd like to take on and other tasks that could be handed over to someone else. She already has a list of potential co-chairs that she'll meet at the annual dinner.

Respectfully submitted,  
Aliyah Vinikoor