

AHA Board of Directors' Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia
May 3, 2009

Call to order: 2:10 PM

Attendance: Meredith Bazaar, Lori Garone, Gina Taylor, Mary Beth Marzulli, Janet Weisberg, Deb Silkwood-Sherer, Rose Crivolio, Sarah Pictor, Bonnie Cunningham

Quorum established.

President's Report:

The AHA logo has been trademarked.

Meredith thanks the board for the successful conference and makes the following suggestions/comments for future conferences:

Timings for breaks should be planned to not overlap

Length of day on Saturday was tough consider starting the conference on Friday afternoon (perhaps 2 sessions).

Technology was an issue, possibly have presenters only use hotel computers

Need to schedule sessions with breaks between them to set up AV equipment

One person should be responsible for door prizes from start to finish (acquiring them and handing them out).

Overall the hotel was nice.

Considerations for the next conference need to be discussed for 2011. Should a planning company be checked out?

Place to eat, other than hotel, need to be available to participants.

Date when presentation materials need to be submitted for copying needs a deadline, which should be set at the time of call for papers and included on that information. Also, invited speakers need to know they are required to submit bios and materials (with the deadline) when they agree to speak.

TAMU and Sarah's agreement: Sarah will remain as instructor, final version of contract still being discussed with a lawyer.

Executive Director's Report:

Narha will offer AHA a Saturday time slot from 1-5PM opposite the orse expo for an AHA presentation at the Narha conference in Fort Worth, TX Nov. 2009.

Motion by Deb Silkwood-Sherer: based on the limited time slot, Saturday date and cost to run an AHA course at Narha, it would not be fiscally responsible to accept Narha's offer and run a course this year.

Seconded: MB

Passed Unanimously

Jennifer Marchetti, development person, reviewed AHA informational packet and will report back to Meredith with suggestions for fund raising.

Meredith raised \$3000 from letters asking for donations.

Juliet Reid, President of Washington Nartional Horse Show, has been contacted about a fundraising opportunity for AHA and the Washington National. Juliet is receptive, as they already have partnered up with Autism Speaks.

Office Manager position – two possible candidates have been interviewed, one in Kentucky and one in Indiana, both are qualified, candidate in IN. has additional computer and marketing skills. AHA needs to consider office space for this move and a commitment from potential office manager in view of having the change addresses on all AHA printed material.

Online courses are still being pursued for the AHA curriculum. Learning Partners in upstate NY has submitted a contract; Bonnie will continue to seek other companies for a comparative bid.

Succession of board members discussed. Racquel Ravinet will replace Rose as Treasurer, Deb Hauser will replace Sarah as Secretary. Jacqueline Tiley will join the board July 1.

Motion made to: appooint Deb Silkwood-Sherer VP and have her succeed Meredith as President May 2010.

Seconded: LG

Passed Unanimously

Meredith to ask for testimonials for Andy Weisberg's keynote address in the next AHA E Newsletter.

Motion made to: appoint Deb Silkwood-Sherer VP and have her succeed Meredith as President May 2010.

Seconded: LG
Passed Unanimously

Name change for AHA discussed. Meredith stated we need more members and we need to offer more to our membership, Could offer courses to other health professionals in the EAT category.

A post conference newsletter will be put out with a link to survey monkey to get more feedback on a name change. Becky Cook will design the survey.

AHA needs a minimum of 1000 members to help sustain itself financially, we have been holding steady at about 460 members for the last few years. Need to ask current members to recruit one additional member, encourage members to buy a membership as a gift. Results of survey monkey to be discussed by the board.

Sarah to speak at a school in Pittsburgh on hippotherapy.

Research Committee:

Two articles on hippotherapy to be published in the June 2009 issue of Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Deb Silkwood-Sherer will be presenting her research on HPOT and balance at the FRDI Congress in August in Munster, Germany. She will also be presenting this research at the American Academy of CP and Developmental Delay.

Education Committee:

Website is now listing faculty to contact for the new courses

The How To Host packet has been updated to include the new courses.

Lori reports that recent AHA Level I and II courses are filling.

Outreach Committee:

Liaisons will get list of therapists in their regional area who have completed an AHA Level I or II course.

Liaisons will be given the AHA overview.

Danielle Champagne will be the liaison for Canada to AHA.

Mary Beth will keep in contact with the liaisons on a monthly basis.

HIPPOTHERAPY magazine:

Deadline is in two weeks for articles for the summer issue.

Janet will write an article of conference highlights.

Next board meeting and place to be decided.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Deb Silkwood-Sherer.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.